

**Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
for the Promotion of Internet Coordination Activities**

Between

Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC)

And

Communications Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

And

Tojiktelecom Joint Stock Company

Preamble

This MoU supports Republic of Tajikistan's efforts to strengthen digital infrastructure, improve Internet resilience, and enhance national policymaking through technical insight, capacity development, and trusted partnerships with globally recognised Internet coordination bodies.

WHEREAS, the Communications Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan is committed to building a secure, inclusive, and digitally resilient society by strengthening national infrastructure, expanding connectivity, and ensuring that public policy in the digital domain is informed, future-proof, and **aligned with the foundational architecture of the Internet**;

WHEREAS, effective digital governance begins with a clear understanding of the Internet's layered architecture, and must be grounded in the recognition that the Internet functions as a global infrastructure, sustained by open technical standards and the coordinated registration of Internet identifiers and number resources, such as IP addresses and Autonomous System Numbers (ASNs);

WHEREAS, the RIPE NCC is one of the five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) responsible for the allocation and registration of Internet number resources, and operates on the basis of a neutral, open, and non-commercial mandate to coordinate critical Internet infrastructure. Serving members across Europe, the Middle East, and Central Asia, the RIPE NCC plays a foundational role in ensuring the Internet's global integrity, resilience, and security, including through the following activities:

- **Maintaining a transparent and accurate registry of Internet number resources**, including IP addresses (IPv4 and IPv6) and Autonomous System

Numbers (ASNs), which are essential for scalable growth, network redundancy, and resilient interconnection across the global Internet.

- **Enhancing routing security through the deployment of Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI)**, a security system that enables Internet operators to verify the legitimacy of routing information and prevent misrouting or hijacks by certifying that number resources are announced by their rightful holders.
- **Operating critical Internet infrastructure**, including services that support the global Domain Name System (DNS), such as the **K-root server**, one of the world's 13 root DNS servers and authDNS servers, which plays a vital role in resolving domain names and **ensuring the stability, resiliency, and reachability of the Internet**;
- **Acting as a Secretariat of RIPE Community**, open to all parties with an interest in the technical development of the Internet. The RIPE community's objective is to ensure that the administrative and technical coordination necessary to maintain and develop the Internet continues
- **Acting as a Network Coordination Center** and implementing in this role various activities to support and coordinate Networks, IXPs, Network Operator Groups, industrial Associations

WHEREAS, the Communications Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan recognises the importance of engaging with and collaborating alongside organisations mandated to coordinate the technical core of the Internet infrastructure, given their essential role in ensuring its security, stability, resiliency, and global interoperability.

The Signatories acknowledge the complementary roles they play in strengthening the Internet's stability, security, and resilience. **The Communications Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan** and **Tojiktelecom JSC** recognise the RIPE NCC as a trusted regional authority in the coordination of Internet number resources and the support of critical technical infrastructure. The RIPE NCC recognises the Communications Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan as a central body of the Republic of Tajikistan, responsible for the organization of management, control, regulation and service provision in the field of electric communication, postal service and informatization, grounded in sound technical foundations and aligned with the global Internet ecosystem. The RIPE NCC is also acknowledging the instrumental role of **Tojiktelecom JSC** to boost telecommunication development in Tajikistan as the largest telecommunication operator.

WHEREAS, the **RIPE NCC** is a not-for-profit association with an objective to perform coordination activities for the support of the stable operation of the Internet;

The undersigned **RIPE NCC, Communications Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan** and **Tojiktelecom JSC** (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Parties” or individually as the “Party”) agrees on following mutual purpose of this MoU.

Article I: Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) establishes a framework for cooperation to:

- Support the development of a **resilient, secure, and scalable national Internet infrastructure**;
- Promote **inclusive, evidence-based capacity building, data and knowledge sharing** to lead to a better and more informed decision making and sustainable development;
- Recognise and strengthen the role of **Internet technical coordination as a foundation for effective digital governance**, ensuring that policy decisions are grounded in a clear understanding of the Internet’s core architecture and coordination ecosystem.
- The Signatories affirm the importance of maintaining uninterrupted access to registry services, including the continued provision of accurate and properly registered Internet number resources, which should remain unaffected by domestic political disputes, international conflicts, or war, in line with the RIPE NCC’s commitment to neutrality and uninterrupted service across its service region.

