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Date:

June 27, 2025

Subject:

Proposal for Collaboration and Engagement

TO:

Mr. Hans Petter Holen

General Manager

RIPE NCC

FROM:

Dmitry Galushko

President

Association of Small Telecom

Operators of Regions

Dear Mr. Holen,

I am writing to you in my capacity as President of the Association of Small Telecom Operators of Regions. Established in 2022, our association currently encompasses over one hundred telecom operators within the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation, united by a common objective to foster resilience amidst prevailing regulatory and monopolistic pressures.

Our core mission is predicated upon ensuring the continued availability of the Internet for end-users, irrespective of corporate interests, geopolitical considerations, or unforeseen disruptions. In this context, we commend RIPE NCC's enduring commitment to a stable and global Internet, particularly as articulated in your statement of 10 March 2022 regarding the imperative of accurate and politically neutral registration of Internet resources.

However, we have observed a discernible reduction in RIPE NCC's direct engagement with network operators within the Russian Federation in recent years. While acknowledging the complexities that may underlie this shift, we respectfully emphasize the significance of sustained interaction. A substantial proportion of our membership comprises professional users of Number Resources, with approximately one quarter also holding RIPE NCC memberships, rendering our collective representation significant within the RIPE NCC service region.

The Association of Small Telecom Operators of Regions formally proposes a collaborative

partnership with RIPE NCC. Our areas of interest for cooperation include, but are not limited to, the advancement of global Internet stability, meaningful connectivity, equitable resource distribution, bottom-up policy development, and educational initiatives. We extend an invitation to RIPE community members and RIPE NCC staff to participate in our events, both virtual and physical. We are prepared to facilitate the organization of events and training programs in Russian, foster knowledge exchange, and establish robust communication channels between our community and the broader global Internet governance ecosystem. We recognize the criticality of active participation in policy development processes and seek your guidance in navigating these complex frameworks.

We note, with regret, the discontinuation of ENOG activities. Former key partners in the Russian Federation have since been assimilated into state-controlled entities, advocating for top-down policies and increased governmental and ITU oversight of the Internet. While our organizational capacity may differ from these entities, we unequivocally affirm our commitment to upholding the foundational principles of Internet Protocol connectivity.

We are keen to discuss avenues for collaboration, specifically including RIPE NCC's participation in our forthcoming annual conference, scheduled for next spring. We are confident that such engagement would yield mutual benefits and contribute significantly to the global Internet community.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. We anticipate your favorable response.

Sincerely,

Dmitry Galushko

President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Galushko', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Association of Small Telecom Operators of Regions