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ICANN Announces Selections to Top Leadership Positions

Nominations Committee Picks Leaders from Around the World

Washington, DC... August 31, 2009... ICANN has announced the selection of 9 accomplished leaders from around the globe to serve on its Board of Directors and several of its most critical committees.

"Included are individuals from Russia, India, Malaysia, Jamaica, Argentina, Chile and the United States," said Tricia Drakes, chair of ICANN's Nominations Committee (NomCom). "The Committee's hard work has given us a result that we believe balances continuity and diversity. We have added some new faces to the mix, but I hope the community will agree that there is a real depth of experience as well."

The Nominations Committee made its selection from 86 interested individuals who represented a wide diversity in geography, culture, skills, experience, and perspective.

"Tricia Drakes, the Nominations Committee Chair and her team have done an excellent job in selecting some very strong candidates to serve the ICANN Board of Directors and the other stakeholder groups," said Rod Beckstrom, ICANN CEO and President. "As a multi-stakeholder private sector body, ICANN is largely driven by the incredible efforts of volunteers around the globe. As we continue our role of addressing the global Internet, these people will be pivotal players in our success."

The Nominations Committee selections are:

ICANN Board of Directors

- Rajasekar Ramaraj, India (2nd term)
- Gonzalo Navarro, Chile
- George Sadowsky, United States

- **At-Large Advisory Committee**
 - James Seng, Malaysian citizen residing in China
 - Carlton Samuels, Jamaica
 - Dave Kissoondoyal, Mauritius
- **Generic Names Supporting Organization Council**
 - Olga Cavalli, Argentina (2nd term)
 - Andrey Kolesnikov, Russian Federation
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- **Country Code Names Supporting Organization Council**
 - J. Beckwith Burr (Becky), United States (2nd term)

“The high quality of the new appointments to the various leadership positions in ICANN helps to further secure the future of the ICANN model, in which key decisions are made by a multi-stakeholder community, using a bottom-up policy development process,” said Peter Dengate-Thrush, ICANN Board Chairman. “Having appointees with the skills these candidates bring, means that the Internet policy-making processes are in very good hands. Attracting, and retaining leadership of this international standard is of key importance to ICANN as we face the exciting challenges of the globally growing Internet.”

Those selected will assume their respective positions at ICANN’s 36th International Meeting in Seoul, which begins on October 25.

For Additional Information:

- To learn about the background of the nominees go to: <http://www.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-28aug09-en.htm>
- To learn more about ICANN’s Nominations Committee, go to: <http://nomcom.icann.org/faqs.htm>
- For more information about the Board and various supporting organizations and committees to which the appointees were named, go to:
 - Board of Directors: <http://www.icann.org/en/general/board.html>
 - GNSO: <http://gnso.icann.org/>
 - CCNSO: <http://ccnso.icann.org/>
 - ALAC: <http://alac.icann.org/>

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About ICANN:

To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn’t have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet’s unique identifiers. ICANN doesn’t control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn’t deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet’s naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. **For more information please visit:** www.icann.org.