

Letter of Motivation

Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team
(CCT Review Team)

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The recent introduction of new generic top level domains (new gTLDs) has been one of ICANN's main projects over the past few years. The complexity of the process and the large quantity of applications have confronted the organization and the community as a whole with a series of new challenges and conflicts among them economical, political and legal interests. Recent quantitative data of new gTLD registrations, the qualitative nature of the very same registrations and their regional distribution are just a few of the many details that the CCT Review Team needs to address to support the evaluation of the current new gTLD program which will automatically contribute to the development of the possible upcoming round of new gTLDs.

As a volunteer for the CCT Review Team I would be willing to participate from the perspective of the Latin American region which was involved in the program to a much lesser extent than traditional DNS industry regions or others which were able to benefit from the opportunities of IDNs. In fact, competition regarding new gTLDs is often related to structural circumstances which include variables like IT- and especially DNS-infrastructure in the respective regions, national fiscal systems, market demand and more. At the same time, consumers act differently in the various regions and markets. In this context the CCT Review Team needs to take a serious look at the distribution of benefits of new top level domains among the different stakeholder groups involved in the launching of new gTLDs, being mainly users and providers of different levels.

Having been involved in Internet research and in the Internet community for the last decade I am strongly motivated to contribute to this process from the perspective of a researcher and observer of the new gTLD program since 2012. Due to my former involvement in new gTLD application processes I have gained substantial knowledge of the process itself and its challenges for the several stakeholders involved. Besides that, my academic experience and my skills of critical analysis and structured proceedings would be an asset for the review team. As a member of the international academic community working on Internet governance for several years I am very familiar with ICANN and its multistakeholder community as well as its various challenges, among them security, diversity and the need for stability regarding critical Internet resources like the Domain Name System.