Dear [ ] ,

The undersigned are all government officials who have agreed to serve on the second Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT) of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). We are participating because of our strong commitment to the multistakeholder approach to Internet policymaking and our desire to strengthen ICANN to serve as a model multistakeholder organization for the world.

The overall responsibility of the ATRT, as set by the Affirmation of Commitments, is to review ICANN’s commitments to maintain and improve robust mechanisms for public input, accountability, and transparency and to ensure that the outcomes of its decision-making will reflect the public interest and be accountable to all stakeholders. Within that responsibility, the Review Team will assess the role and effectiveness of ICANN’s Governmental Advisory Committee and its interaction with the Board and make recommendations for improvement to ensure consideration by ICANN of GAC input on the public policy aspects of the technical coordination of the Domain Name System (DNS).

In conducting this review, we are particularly interested in hearing from ministers or other senior government officials about their countries’ experiences with ICANN and the GAC. We urge you to consider providing input to the Review Team in one of the following ways:

* We have underway an open public comment process in which any individual or organization can share information in response to a series of questions we have proposed to the community. These questions can be found at <http://www.icann.org/en/news/public-comment/atrt2-02apr13-en.htm>.
* The Review Team will also be meeting with the GAC at ICANN’s meeting in Durban, South Africa the week of July 14, 2013. We would welcome your personal participation in that discussion but if that is not possible, we encourage you to transmit through your GAC representative any information you would like this Review Team to consider about your country’s experiences with ICANN.
* If neither of these options is practical for you, we would still be interested in receiving from you any information you would like the Review Team to consider in whatever format you wish to provide it.

As government officials, we are fully aware of the concerns of many governments about defining a proper role for governments in Internet governance. For the DNS, we do believe in the multistakeholder model incorporated by ICANN and we want to work hard to improve that approach to provide a meaningful role for governments as one group of many stakeholders that need to be involved in Internet policymaking. For the ATRT to do its best, we need your help and input so that we can consider all issues and options as we perform our task this year.

We look forward to your participation in this important work.

Sincerely,

Jorgen Andersen Carlos Raúl Gutierrez

Director General Telecom Comissioner

Danish Business Authority SUTEL (National Regulatory Agency)

Ministry of Business and Growth Costa Rica

Stephen Conroy Lawrence E. Strickling

Minister for Broadband, Assistant Secretary of Commerce

Communications and the Digital Economy U.S. Department of Commerce

Minister Assisting the Prime Minister

 for Digital Productivity

Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate

Australian Government

Heather Dryden Xinsheng Zhang

Chair, ICANN Counselor to the Telecommunications

Governmental Advisory Committee Administration Bureau

Senior Advisor Ministry of Industry and Information Technology

Industry Canada People’s Republic of China