10 July 2012

The Number Resource Organization (NRO), on behalf of the five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs), positively notes the decision by the U.S. Government Department of Commerce to award the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions contract to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

This decision, announced on 02 July 2012 by the U.S. Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), concludes an information gathering and tender process that has been underway for 18 months. The new contract runs from 01 October 2012 - 30 September 2015, with two separate two-year option periods (for a total contract period of seven years).

The IANA functions, specifically the top-level allocation and management of Internet numbering resources, relate directly to the work of the RIRs. The NRO looks forward to continuing its work with ICANN to facilitate community-driven policy development and the provision of relevant technical functions.

Beyond this contract, the NRO looks forward to seeing concrete steps towards ending the U.S. Department of Commerce's unique oversight role with respect to the IANA functions.

Regards,

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