

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF VANUATU

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF
INFORMATION OFFICER

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Tel: (678) 33380 Fax: 26301

30th April 2015

Louise Nasak
Internet Governance and Technical Manager
Office of the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator
P O Box 3547
Port Vila

Dear Louise,

Re: .vu Vanuatu Domain Name Management and Administration Regulation

Thank you for the opportunity to involve the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) as part of the above consultation process. We congratulate you and your team for taking the lead in this consultation process to ensure our .vu domain name is better managed and administered.

We are pleased to present this letter as our submission to the .vu domain name management and administration consultation. The domain name registry issue is an outstanding issue following the liberalization of the telecommunication sector in 2008, and it is only proper that we take further steps to ensure public resources such as the .vu domain names are widely available for our internet consumers.

As per the consultation guidelines, here are our responses to the questionnaires:

1. We agree in principal on the proposed new ccTLD structure and regulatory framework. The Telecommunication and Radiocommunications Act No.30 of 2009 Section 7 (4) (e) gives power to the Regulator to make regulations for the management and administration (including the exclusive management and administration) of country code top level domain names for Vanuatu and domain name registration for Vanuatu. Similarly, given that the ccTLD is a public resource, it is proper that TRR on behalf of the government ensure that this resource is readily available for consumers;
2. In line with ICANN's regulation on domain name management and administration, we see no risks associated with the proposed structure;
3. We agree that the .vu domain as our ccTLD assigned by IANA and ICANN that it be managed as a public resource;
4. We agree that the Registrar services be opened for competition to allow more economic activity within the ICT and Telecommunication sector in Vanuatu. However, we give our

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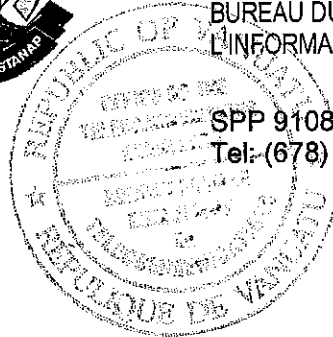
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reservations that only companies or entities registered under the Vanuatu Financial Services Commission be eligible to be registrars for this public resource;


5. We agree that the Registrars and Registry roles be separated;
6. Opening the Registrar market to competition will allow ISP's to offer domain name registration services to supplement their usual portfolio of Internet connectivity, email and web hosting services. Similarly, it will allow for end user consumers to be able to get more services through their internet subscription services. The current set up limits consumers to utilise registrar market which is a contributing factor to the underdevelopment of the .vu domain name uptake.
7. The State Law Office as our legal advisors are in a better position to give their legal opinion on the proposed regulation, however, from a policy perspective, we have no issues with the regulation at all. The proposed regulation covers most of best practise regulatory framework set out by IANA and ICANN and we congratulate TRR for this well-structured framework to govern the operation of the .vu domain name management and administration.

As a responsible government, it is our utmost desire to see a peak uptake of .vu domain names following this consultation and should there be anything that the government can do to promote and market the .vu domain name, we welcome any proposals and suggestions.

The .vu domain is a national asset and it is in the best interest that we all work hard to keep this domain name from being abused, and at all times maintain our Christian values and our customs and traditions that the domain name markets. As per our initial discussions, OGCIO on behalf of the government offers our technical infrastructure and support to TRR for any interim technical arrangements until such time.

We thank you once again for your active engagement in liberalising this very critical resource and we look forward to receiving the outcome of this consultation.

Yours sincerely,


Fred Samuel
Chief Information Officer

