

Letter of Motivation  
Accountability and Transparency Review Team  
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My motivation to volunteer to serve on the Accountability and Transparency Review Team derives from three points: 1. a belief that the ICANN model is a unique, global experiment; 2. a recognition that ICANN is still a relatively “young” organization; 3. an understanding of the central role that “accountability and transparency” will play in continuing to improve community confidence in ICANN.

ICANN is at a critical juncture in its existence. With the recent transition from the Joint Project Agreement (JPA) to the Affirmation of Commitments (AoC), ICANN has enshrined its commitment to the global community that it will act for the benefit of global Internet users and will ensure that the outcomes of its processes will reflect the public interest. ICANN’s fulfillment of these commitments will determine its future success as an organization charged with the critical role of technical coordinator for the Domain Name System.

Having practiced as a telecommunications regulatory attorney for 6 years, I am intimately familiar with regulatory frameworks that provide open, transparent and accountable rulemaking and policymaking processes. In that capacity, I actively participated in rulemaking and policymaking processes in Canada, the European Union, Hong Kong, India and the United States and have a broad understanding of various legal regimes and international norms. Having subsequently participated in ICANN for 7 years, I have a deep understanding of the unique nature of the ICANN model of bottom up policy and decision-making processes. These combined experiences provide a base of knowledge and a skill set that could well-serve the ICANN community in the addressing accountability and transparency review mechanisms and processes.

The Accountability and Transparency Review Panel has a December 31, 2010 deadline to complete its work. The Panel will need, of necessity, to work in a structured and disciplined manner in order to complete its work and provide the quality work product warranted for the ICANN community. In my professional capacity, I have worked on and led a variety of intensive, time sensitive projects (e.g. policymaking processes, RFP responses, litigation). I would welcome the opportunity to participate in a group that is tasked to organize, develop and complete such critical work in a timely manner to the ICANN community.

Finally, having been a longstanding and active participant in the ICANN and observing its growing pains as well as its successes, I would like to make a contribution, however small, to ICANN’s continued growth and maturation as an organization that inspires confidence and global acceptance as a model for community, bottom up policymaking and decision making for the DNS.