



6 May 2009

Dear Dr. Twomey,

As you are aware, the RIPE NCC has provided DNS root name service for the Internet at the k.root-servers.net service address reliably for more than a decade. We provide this service at our members' expense for the benefit of the Internet as a whole. The RIPE NCC is a not-for-profit membership association under Dutch law. The organisation is governed by its general assembly and Executive Board and guided by our public policy development process.

This letter is addressed to ICANN as the operator of the IANA function. The purpose of this letter is to publicly document our continued commitment to coordinate our DNS root name service operations. It is not intended to announce any change in the current operational or governance arrangements.

ICANN and the RIPE NCC acknowledge that a single, unique DNS root is paramount to the stable operations of the Internet and to ensure global reachability, and both parties fully share the views expressed by the Internet Architecture Board in RFC 2826.

As part of ICANN's responsibilities and through its IANA functions, ICANN establishes global consensus about the content of the root zone, compiles and maintains it, and makes it available to the RIPE NCC and other DNS root name server operators, all in accordance with its governance processes. Through k.root-servers.net, the RIPE NCC publishes the DNS root zone to Internet users in a non-discriminatory fashion, following the relevant technical standards and best practices, and in accordance with its governance processes.

To ensure the stable and reliable availability of the DNS root zone content to Internet users, ICANN and the RIPE NCC are committed to coordinating their respective activities regarding the DNS root name service with each other and with third parties. Coordination includes exchanging and maintaining the necessary operational and administrative contact information, notifying each other without undue delay of any (pending) operational changes or any (pending) changes in their respective activities.

ICANN and the RIPE NCC are committed to providing the respective resources necessary to carry out their own respective activities mentioned above.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Axel Pawlik".

Axel Pawlik
Managing Director
RIPE NCC