Pico Peering Agreement

v1.0

Maintained at picopeer.net | Mailing list: one.server1.org/mailman/listinfo/picopeer-discuss

---

Preamble

There are now many community networks, but they are separated geographically and socially and do not form a coherent network. This document is an attempt to connect those network islands by providing the minimum baseline template for a peering agreement between owners of individual network nodes – the Pico Peering Agreement.

The PPA is a way of formalizing the interaction between two peers. Owners of network nodes assert their right of ownership by declaring their willingness to donate the free exchange of data across their networks.

The PPA is maintained at picopeer.net by a group of volunteers from around the world. It is intended to be used as a template for other small-scale peering documents and licenses.

Agreement

1. Free Transit

- The owner agrees to provide free transit across their free network.
- The owner agrees not to modify or interfere with data as it passes through their free network.

2. Open Communication

- The owner agrees to publish the information necessary for peering to take place.
- This information shall be published under a free licence.
- The owner agrees to be contactable and will provide at least an email address.

3. No Warranty

- There is no guaranteed level of service.
- The service is provided “as is”, with no warranty or liability of whatsoever kind.
- The service can be scaled back or withdrawn at any time with no notice.

4. Terms of Use

- The owner is entitled to formulate an ‘acceptable use policy’.
- This may or may not contain information about additional services provided (apart from basic access).
- The owner is free to formulate this policy as long as it does not contradict points 1 to 3 of this agreement (see point 5).

5. Local Amendments

(to be filled in ad-hoc by the node owner as this document is implemented)

Definition of Terms

- **Owner:** The owner of the node has the right to operate their network equipment and to donate any part of its functionality to the Free Network.
- **Transit:** Transit is the exchange of data into, out of or across a network.
- **Free Transit:** Free transit means that the owner will neither charge for the transit of data nor modify the data.
- **Free Network:** The Free Network is the sum of interconnected hardware and software resources, whose Free Transit has been donated by the owners of those resources.
- **The Service:** The Service is made up of Free Transit and Additional Services.
- **Additional Services:** In terms of the PPA, an additional service is anything over and above Free Transit. For example, provision of a DHCP server, a web server or a mail server.

The PPA in Practice

The PPA shall be implemented in data-readable form following agreed standards in community network node databases to facilitate automatic interconnection of nodes.