Article II: Scope of Cooperation

The Signatories shall cooperate in the following areas:

- 1. IPv6 Deployment and Transition**
Jointly promote and support IPv6 adoption through training, policy dialogue, and the exchange of best practices to ensure long-term Internet scalability.
- 2. Routing Security through RPKI**
Encourage and facilitate the implementation of routing security measures, including Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI), to improve routing integrity and reduce the risk of route hijacking.
- 3. Resilient Infrastructure Development**
Enhance Internet resilience by supporting the use of Autonomous System Numbers (ASNs), multihoming, peering, traffic management and routing, and robust interconnection architectures that strengthen redundancy and stability.

4. Capacity Building and Training

Provide targeted training and knowledge-sharing opportunities for technical experts and public sector stakeholders in Internet operations, registry management, and Internet governance fundamentals.

5. Collaborative Insight and Data-Driven Decision Making

Collaborate with the RIPE NCC as a center of technical expertise to generate actionable insights through the use of its measurement platforms and registry data, including RIPE Atlas and RIPEstat, to support Internet performance analysis, connectivity monitoring, and evidence-based policy planning.

6. Technical Policy Engagement

Provide technical expertise and consultation to inform Tajikistan's digital policy and infrastructure planning, with respect for domestic decision-making processes and in support of globally interoperable Internet operations.

7. International Cooperation

Cooperate and collaborate in international arenas on Internet governance issues, fostering resilient and secure Internet infrastructure and governance for the benefit of all stakeholders.

8. Promotion of activities

The Parties will promote RIPE Meetings, RIPE NCC Regional and thematic events and conferences taking place that are of interest to both the RIPE community and the technical community in relevant country.

9. Enhancing national telecommunication infrastructure

Promotion and use of RIPE NCC Measurement Tools and Instruments, K-Root server, AuthDNS, RIS and other resources to enhance national telecommunication infrastructure.

10. Promoting events and activities

The Parties will promote RIPE Meetings, RIPE NCC Regional and thematic events and conferences taking place that are of interest to both the RIPE community and the technical community in relevant country.

All activities under this MoU shall be mutually agreed upon in advance. Participation in specific initiatives, capacity building, or engagements shall be at the discretion of each Signatory.

Article III: Principles of Cooperation

This MoU is guided by the following principles:

- **Technical integrity as a foundation for governance**

National digital policy must build upon the secure and globally coordinated

operation of Internet infrastructure.

- **Alignment with National Priorities and Technical Integrity**

All cooperation will aim to support Tajikistan's digital development goals while maintaining consistency with the operational realities of the global Internet, ensuring that national policy objectives are advanced in ways that reinforce security, resilience, and global interoperability.

Article IV: Implementation

To ensure effective implementation:

- Each Signatory shall designate a representative, appointed through its own internal procedures, to serve as the primary coordination liaison and a point of contact for all official communication. Each Signatory shall designate a representative, appointed through its own internal procedures, to serve as the primary liaison for implementation.
- Designated representatives may be invited, as appropriate, to participate in bilateral and multilateral engagements organised by the RIPE NCC, including governmental roundtables, national and regional meetings, and other forums that promote dialogue and cooperation on Internet development and coordination.
- The Signatories may agree to develop a non-binding Joint Activity Plan outlining proposed areas of collaboration and milestones. Progress may be reviewed periodically through informal consultations or technical meetings.
- The Signatories may convene, as needed, to review progress, exchange information, and identify new opportunities for collaboration, with participation by their designated representatives and relevant experts.
- All use of measurement tools or registry data under this MoU involves publicly available or RIPE NCC-managed data. No data will be collected from Tajikistan or its institutions without prior consultation and mutual agreement.

Article V: Legal Status and Duration

This MoU is without prejudice to Tajikistan's international positions, diplomatic relationships, or national security policy.

Nothing in this MoU shall be interpreted as limiting or superseding the sovereign rights or regulatory responsibilities of Tajikistan, or the technical coordination mandate of the RIPE NCC.

