

4 June 2010

Ms. Heather Dryden and Mr. Ray Plzak, Co-Chairs  
Governmental Advisory Committee/ICANN Board of Directors  
Joint Working Group  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers  
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330  
Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601  
USA

Dear Ms. Dryden and Mr. Plzak:

As you know, under Section 9.1 of the Affirmation of Commitments (AoC) signed by ICANN and the Department of Commerce, the Accountability and Transparency Review Team (Review Team) is responsible for assessing ICANN's progress on its commitment to continually assess and improve:

- a. ICANN Board of Directors (Board) governance, including Board performance, the Board selection process, the extent to which Board composition meets ICANN's present and future needs, and the consideration of an appeal mechanism for Board decisions;
- b. the role and effectiveness of the GAC and its interaction with the Board and making recommendations for improvement to ensure effective consideration by ICANN of GAC input on the public policy aspects of the technical coordination of the DNS;
- c. the processes by which ICANN receives public input (including adequate explanation of decisions taken and the rationale thereof);
- d. the extent to which ICANN's decisions are embraced, supported and accepted by the public and the Internet community; and
- e. the policy development process to facilitate enhanced cross community deliberations, and effective and timely policy development.

The Review Team appreciates the opportunity to meet with the GAC-Board Joint Working Group on Sunday, 20 June 2010, between 12:00 and 12:30 in Brussels to discuss the review process. We would, of course, welcome any formal input the Working Group is willing to provide, but it is our hope that the meeting in Brussels will provide an opportunity to receive informal input from members on these topics.

We are meeting with both the GAC and the Board later this afternoon, and in advance of those meetings have provided a list of questions to facilitate discussion. We have attached those questions for your information, and would be pleased to receive any input that members of the group may have with respect to those questions. Inasmuch as our time with the group will be quite limited, however, we are particularly interested in progress made by the group to date, including in particular any progress that has been made on the specific tasks for which the

Working Group was chartered almost exactly one year ago. As articulated in the Board resolution from Sydney, Australia, the Working Group was established to:

- (i) review the GAC's role within ICANN;
- (ii) engage the ICANN community in a fully consultative process on GAC's role within ICANN;
- (iii) consider measures to enhance support of the GAC's work, including interpretation of meetings, translation of documents, extension of travel support for GAC members from the Least Developed Countries, and remote participation at GAC meetings; and
- (iv) propose better ways for governments to be informed about ICANN and for enhanced opportunities for the GAC to meet with the ICANN Board and community.

Inasmuch as the role and effectiveness of the GAC in the ICANN process was a particular focus of the AoC, input from the Joint Working Group is critical to the work of the Review Team. We look forward to a fruitful discussion in Brussels.

Sincerely,

(signed)

Brian Cute, Chair

Sincerely,

(signed)

Manal Ismail, Vice Chair