Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for holding today's hearing to discuss the transition of the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority stewardship.

Since the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced it would transition the U.S. government's role in the Internet's numbering function to a global multi-stakeholder community, this subcommittee has been monitoring the process and has kept the preservation of the Internet's openness a high priority. I recognize the work the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers' (ICANN) has already accomplished and appreciate their proposals addressing the transition. However, I am pleased that Congress remains involved and engaged in Internet governance discussions to ensure enhanced accountability and transparency of ICANN.

C&T Subcommittee Hearing: "Privatizing the Internet Assigned Number Authority" Opening Statement March 17, 2016

I look forward to continuing this conversation and hearing the

witness's thoughts on the IANA stewardship transition plan. I thank the

Chairman for yielding.