



The Number Resource Organization (NRO)

Formed by the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) to formalise their cooperative efforts, the NRO exists to protect the unallocated Number Resource pool, to promote and protect the bottom-up policy development process, and to act as a focal point for Internet community input into the RIR system.

17 December 2007

Dr. Paul Twomey
President/CEO
ICANN

Dear Dr. Twomey,

This letter is conveyed to you by the Number Resource Organization (NRO), on behalf of the five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs), AfriNIC, APNIC, ARIN, LACNIC and RIPE NCC.

The NRO reaffirms the commitment of the RIRs to the long and mutually beneficial relationship with ICANN which we view as essential to the stability, security and interoperability of the Internet's addressing system and in particular to the continuing uninterrupted operation of the Internet number resource allocation mechanisms. In writing this letter we demonstrate our commitment to these principles.

To this end, we commit to:

- Continue to support the activities of ICANN by means of an annual voluntary contribution. Payments shall be made quarterly in arrears; the receipt of payments will be documented by ICANN.
- Conduct regular reviews with ICANN to mutually determine the level of future financial contributions appropriate to support ICANN's mission and its services to the RIRs. These reviews shall be carried out annually or as frequently as both ICANN and the RIRs agree is necessary.

We seek ICANN's acknowledgement that:

- The Number Resource Organization performs the function of the Address Supporting Organization as stated in the ASO MoU and that ICANN will direct all matters concerning the ASO to the Chair of the Executive Council of the NRO with the exception of those matters specifically designated to be performed by the Address Council which ICANN will direct to the Chair of the Address Council.
- Numbering Resources are to be managed for the use and benefit of present and future operators and users of the Internet.
- Each of the recognized RIRs is the entity responsible for allocation and assignment of Numbering Resources as well as facilitating development of policies for their geographical area of responsibility.
- The recognized RIRs derive their authority from their members and other stakeholders in their geographical area of responsibility. As of 4 June 2001 the process to recognize new RIRs is documented in ICANN's Internet Coordination Policy - 2 available at <http://www.icann.org/icp/icp-2.htm>.

We seek ICANN's continuing commitment to:

- Exercise its responsibilities in an open and transparent manner, in accordance with the provisions of the ICANN Bylaws.
- Recognize, support and observe in its entirety the RIR system for management of Internet number resources, as defined by the ASO MoU, by adopted Global Address Policies, and by the adopted policies and procedures of each of the recognized RIRs.



Furthermore, we look forward to regularly review with you the results and consequences of the administrative processes and associated service levels of the IANA or other ICANN entities to the RIRs.

This letter is a step in formalizing our relationship with ICANN. We wish and will seek to establish a more appropriate formal relationship with ICANN within one (1) year from the date of this letter.

We may terminate our commitments to you by giving you notice in writing and if we do so, all our obligations under this letter shall cease.

For avoidance of doubt, nothing contained in this letter shall give rise to any liability, monetary or otherwise.

We look forward to continuing to work together in a co-operative and mutually beneficial relationship, in the interest of all our stakeholders.

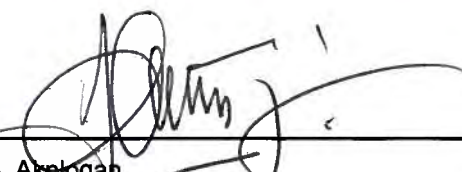
Yours sincerely,



Raymond A. Pizak
Chair, Executive Council
Number Resource Organization

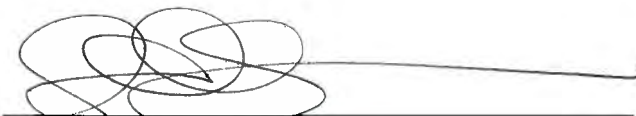


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