21 February 2020

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RE: ICANN67 Moves from Cancún, Mexico to Virtual Meeting

Dear Members of the ICANN67 Local Host Committee:

As you know, ICANN has announced that its ICANN67 Public Meeting, which was to be held in Cancún, Mexico, will now be held as a virtual meeting with remote participation.

This decision was made by the ICANN Board as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, after consultation with health experts and the ICANN community and much deliberation. The virus is now considered a public health emergency of international concern by the World Health Organization.

We did not take this decision lightly and we want you to know that it is not related to any particular concern about the host country.

Each ICANN Public Meeting attracts thousands of attendees from more than 150 countries. Currently, 26 of those countries have confirmed cases of COVID-19. We believe there is a potential risk of bringing the virus to Cancún and into the ICANN meeting site, jeopardizing the health of everyone, and potentially spreading the virus in Mexican territory where there are currently no reported cases.

In making the decision to turn ICANN67 into a virtual meeting, ICANN also noted that as of this date, more than two dozen international meetings have been canceled in locations around the globe.

On behalf of the entire ICANN Board of Directors, we would like to reiterate our sincere appreciation for your tireless work, support, and understanding during this complex situation. We look forward to returning to Cancún for our ICANN70 meeting next year.

Sincerely,

Göran Marby
President and CEO, ICANN

Maarten Botterman
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors

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