Dear Dr Twomey,

As you know, DENIC is the registry for the ccTLD for Germany, .de, and recorded as such in the IANA database. As you also know from our previous letters, DENIC wholeheartedly stands behind the concept of industry self-regulation in the Internet and therefore is also supportive of ICANN as the organization that performs the IANA function. DENIC has continuously been expressing this support not only by actively participating in ICANN’s work but also by financially contributing to ICANN.

As the .de ccTLD registry, DENIC is committed to serving the German Internet community, as explicitly laid out and anchored in Section 2 of DENIC’s statute (cf. http://www.denic.de/en/denic/mitgliedschaft/statut/statut.html). Also, as any TLD registry, DENIC is highly interested in seeing the stability and interoperability of the Internet’s Domain Name System (DNS) as a whole secured and enhanced.

With this letter, we would like to let you know what DENIC does and will continue to do to fulfil its commitment to the German community as well as anyone who uses .de domain names (be it as their holder or as someone who addresses them):

In this instance, DENIC

a) operates and maintains, the authoritative name servers for .de in a stable and secure manner, adequate to resolve names under .de by users throughout the Internet and in compliance with applicable relevant IETF standards and – naturally - subject to and within the limits of relevant German law;

b) keeps the .de zone data as stored in the authoritative name servers for .de up to date;

c) in a timely manner notifies ICANN as the organization that performs the IANA function of any change of the information on .de that is being stored in the IANA database, including possible changes of the administrative or technical contact.
d) is legally established and geographically located in Germany and its administrative contact is a representative of the DENIC.

Furthermore, we would like to let you know that, as DENIC has aided the funding of ICANN in the past, we are planning to continue to contribute to your cost of operation in the amount of 85,000 USD per annum. Given that you reliably provide the IANA function we feel that it is just fair to reliably commit to such a contribution and, with that, allow for a better budgetary planning on your side. We would also be happy to discuss with you once a year if that sum is still adequate.

We look forward to continuing working together and hope for a long and mutually beneficial relationship with you. In particular, we look forward to further improvements of the IANA function as the core service ICANN provides to ccTLDs.

Yours sincerely

Sabine Dolderer
Chief Executive Officer
DENIC eG

Andreas Bäß
Chief Technical Officer
DENIC eG
Ms Sabine Dolderer  
DENIC  
Wiesenhuetttenplatz 26  
60329 Frankfurt am Main  
Germany

Dear Ms Dolderer,

The mission of ICANN is to coordinate, at the overall level, the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers, and in particular to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems. ICANN also performs the IANA function.

This letter sets out our understanding at a high level of what we do in order to demonstrate our commitment to securing and enhancing the stability and interoperability of the Internet's Domain Name System (DNS) for the benefit of the local and global Internet community.

To this end, ICANN:

a) maintains a stable, secure, and authoritative publicly available database of relevant information about TLDs, including .de, the country code Top Level Domain for Germany. This Authoritative Root Database shall contain information for the public authoritative name servers in respect of .de, contact information for DENIC as the registry for .de, the designated administrative contact(s), and the designated technical contact(s) as notified by DENIC to ICANN;

b) implements on notification by DENIC changes to the domain name or IP address(es) of the name servers for .de as recorded in the Authoritative-Root Data for .de in the Authoritative-Root Database;

c) publishes data maintained in the Authoritative Root Database about TLD's including .de which shall include at least the name of DENIC as the .de ccTLD registry, the administrative contact(s), the technical contact(s), and the domain names and IP addresses of the authoritative name servers for .de;

d) coordinates the Authoritative Root Server System so that it is operated and maintained in a stable and secure manner; and causes the Authoritative Root Server System to publish DNS resource records delegating the Top Level Domain .de to the name servers recorded in the Authoritative Root Database;
e) maintains authoritative records and an audit trail regarding changes to delegations and records related thereto with respect to TLD's including .de and informs DENIC of the status of a requested change related to .de; and

f) notifies TLDs, including DENIC of any changes to our contact information no later than seven days after the change becomes effective.

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

We look forward to continuing working together and hope for a long and mutually beneficial relationship with you.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Paul Twomey
President and CEO