

# Recommendations of the RadioDNS Statutes Drafting Team

14th February 2010

## 1. Background

The First General Assembly of RadioDNS (10-Nov-2009, Geneva) called for the formation of a team of people to draw up Statutes and other essential documents to allow the formal establishment of RadioDNS.

This document, and those referred to in it, represent the output of this team, and we present these to the Second General Assembly of RadioDNS (16-Feb-2010, Geneva) for adoption.

## 2. Statutes

Our proposed Statutes are referenced in the document [Statutes of RadioDNS - v1.00 \(RC\)](#) . In our opinion, these Statutes reflect the ambitions of the organisation and its members, in accordance with the guidance given at the First General Assembly.

## 3. Membership Application Process

Our proposed Membership Application Process (references from the proposed Statutes) is documented as [RadioDNS Membership Application Process v1.00 \(RC\)](#) . In our opinion this process sets a reasonable threshold for joining the organisation.

## 4. Trust Model

Our proposed Trust Model is documented as [RadioDNS Trust Model v1.00 \(RC\)](#) . This document is **not** statutory in nature, and our recommendation is that the members direct the incoming Steering Board to adopt this document as the basis of providing a reliable and trustworthy system, as required in Article 2, Part 3 of the proposed RadioDNS Statutes v1.00 (RC). We might expect that this document is also used in commercial negotiation with a potential domain registrar to provide the actual service, and forms the basis of a contractual commitment.

## 5. Intellectual Rights Property Policy

Our proposed Intellectual Rights Property (IPR) Policy is documented as [RadioDNS IPR Policy v1.00 \(RC\)](#) . In our opinion this is the most pragmatic policy that balances the desire

to generate royalty-free IPR for widest adoption, versus the established rights of IPR holders who wish to become members. The IPR Policy is not a statutory document, but we recommend that the members direct the incoming Steering Board to adopt this policy as a condition of participation in Teams who may produce IPR as a result of their work for RadioDNS.

To the best of our visibility, and without having done exhaustive patent searches, the only parties who may have had patentable intellectual rights in respect of the foundation RadioDNS technology are the BBC and Global Radio. Since this work was done in an open, collaborative and public manner, both of these companies have received legal advice that any patent application would not be successful. Accordingly, this IPR policy is about future work that the RadioDNS steering team might direct Teams to do, under the terms of the RadioDNS statutes.

## **6. Other Recommendations**

There are a number of other recommendations we make in order to establish RadioDNS.

1. The Steering Board should be formed of 9 (nine) members for the first year. The Steering Board has the statutory power to adapt its size according to needs, save that it must adhere to Section 6, Part 1 of the proposed RadioDNS Statutes that require the Steering Board to be a balanced representation of the stakeholders in RadioDNS.
2. The Statutes require that only members may be elected as Chairperson, Secretary and to the Steering Board, and that only members hold a vote. In order to allow people to confirm their intention to become members, we recommend that the first year's membership fee does not exceed CHF2,000 (approximately USD1,800 / EUR 1,350 / GBP 1,200), but that the exact figure is confirmed by the Steering Board once elected.
3. An election for the positions of Chairperson, Secretary and Steering Board members should be held immediately following the Second General Assembly. There should be a four week period (to 16th March 2010) for people to confirm their intention to join RadioDNS as members, entitling them to vote and to propose a candidate. Information on candidates shall be circulated, and a further two weeks (to 31st March 2010) allowed for people to confirm their intention to join RadioDNS as members in order to vote. An Extraordinary General Assembly should be called for 1st April 2010, at which members will vote to appoint candidates into positions. This Extraordinary General Assembly would be held as a telephone conference of members, and members may wish to appoint the Chairman of the meeting to act as proxy for them. The only agenda items on this meeting would be election for Chairperson, Secretary and Steering Board members.
4. The Steering Board should engage a commercial domain registrar to provide the RadioDNS service, and agree fees to be charged to users. The Steering Board should ensure a smooth transition from the existing provision of the service by Global Radio to the new provider.
5. Users of RadioDNS need not be members. This allows broadcasters to use the service without having to join RadioDNS as members, which would also require agreeing to the Statutes, Trust Model etc..

## **7. Conclusion**

This set of documents provides the best structure and policies for the establishment of RadioDNS, and we recommend to the Second General Assembly that they are adopted collectively on a single vote.

### **The RadioDNS Statutes Drafting Team**

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