

Response to Documentary Information Disclosure Policy Request

To: Prottyush Choudhury

Date: 8 March 2015

Re: Request No. 20150206-1

Thank you for your Request for Information dated 6 February 2015 (the “Request”), which was submitted through the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers’ (ICANN’s) Documentary Information Disclosure Policy (DIDP) on behalf of The Centre for Internet & Society (CIS). For reference, a copy of your Request is attached to the email forwarding this Response.

Items Requested

Your Request seeks the disclosure of “current and historical data regarding details of contract fees paid by the 5 Regional Internet Registries, namely AfriNIC, ARIN, APNIC, LACNIC and RIPE NCC, to ICANN for each fiscal year [...] from 1999 till 2014.” In particular, your Request seeks the disclosure of the “contributions made by each RIR,” instead of the “lump sum amount collected from all the RIRs jointly.”

Response

ICANN's DIDP is “intended to ensure that information contained in documents concerning ICANN’s operational activities, and within ICANN's possession, custody, or control, are made available to the public unless there is a compelling reason for confidentiality.” (See <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/didp-2012-02-25-en>). As part of its commitment to transparency, ICANN makes available a comprehensive set of materials on its website as a matter of course.

ICANN’s current and historical financial information are among the categories of documents that ICANN publishes on its website. In particular, the financial materials can be accessed through ICANN’s Financials page at <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/financials-2012-02-25-en> and contain, among others, the following financial information: Strategic Plan, Adopted Operating Plan and Budget, Adopted SO/AC Special Budget Request, Audited Financial Statements, Annual Reports, Federal and State Tax Filings, Staff Remuneration Practices Framework, Board Compensation Report, ccTLD Contributions Report, and Financial Analysis. (See <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/financials-2012-02-25-en>.)

Your Request seeks the disclosure of the contributions of each of the five Regional Internet Registries (“RIRs”) to ICANN for each fiscal year from 1999 through 2014.

The RIRs are responsible for managing the distribution of Internet number resources (including IP addresses and Autonomous System Numbers) as well as facilitating development of policies for their geographical area of responsibility. (See Letter from

Ray Plzak, Chair of Number Resource Organization (“NRO”), to Paul Twomey, dated 17 December 2007, available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/plzak-to-twomey-17dec07-en.pdf>.) The five RIRs are: AFRINIC, APNIC, ARIN, LACNIC, and RIPE NCC. Collectively, the RIRs form the NRO, which serves as their coordinating body. (See <https://www.nro.net/about-the-nro>.)

The scope and nature of ICANN’s relationship with the RIRs (and the NRO), including financial commitments, are set forth in the following documents:

- Address Supporting Organization Memorandum of Understanding, approved 26 August 1999, available at <http://archive.icann.org/en/aso/aso-mou-26aug99.htm> (no longer in effect).
- ICANN Address Supporting Organization MoU, 29 October 2004, available at <http://archive.icann.org/en/aso/aso-mou-29oct04.htm>.
- Letter from Ray Plzak, Chair of Number Resource Organization (“NRO”), to Paul Twomey, dated 17 December 2007, available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/plzak-to-twomey-17dec07-en.pdf>
- Letter from Paul Twomey to Ray Plzak, dated 19 December 2007, available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/twomey-to-plzak-19dec07-en.pdf>.
- Letter from Adiel A. Akplogan to Paul Twomey, dated 23 March 2009, at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/akplogan-to-twomey-23mar09-en.pdf>.
- Letter from Paul Twomey to Adiel A. Akplogan, dated 17 April 2009, at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/twomey-to-akplogan-17apr09-en.pdf>

As noted in the letters between the NRO and ICANN, the RIRs (through the NRO) voluntarily contribute to ICANN’s budget on an annual basis. (See <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/plzak-to-twomey-17dec07-en.pdf> and <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/akplogan-to-twomey-23mar09-en.pdf>.) The first contribution was made in FY00. With the exception of FY03 through FY05 (as noted below), since FY00 to the present, the annual contributions have been provided to ICANN as one aggregate amount, without any breakdown of the specific amounts contributed by each RIR. The aggregate amount contributed from the five RIRs is listed in ICANN’s Audited Financial Statements under the “R.I.R” line item for each year, which are available at:

- FY14 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun14-en.pdf>)

- FY13 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun13-en.pdf>)
- FY12 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun12-en.pdf>)
- FY11 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun11-en.pdf>)
- FY10 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun10-en.pdf>)
- FY09 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun09-en.pdf>)
- FY08 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun08-en.pdf>)
- FY07 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun07-en.pdf>)
- FY06 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun06-en.pdf>)
- FY05 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun05-en.pdf>)
- FY04 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun04-en.pdf>)
- FY03 (available at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/financial-report-fye-30jun03-en.pdf>)
- FY02 (available at https://www.icann.org/resources/unthemed-pages/financial-report-fye-2002-06-30-en?routing_type=path)
- FY01 (available at https://www.icann.org/resources/unthemed-pages/financial-report-fye-2001-06-30-en?routing_type=path)
- FY00 (available at https://www.icann.org/resources/unthemed-pages/financial-report-fye-2000-06-30-en?routing_type=path)

As the contribution comes to ICANN through the NRO, except as noted below for FY03 through FY05, ICANN does not have or seek any information from the NRO or the individual RIRs as to how individual RIRs may have contributed towards the ICANN contribution. Because the RIRs do not contribute to ICANN on an individual basis, with the exception of FY03 through FY05, ICANN does not have the breakdown that is sought through the Request. For FY03 through FY05, the aggregate contributions can be broken down by individual RIR as follows:

- FY03: APNIC (US\$129,400), ARIN (US\$159,345), and RIPE (US\$206,255)
- FY04: APNIC (US\$160,500), ARIN (US\$144,450), LACNIC (US\$5,350) and RIPE (US\$224,700)
- FY05: APNIC (US\$220,976), ARIN (US\$218,507), LACNIC (US\$25,431) and RIPE (US\$358,086)

About DIDP

ICANN's DIDP is limited to requests for information already in existence within ICANN that is not publicly available. In addition, the DIDP sets forth Defined Conditions of Nondisclosure. To review a copy of the DIDP, which is contained within the ICANN Accountability & Transparency: Framework and Principles please see <http://www.icann.org/en/about/transparency/didp>. ICANN makes every effort to be as responsive as possible to the entirety of your Request. As part of its accountability and transparency commitments, ICANN continually strives to provide as much information to the community as is reasonable. We encourage you to sign up for an account at MyICANN.org, through which you can receive daily updates regarding postings to the portions of ICANN's website that are of interest because as we continue to enhance our reporting mechanisms, reports will be posted for public access.

We hope this information is helpful. If you have any further inquiries, please forward them to didp@icann.org.