



Dr Paul Twomey
President and Chief Executive Officer
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
Suite 330, 4676 Admiralty Way
Marina Del Rey, California 90292 USA

Dear Dr Twomey,

UNINETT Norid AS (Norid) is the registry for the ccTLD for Norway, .no. As the .no registry, Norid is committed to administer the .no domain in a way that serves the Norwegian Internet community. Norid believes that the policy and structure of the .no domain should be operated at a local level, to meet the needs of the local Internet community since in a diverse community such as ccTLDs, individual structures and offerings will likely reflect the particular needs and aspirations of diverse local Internet communities. Like many ccTLDs, Norid funds a local policy development process that seeks to involve all relevant local stakeholders.

The prevailing regulations governing Norids activities as .no registry are laid out in directives imposed by the Norwegian authorities and the Norwegian Internet community itself. Within this framework Norid sets out the policy for the .no domain.

With this letter, we would like to let you know how we see the main aspect of the role of Norid, including some of what Norid does and will continue to do to fulfil its commitments to the Norwegian community as well as users of .no domain names.

- a) The main principle is the principle of subsidiarity, which in this context means that ccTLD policy should be set locally, unless it can be shown that the issue has global impact and needs to be resolved in an international framework. Most of the ccTLD policy issues are local in nature and should therefore be addressed by the local Internet Community, according to national law.
- b) Norid keeps the .no zone data as stored in the authoritative name servers for .no, subject to and within the limits of national law and generates regular updates in compliance with relevant technological standards as agreed by the Norwegian Internet community.
- c) Norid causes to be operated and maintained in a stable and secure manner the authoritative name servers for .no (and the subdomains over which we retain administrative authority), adequate to resolve names under .no by users throughout the Internet, and in compliance with relevant technological standards and policies we generate in conjunction with the Norwegian Internet community and consistent with national law.
- d) Norid informs ICANN, as the organisation that performs the IANA function, in a timely manner of any change of the information on .no that is being stored in the IANA database, including possible changes of the administrative or technical contact.
- e) Norid is legally established and geographically located in Norway and its administrative contact resides in Norway and is a representative of Norid.

We believe it is important that the IANA function is seen to be fair, and operated in an open, transparent manner. We believe that in line with the ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee Principles and guidelines for the delegation and administration of country code top level domains (GAC Principles), the IANA entry for each ccTLD needs to respond to decisions and requests made at the local level, even with respect to changes of ccTLD manager. In this respect, we refer to section 7

of the ICANN GAC Principles, which we believe sets out a helpful framework for processing changes to a ccTLD manager.

Norid has contributed to the funding of ICANN, as the organisation that performs the IANA function, in the past. We are ready to continue to contribute purely on a voluntary basis in the amount of USD 30 000 to ICANN's cost of operation directly relevant to ccTLDs. Given that ICANN reliably provide the IANA function we feel that it is reasonable to commit to such a contribution this year. We acknowledge that the ccTLD community and ICANN are working together to obtain a formula to determine permanent and satisfactory contribution to you. If there is no agreement on a permanent solution for ccTLD contributions to ICANN or we do not agree with the formula devised, we agree to review in good faith on the first anniversary of the date of this letter, taking into account all the relevant circumstances, our voluntary contribution to ICANN set out above with a view to making continued annual contributions on a voluntary basis.

It is the intention of both parties that this exchange of letters will not form the basis for any claim for any legal or equitable relief, or create reliance on the part of either party. For avoidance of doubt, nothing contained in this letter shall give rise to any liability, monetary or otherwise by either one of us to the other.

We look forward to continuing working together and hope for a long and mutually beneficial relationship with ICANN. In particular, we look forward to further improvements of the IANA function as the core service ICANN provides to ccTLDs.

Yours sincerely



Hilde Thunem
Managing director
UNINETT Norid AS

Trondheim, Norway
17 July 2006