27 May 2016

Mr. Michael Beckerman
President and CEO of @internetassn

Dear Mr. Beckerman,

Thank you for your kind words. Like you, I believe that this is an exciting time for ICANN and the Internet community.

I also thank you for your strong contributions during the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee hearing this past week. It is vital for the U.S. Congress to understand the perspective of the people and organizations that bring to life the multistakeholder model of Internet governance.

With regards to your recommendations: We, the ICANN Staff remains committed to ongoing accountability reform, and the ICANN Board has affirmed the importance of the elements identified for Work Stream 2. We are working with the community on a path forward for this important effort, including considerations of fiscal responsibility and how to navigate any consequences of volunteer “burn-out.” We should see this begin to take shape over the next month and into the next ICANN meeting in Helsinki, where a full day is dedicated to Work Stream 2.

In the ongoing work to amend the Bylaws, ICANN Staff and the community have worked together to further clarify the limited technical scope of ICANN’s Mission and Core Values. This adds additional assurance that ICANN Staff will not be put in a position to interpret or enforce laws regulating websites or website content. This commitment rests not only in the hands of ICANN Staff, but in the hands of the multistakeholder community which, as a result of the transition, now has the authority to ensure that ICANN’s Staff’s actions remain consistent with its narrow technical remit.

I look forward to meeting you, the members of the Internet Association and countless members of the multistakeholder community during my tenure as CEO of the ICANN support organization. I hope we can work together to encourage more companies like those your association represents to participate actively within ICANN’s multistakeholder model.
Please be assured of my unwavering commitment to the multistakeholder model and to the entire ICANN community. Thank you again for all of your efforts in support of ICANN and our multistakeholder model.

Best,

Göran Marby
President & CEO ICANN

Please note this letter is in response to Mr. Michael Beckerman’s letter to Mr. Göran dated 25 May 2016.

The letter from Mr. Michael Beckerman is available here.