



2 April 2002

M. Stuart Lynn
President and CEO
ICANN
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330
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Subject: Contract between ICANN and the Regional Internet Registries

Dear Stuart:

The Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) have reached the position in the drafting of a contract between the RIRs and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) where there is a draft contract that represents agreement between the RIRs and ICANN on matters of roles, responsibilities and procedures relating to Internet address management and global address management policies. This contract would further codify the existing working relationship between the RIRs and ICANN which is set forth in the ASO MOU.

Completion of the contract is contingent on the outcome of a number of further steps:

- It is anticipated that the draft contract will be the subject of a process of public review within the ICANN and RIR constituencies. Any proposed changes to the contract as a result of these reviews will require further consultation between the parties.

- The RIRs also note that a program of evolution and reform has been initiated by ICANN that may result in outcomes for ICANN that could have a material effect on the ability of the parties to complete their commitments as documented in the draft contract. This situation will be monitored by the parties during ICANN's process of defining any consequent reform activities.

The RIR's have been holding contract payments to ICANN in escrow pending completion of the contract. As a sign of good faith at this stage of the process, the RIRs will release one half of these funds to ICANN.

The Regional Internet Registries are:

The American Registry for Internet Numbers (www.arin.net) (ARIN)
Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre (www.ripe.net) (RIPE NCC)
Asia Pacific Network Information Centre (www.apnic.net) (APNIC)

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