

United Nations Nations Unies

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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (DESA)
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REC'D OCT 08 2010

REFERENCE: DESA-10/3078

6 October 2010

Dear Mr. Beckstrom,

In its resolution 2010/2 of 19 July, the Economic and Social Council invited the Secretary-General "to convene open and inclusive consultations involving all Member States and other stakeholders with a view to assisting the process towards enhanced cooperation in order to enable Governments on an equal footing to carry out their roles and responsibilities in respect of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not of the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact upon those issues, through a balanced participation of all stakeholders in their respective roles and responsibilities, as stated in paragraph 35 of the Tunis Agenda, and requests that the consultations be held before the end of 2010 and their outcome submitted to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-sixth session, through the Economic and Social Council."

On behalf of the Secretary-General and in response to the above, it has been my pleasure to invite all stakeholders, including Governments, civil society, intergovernmental and international organizations and the private sector, to contribute to these consultations by submitting comments in writing by 15 November 2010, by e-mail to unpan@un.org, or through an online form at <http://www.unpan.org/dpadm/wsisfollowup/>. Inputs can also be sent by fax to +1 212/963-9681 or by post to Two United Nations Plaza, Room DC2-1714, New York, NY 10017.

Comments received by 15 November 2010 will be posted online by 1 December 2010, and may serve as a basis for consultations with United Nations Member States, Permanent Observers and other intergovernmental organizations to be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 14 December 2010.

Civil society organizations, the private sector and technical community are also very much encouraged to take part. However, due to space limitations, these groups are being asked to prepare a summary of their views, based on the various contributions, for presentation by a designated representative. Given ICANN's central position in management of critical Internet resources and extensive experience with Internet-related public policy issues, I would like to invite the Corporation to assume a coordinating role and to speak on behalf of the technical community in December.

The Council has asked that the consultations be open and inclusive and I would encourage the ICANN, should it accept this assignment, to be inclusive in its outreach efforts. Already I have sent an open call for contributions to ITU sector members and other entities engaged in relevant public policy discussions through the Internet Governance Forum.

Mr. Rod Beckstrom
President and CEO
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
Marina del Rey, CA

All contributions, whether received in writing or presented orally on 14 December 2010, will be considered in the preparation of the Secretary-General's note on the outcome of the consultations to be conveyed to the General Assembly in 2011.

I look forward to your reply, if possible, by 15 October 2010, so that there is sufficient time to identify an alternate representative should ICANN not be able to accept this offer.

Yours sincerely,



Sha Zukang
Under-Secretary-General