1 August 2013

Mr. Paul Wilson
Chair
Number Resource Organization
For the NRO Executive Council

Dear Paul,

On behalf of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), I would like to thank you for your letter dated 1 July 2013.

It is ICANN's goal to further our mutual cooperation and collaboration acting as stewards of the global Internet resources and we found the conversations with your NRO colleagues in Beijing and in Durban to be helpful and engaging.

ICANN's efforts at regionalizing its resources and operations are aimed at further enabling local, regional activities to develop and engage with global initiatives that serve current and future Internet users. With the upcoming opening of "hub" offices in Istanbul, Turkey, and Singapore, and the recent announcements of new engagement centers in Beijing, China, and Montevideo, Uruguay, ICANN will soon have a physical presence in each of the five RIR regions. As you recognize, this expanded ICANN presence will provide our organizations with many opportunities to work together.

ICANN agrees with the NRO that the principles established and the process articulated in ICP-2, "Criteria for Establishment of New Regional Internet Registries," are the appropriate steps for establishing new RIRs. This includes an adherence to the foundations of IP number resource management, including those new circumstances created by the exhaustion of IPv4 unallocated resources, and the growth of intra-regional and international IP networks.

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When communities begin to explore establishment of a new Regional Internet Registry, ICANN will welcome the discussion and guide those parties firmly in the direction of the current policy articulated in ICP-2. Much as ICANN staff engaged in discussions with the communities of South America and Africa as they established Regional Internet Registries, ICANN staff looks forward to providing assistance to other communities that are interested in discussing this matter.

ICANN is confident that the NRO will offer the same support and assistance to those members of an existing RIR who wish to determine if they can meet the official criteria for establishing a new RIR as was offered the two newest RIRs.

I look forward to continuing our dialogue in-person at future meetings, whether hosted by ICANN, the RIRs, or at other venues where we stand together as pillars of stakeholder-based policy development.

Yours sincerely,

Fadi Chehadé
President and CEO

cc: Dr. Stephen D. Crocker, Chair of the ICANN Board

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