

7th April 2006

Colin Jackson
President
InternetNZ
Level 9 Exchange Place
5 - 7 Willeston Street
PO Box 11-881
Wellington.

Dear Colin

Re : NZRS Technical and Business Systems Review

NZRS has been operating and managing the Shared Registry System (SRS) and Domain Name System (DNS) for the .nz space since October 2002. As part of NZRS's Strategic and Business Plans, the SRS and DNS were scheduled for a full review in the 4th year of operation (2006). Information regarding the Review process is set out below.

The NZRS Board has approved a Draft Terms of Reference for the review project for consultation with InternetNZ as the shareholder and also the .NZ Oversight Committee. InternetNZ's comments as to what else should be included or expanded on would be appreciated. A copy of the Draft Terms of Reference is attached for your reference.

We would also appreciate InternetNZ, as a key stakeholder, participating in and contributing to the Review.

It is intended that when the Review has been completed, InternetNZ and NZOC will have the opportunity to consider and discuss the Review's recommendations prior to the other stakeholders being advised of the findings.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries regarding the Draft Terms of Reference for the project. We would appreciate receiving any comments InternetNZ wishes to make on the Draft Terms of Reference, particularly on any other areas you consider should be included or expanded on in the Review, by 2nd May 2006.

It is expected that this Review will lead to improved systems and services and therefore has the potential to affect, and benefit, all .nz registrars and key stakeholders.



The Project

The purpose of the Technical and Business Systems Review (TBSR) project is to review current systems, current and future business needs, then define an architecture and technical strategy that will effectively meet these needs until 2011.

The project is currently in the planning stages. Doug Mercer has been appointed the Project Manager. You will remember Doug in his capacity as Technical Project Manager of the original SRS implementation.

Project Phases

The project will have two main phases: Requirements Definition and Technical Architecture. The first phase will define the optimal business requirements that NZRS systems should serve through to 2011. All registrars will be invited to contribute their opinions, ideas, and insights to this process and are encouraged to think beyond the constraints of what current systems provide. Registrars will be able to contribute at a number of levels and consultation sessions will be scheduled in main centres throughout the country. We expect to have direct discussions with many registrars and will schedule group sessions to explain what we are doing and provide forums for discussion. The project will be producing a regular newsletter as part of its communication plan.

Using the requirements document as its base, the second phase will define a technical architecture and strategy to take NZRS systems through to 2011. No presumptions have been made as to what form this might take or what platforms, standards, or protocols might be involved. All possibilities remain open, from retention of the current systems unchanged to their total replacement with a new architecture.

Given the obvious impact of change on registrar systems and associated cost and business implications, the technical architecture will also be reviewed through a consultative process. This will be achieved largely by the establishment of a Technical Architecture Panel which will assist in the development of the technical recommendations and which will include representation from a variety of registrar businesses and technical specialists. Other means of contribution will be made available for stakeholders not involved with the panel.

Scope

While the scope of the project is broad in terms of requirements and technical architecture, it specifically excludes any review of .nz policy (although any architectural implications on policy will be considered) nor will it review any commercial or contractual arrangements relating to existing systems. This phase of the project will only recommend a technical architecture and strategy and will not initiate any form of implementation.

Participation

The success of the current SRS is due in a large part to the high level of participation from key stakeholders (including InternetNZ as shareholder, NZOC, DNC and Registrars) as the requirements of the system were shaped into a commercially workable solution. It is



intended to take a similar consultative approach to this Review and interview key stakeholders. Internetnz is a key stakeholder in its capacity firstly as shareholder and secondly through its significant involvement in technical matters via its Technical Committee (note the NZ Oversight Committee and Domain Name Commissioner are being contacted separately), and we will be contacting InternetNZ over the coming weeks with more information about the process. Meanwhile, you might like to give some thought to identifying any issues you perceive with the .nz registration business, improvements that would help, and future opportunities to expand upon it.

It would be appreciated if you could consider the Draft Terms of Reference for the Review and come back to me with any comments or questions that you may have by 2nd May 2006.

Yours sincerely

(Original signed)

Anne Urlwin
Chairman

Cc: Keith Davidson - Executive Director, InternetNZ
David Farrar, Chairman, NZRS Technical and Business Systems Review Project
Committee





