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For Immediate Release

ICANN Awarded Contract to Continue to Perform Internet Assigned Numbers Authority Functions

Announcement Comes After ICANN's Largest Ever Meeting

Washington, D.C... ICANN will continue to perform the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions following the awarding of a new contract by the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

The IANA functions involve the global coordination of unique identifiers that keep the Internet running smoothly. These include (1) the coordination of the assignment of technical Internet protocol parameters; (2) the administration of certain responsibilities associated with the Internet Domain Name Service (DNS) root zone management; (3) the allocation of Internet numbering resources; and (4) other services related to the management of the ARPA and INT top-level domains (TLDs).

"We are honored by the awarding of this contract and we are committed to performing the IANA functions at the highest possible level," said Akram Atallah, ICANN President and Chief Executive Officer. "We look forward to continuing our work with the multi-stakeholder community to ensure that we operate effectively, transparently and in the global public interest."

The new contract term begins 1 October 2012. "This is the longest IANA functions contract we've ever had, running for a period of three years with two 2-year renewal options," said Jamie Hedlund, Vice President of North America. "This contract reflects the input of the stakeholders from around the globe and serves as an affirmation of support for ICANN and the multi-stakeholder model."

News of the award came shortly after the conclusion of ICANN's 44th public meeting in Prague, Czech Republic. It was the largest public meeting in the organization's history with 1,821 registered attendees.

The next public meeting will occur 14-19 October in Toronto, Canada.

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To learn more about the IANA function, go here: <http://www.iana.org/about/>

MEDIA CONTACTS: Andrew Robertson
Edelman Public Relations
London, U.K.
Tel. + 44 (7811) 341 945

andrew.Robertson@edelman.com

James Cole
ICANN Media Relations
Tel. +1 954.305.5888
James.cole@icann.org

About ICANN: *ICANN's mission is to ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. For more information please visit: www.icann.org.*