July 17, 2018

Honorable David J. Redl
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration U.S.
Department of Commerce
Washington, DC 20230

Via email to iipp2018@ntia.doc.gov
RE: International Internet Policy Priorities [Docket No. 180124068–8068–01]

Dear Assistant Secretary Redl:

Thank you for inviting inputs from stakeholders including interested individuals on the NTIA international internet policy priorities. I provide the following response to your request as an interested U.S. citizen who has an extensive, on-going involvement with the internet that began in 1981 and continuing through today.

I was involved with the Department of Defense (DoD) decision to use ARPAnet technology as the basis for future DoD data networks (then known as the Defense Data Network (DDN)), served as the DDN Chief Scientist for several years, and have conducted various research efforts focused on improvements to the security of the internet infrastructure. In 2001, I was one of the original appointments to what became the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) of the Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). I have been actively engaged with various ICANN multistakeholder groups including being a member of the IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG).

Although I have extensive involvement with ICANN and other parts of the internet community, I want to be clear that I am providing this input strictly in my individual capacity.

First, I want to strongly support the July 13, 2018 input to the Docket provided by ICANN. As an individual who is active in multiple areas of the ICANN Community, I

believe that this letter presents a factual and accurate description of the current state of the ICANN organization and the ICANN Community. Having personally participated in the ICG and closely followed the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG), I believe that a very reasonable structure has been established and that it is functioning well. I am aware that there were concerns about whether or not there would be appropriate balance between the various stakeholders in ICANN after the IANA transition - I believe that this balance has been achieved. The various structural limitations that have been put in place are working well at the present time.

Second, since the NOI also requested inputs on U.S. Government involvement in other internet related areas, I would like to point out an area that is in serious need of more and better inputs from the U.S. Government, i.e., the standards development activities that underlie the internet openness and interoperability. A majority of internet standards process takes place in the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) which results in the IETF specifications being the earliest part of supply chain of all current and future internet users. Very little effort has been spent on preventing subversion of this critical part of the supply chain and there is no apparent effort on the part of the U.S. Government to monitor or prevent such subversion. There are also other strategic contributions that should be made by a more coordinated U.S. Government approach to internet standards. I believe correcting this shortfall should be a high priority for NTIA and can provide additional details if you desire.

Russ Mundy
Interested Individual
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