



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

19 December 2007

Mr. Ray Plzak
ARIN
3635 Concorde Parkway, Suite 200
Chantilly, VA 20151-1130

Dear Mr. Plzak,

This letter is sent to you as chair of the Number Resource Organization to be conveyed to the five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs), AfriNIC, APNIC, ARIN, LACNIC and RIPE NCC.

The mission of ICANN according to its bylaws, available at <http://www.icann.org/general/bylaws.htm>, is, amongst others, to coordinate the allocation and assignment of Internet protocol ("IP") addresses and autonomous system ("AS") numbers (hereafter: Internet Number Resources).

ICANN reaffirms its commitment to the RIRs to maintain and enhance the stability, security and interoperability of the Internet's addressing system, and, in particular, the management of Internet Number Resources for the use and benefit of present and future operators and users of the Internet.

To these ends ICANN commits to:

1. Allocate Internet Number Resources to the RIRs in accordance with the applicable global policies as defined by the ICANN Address Supporting Organization (ASO) MoU, available at <http://www.icann.org/aso/aso-mou-29oct04.htm>, including revisions of those policies proposed through the ASO Address Council and adopted by the ICANN Board.
2. Invite you to work with us to document and regularly review administrative procedures for the allocation of Internet Number Resources to an RIR. These procedures are the processes for allocation of Internet Number Resources, and service levels associated with those administrative processes.
3. Perform the allocation of Internet Number Resources to an RIR compliant with these agreed administrative procedures.

ICANN reaffirms its commitment to exercise its responsibilities in an open and transparent manner, in accordance with the provisions of the ICANN Bylaws. ICANN reaffirms and re-acknowledges the roles and responsibilities of the ASO, NRO, Address Council and other entities as described in the ASO MoU.



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We welcome the voluntary contributions and as requested will document the receipt of payments. We look forward to review with you the level of future financial contributions.

ICANN acknowledges that 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>. Each recognized RIR is the entity responsible for allocation and assignment of Internet Number Resources as well as facilitating development of policies for its geographical area of responsibility.

We seek to further enhance our relationship for the mutual benefit of our organizations and respective communities. For that matter we wish and will seek to establish an appropriate legal arrangement 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, all our obligations to you under this letter shall cease. In the event of termination of our commitments we acknowledge that we are to continue our duties regarding the allocation of Internet Number Resources to the extent this is in our powers and can be reasonably expected under the circumstances in order to maintain the stability and interoperability of the Internet's addressing system, and in particular the continued and uninterrupted functioning of the allocation and assignment mechanisms for Internet Number Resources.

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Paul Twomey
President and CEO

cc: Mr. Axel Pawlik, RIPE NCC
Mr. Paul Wilson, APNIC
Mr. Adiel Akplogan, AfriNIC
Mr. Raul Echeberria, LACNIC
Mr. Ray Plzak, ARIN