

**ARNES**

Academic and Research Network of  
Slovenia

**CARNet**

Croatian Academic and Research  
Network

**DENIC**

Domain Verwaltungs- und  
Betriebsgesellschaft eG

**DNS Belgium**

Domain Name Registration  
Services België vzw

**KTU ITPI**

**IIT-CNR**

To: ccNSO Council

Date: 18 February, 2009

### Application for membership of the ccNSO

Dear Members of the ccNSO Council:

The undersigned represent ccTLD registries in the European region that maintain quite similar views of the mission and narrow mandate of ICANN and the ccNSO. Since its creation in 2003, we have attended ccNSO meetings, participated in a limited way in its public forums and working groups, and frequently submitted comments on issues under consideration. Nevertheless, to date, each of us has chosen to maintain observer status rather than join as members of the ccNSO. This choice has been based on many factors that were important to each of us and our local internet communities, particularly in light of many less than favorable experiences with ICANN prior to 2003. In effect, individually and as a group we decided to take a 'wait and see' approach to ccNSO membership, with the expectation of joining once we had confidence that ICANN and the ccNSO would hold to their narrow mandate and improve their technical service to our registries.

As observers, we were pleased to see the passage of amendments to the ICANN bylaw to narrowly defined ICANN's mission as it relates to ccTLD's and to establish clear limitations on the scope of policymaking by the ccNSO. We have been pleased to see that the ccNSO and in particular the ccNSO council have continued to act within this narrow mandate and have not shown tendencies to expand that scope or act outside of its limited role. By focusing on its efforts on important technical and policy issues that ARE within its mandate, such as improving the IANA processes and working to accelerate the introduction of IDN top

level domains, the ccNSO has achieved important positive results. Chief among those is an environment of greater confidence and trust in ICANN, something that had been severely lacking prior to 2003.

In light of the progress that the ccNSO has made, we individually and as a group have elected to, and do hereby make our applications for membership in the ccNSO. We join with a belief that the ccNSO council will continue to act within and maintain the narrow mission and scope of the ccNSO as we go forward. We are pleased to be able to support the ccNSO in its efforts and look forward to full participation with you.

Best Regards,

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