This MoU and the collaboration described are independent from other collaboration efforts the RIPE NCC may undertake or commit to in Central Asia.

This MoU is not an international agreement. **This MoU is non-binding** and does not create rights and obligations regulated by international or **any** law, does not impose mutual financial and property obligations on the Parties. Activities under this MoU will depend on the availability of resources and mutual agreement.

Any disagreement between the Parties arising from or in connection to this MoU shall be settled between the Parties through mutual negotiations.

The MoU shall enter into force when signed by the Parties and shall run until 31 December 2026. After this date, the MoU shall be automatically extended by one year at a time, unless one of the parties gives notice to the other party at least three months before the scheduled termination date, of its intention not to extend the MoU. Such notice must be given by means of a written notice sent to the other party.

The MoU may be amended upon agreement by both parties at any time.

A non-technical glossary of terms referenced in this MoU is provided in Annex I to support broader policy and stakeholder understanding.

Signatures

Signed on behalf of Communications Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

Isfandiyori Sadullo

Head of Communications Service

Place: _____

Date: _____

Signed on behalf of the Tojiktelecom JSC

Daler Gairatov

General Director

Place: _____

Date: _____

Signed on behalf of the RIPE NCC

Hans Petter Holen

Managing Director

Place: _____

Date: _____

Annex I: Glossary of Terms:

This glossary provides brief definitions of technical terms and acronyms referenced in this Memorandum of Understanding. It is intended to support shared understanding among policymakers, technical experts, and other stakeholders by clarifying key concepts related to Internet infrastructure, coordination, and governance.

Term / Acronym	Definition
RIPE NCC	Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre. The Regional Internet Registry (RIR) for Europe, Caucasus, the Middle East, and Central Asia, responsible for the allocation and registration of Internet number resources. RIPE NCC is a Secretariat of RIPE Community.
Regional Internet Registry (RIR)	One of five globally coordinated organisations that manage the distribution of IP addresses and ASNs in their respective regions
Internet Protocol (IP) address	A unique identifier for a device or network on the Internet. There are two versions in use: IPv4, which is the older and widely used version but has a limited number of addresses, and IPv6, which provides a vastly larger address space to support the Internet's continued growth.
Autonomous System Number (ASN)	A unique identifier used to manage Internet routing between different networks.
Domain Name System (DNS)	The system that translates human-readable domain names (like example.com) into IP addresses.
K-root	One of the 13 root name servers that support the DNS globally. Operated by the RIPE NCC, K-root helps resolve domain names and ensure Internet stability.
Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI)	A security framework that allows network operators to verify the legitimacy of routing announcements, helping prevent misrouting or malicious attacks.
Routing Integrity	The assurance that Internet traffic is being directed correctly and securely through the global network infrastructure.
RIPE Atlas	A global Internet measurement network operated by the RIPE NCC that monitors connectivity and performance using distributed probes.
RIPEstat	An open data platform provided by the RIPE NCC offering access to information about IP address space, routing, and related Internet infrastructure.

Multihoming	A network design strategy in which an organisation connects to more than one Internet provider to improve redundancy and reliability.
Peering	The practice of exchanging Internet traffic directly between networks, improving efficiency and reducing dependency on third parties
Internet Coordination	Internet coordination refers to the technical and administrative processes that ensure the Internet functions as a single, secure, and globally interoperable network. This includes the development of open technical standards, the allocation and registration of Internet number resources such as IP addresses and Autonomous System Numbers, and the operation of core infrastructure like the Domain Name System.
Internet Governance	Internet governance refers to the principles, policies, and decision-making processes that shape how the Internet is used and evolves. It includes areas such as cybersecurity, privacy, content regulation, and data flows, and involves governments, civil society, the private sector, and the technical community working together through multistakeholder processes.
Digital Governance	Digital governance refers to the broader management of the digital ecosystem, including platforms, technologies, and data-driven services that rely on the Internet but are not limited to it. It includes issues such as artificial intelligence, data protection, platform regulation, and digital transformation, and is typically addressed through national laws, regional frameworks, and international agreements.