

13 July 2010

ICANN
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330
Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601USA
BY EMAIL ONLY: rtcandidatures@icann.org

Dear Sir or Madam,

Affirmation of Commitments, application for position of volunteer review team member, WHOIS policy

In response to your call for applicants, I wish to apply to become a member of the WHOIS policy review team, representing the ccNSO. I have pleasure in attaching my CV.

I have worked within the domain name industry for more than 10 years with the .uk registry, Nominet, most recently as Director of Legal and Policy. I have extensive experience of the ICANN environment both before and after the creation of the ccNSO, and led the negotiation of ICANN's exchange of letters with Nominet in 2006. I have been a member of the Multistakeholder Advisory Group to the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) since 2006.

I have extensive knowledge of the subject area. A lawyer with 12+ years' post qualified experience in the field of Data Protection, Intellectual Property and Internet law, I was responsible for defining Nominet's WHOIS policy, which is recognised as an example of international best practice by both law enforcement and privacy regulators. Creating the policy involved consulting with relevant stakeholders to understand their legitimate interests, negotiating with internal and external stakeholders to achieve a consensus on a practicable way forward. To succeed required a willingness to learn, and the ability not only to put aside my preconceptions about the best solution, but to persuade others to do likewise.

Working within a bottom-up consensus driven policy environment, I understand the need both to define appropriate terms of reference, and to make recommendations which are demonstrably based on the available evidence and inputs – whether qualitative, quantitative or responses to consultations. For example, I recently prepared an evidence based analysis of the registrar market for EURid.

The WHOIS is a divisive issue, in which the relevant actors (law enforcement, intellectual property owners, consumers and privacy advocates) have legitimate, but opposing interests. To this review, I can bring proven teamworking skills, and the ability to earn the trust of colleagues within a volatile environment. For example, I was privileged to moderate the IGF plenary session on Critical Internet Resources in 2008, a highly divisive issue, and was praised for my approach by stakeholders from opposing points on the spectrum of views.

Yours faithfully,



Emily Taylor