



20 October 2017

Masahiko Tominaga
Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination (International Affairs)
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Japan

Dear Vice-Minister Tominaga,

I would like to convey my sincere apologies for the inconvenience to the Government of Japan arising from ICANN's decision to postpone the cryptographic key change that helps protect the Domain Name System (DNS), also known as the Key Signing Key (KSK) Rollover.

As you may know, the KSK Rollover was planned for 11 October 2017. However, on 27 September, we made the decision to delay the Rollover as we had very recently obtained data which shows that a significant number of resolvers used by Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and Network Operators are not yet ready for the KSK Rollover. We made this decision because the security, stability and resiliency of the domain name system is ICANN's foremost responsibility towards the global Internet community.

The announcement for the postponement was made on 27 September, very close to the change that was planned 11 October date. While my staff had corresponded with your team led by Mr Shin Takamura (Director for Global ICT Strategy) on the announcement, and had followed-up with a letter from me dated 6 October, I note from Mr Takamura's team that my letter did not address you directly and as a result MIC is unable to process this.

I apologize for this miscommunication. We had to share the postponement announcement as widely and as soon as possible, and unfortunately, this resulted in the communication process falling short of your expectations. I have asked my staff to rectify my earlier letter, addressing it to you directly. I enclose a copy here for your reference as well.

Please accept my apologies and I would like to assure you that we will make every effort to ensure this will not happen again.

Japan is a close friend of ICANN, and I have heard much from my staff in our APAC regional office about the dedication of Mr Takamura's team as well as the Japan Internet community members who have worked tirelessly on spreading awareness of the KSK Rollover. I would like to thank you for that.

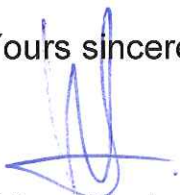
We are also working to address some of the suggestions that have come to us with regard to our communications, and I ask for your patience as we work to come up with an acceptable solution.

I am also attaching a white paper that my Office of the CTO has prepared, providing further details behind the postponement, and how continued work with the community will keep the KSK rollover process moving forward. We hope to have your continued support on this issue.

I hope to meet with you in person soon at an ICANN meeting or at another appropriate opportunity. In the meantime, should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me or my colleagues from the APAC regional office Mr Jia-Rong Low (jiarong.low@icann.org) and Mr Kelvin Wong (kelvin.wong@icann.org).

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Göran Marby
President & CEO, ICANN