



For Immediate Release
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Press Contact: Ann Rich
Phone: +1 202 828 9102
arich@transatlanticbusiness.org

PRESS RELEASE

The Trans-Atlantic Business Council Supports the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Transition

Washington, D.C. – The Trans-Atlantic Business Council (TABC) supports the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) transition scheduled to take place by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on October 1, 2016.

In March 2014, the NTIA announced its intent to transition key Internet domain name functions to the global multistakeholder community. This step by NTIA represents the conclusion of the privatization of the Domain Name System (DNS) – just as planned by the U.S. Government in 1998. In the two and a half years since the NTIA announced the transition, stakeholders have developed comprehensive proposals for maintaining the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) accountability and for the continued seamless operation of the IANA functions and management of the DNS root zone.

We are confident that appropriate measures are now established and in place to continue to maintain the security, stability and resiliency of the DNS. In taking this final step, NTIA will be transitioning to the global multistakeholder community the procedural and clerical role of ensuring the accuracy of mapping names to numbers, i.e., domain names to IP addresses (numbers).

“This is a role that ICANN was purpose-built to manage, and now with years of experience and the accountability measures to ensure that it will fulfill that role – and just that role – the time is right for the transition to take place.” TABC Director General/CEO Tim Bennett said. “Delay at this point would serve no purpose but could, instead, undermine U.S. Government credibility and create an opportunity for opponents of Internet freedoms, including those who would prefer to see governmental control over the Internet instead of private sector control.”

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The Trans-Atlantic Business Council (TABC) is a cross-sectoral business association representing global companies headquartered in the U.S. and EU. TABC works with companies across multiple sectors and policy levels, including the strategic level with the Trans-Atlantic Business Dialogue (TABD), a program which brings together C-suite executives and high level government officials. TABC stands out as the only transatlantic business organization uniquely placed to provide one voice for EU and U.S. companies on international trade and investment issues.

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