21 February 2005

Paul Twomey
President & CEO
ICANN

Dear Dr. Twomey,

The Number Resource Organization (NRO) is pleased to present you and the ICANN Board of Directors this report. It summarizes the transition activities and implementation in the establishment of the African Network Information Center (AfriNIC) as a new Regional Internet Registry (RIR). This report presupposes that the ICANN Board of Directors will approve AfriNIC's final recognition at the ICANN meeting scheduled during the week of 4-8 April 2005 in Mar del Plata, Argentina. Based on this recognition, we anticipate the activation of AfriNIC as a fully operational Regional Internet Registry on 11 April 2005.

AfriNIC registration systems have been established and are currently in production servicing registrants. These include internal registration systems, external WHOIS and accounting systems. AfriNIC facilities in Pretoria and Mauritius have been physically reviewed by the Executive Council of the NRO, and they have been found to be more than adequate for the operations of an RIR.

Recognizing the significant progress AfriNIC has made to establish operations, the RIRs have moved into the final stages of their transition plan in supporting AfriNIC's emergence.

Beginning today, 21 February 2005, AfriNIC staff and registration systems will take the primary role of providing Internet registry services to Local Internet Registries and end users in Africa. AfriNIC is engaged in the full operation of RIR services. A "second opinion" overview process involving the existing RIRs will continue until AfriNIC receives final recognition.

We are fully confident of AfriNIC's ability to operate as an independent RIR upon its formal recognition as the fifth RIR by the ICANN Board. We are available to answer any questions you may have regarding the progress of AfriNIC.

Sincerely yours,

Axel Pawlik   Adiel A. Akplogan
Chair, NRO   Chief Executive Officer, AfriNIC