



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

June 11, 2009

Dear Mr Pawlik

Thank you for your letter of 6 May 2009.

ICANN greatly appreciates the role that the RIPE NCC has fulfilled as the operator of k.root-servers.net. ICANN further appreciates the RIPE NCC's continued commitment to that service.

As you are aware ICANN provides technical coordination for the management of the system of unique identifiers of the global Internet, including the DNS. As part of ICANN's responsibilities and through its IANA functions, ICANN enters and maintains data in the Authoritative Root database and generates updates of the root zone file.

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 interoperability, and both parties fully share the views expressed by the Internet Architecture Board in RFC2826.

We believe that close ICANN coordination with the root-server operators provides a foundation for a secure, stable and resilient DNS.

As part of ICANN's responsibilities and through its IANA functions, ICANN establishes global consensus about the content of the root zone, maintains data in the Authoritative Root database, 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 nondiscriminatory 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,

Dr. Paul Twomey

Chief Executive Officer

ICANN

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