**Preamble**

**Add:** “ The mission of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("**ICANN**") is to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems as described in this Section 1.1(a) (the "**Mission**"). <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/bylaws-en/#article1>)

The purpose of this preamble is therefore to offer suggested guidance for the selection of projects in areas that are relevant to and that support ICANN’s mission. The ‘fund ’shall be able to support certain projects that support an “open Internet culture” and are related to ICANN’s ecosystem and mission statement.

Within the CCWG AP many members and participants believes it is helpful to relate the Mission of ICANN to the broader Internet “(concept) to provide guidance for the AP fund application and selection process for the use of the Auction Proceeds Fund. The Mission Statement sets therefore the key parameters for the fund application and selection process.

The concept of “Internet” can be described from many angles and may have different meanings for different communities. There are technological, business, political, social and cultural aspects to consider. This preamble does not pretend to be a final definition, as the Internet continues to evolve at every level. *The use of this terminology does not imply any support to any other standing use of this terminology.*

The CCWG agrees that at the technical level, the IP routing and numbering systems, the Domain Name System, the root server system, as well as the development of open standards, have historically been serving an open and interoperable Internet because of the opportunities they have provided to participate, innovate and compete without impediments. At this level, the operating principles are interoperability, openness, decentralization, and scalability.

From that broad description, the CCWG has considered to offer the following:

* aligned with ICANN's mission and core principles
* to support ICANN community activities and consensus-building processes
* to create social and economic values for the “open and interoperable Internet” at large [what does “at large mean? --hopefully not the At Large at ICANN, but perhaps, broadly and generally applicable to all Internet users, worldwide?
* a network (or network of networks) that is stable, scalable, agile, secure, profitable, sustainable and ultimately equitably supports open access, future oriented developments and open standards*]*

Such an understanding will support ICANN’s mission and is intended to contribute to keeping the DNS system vibrant. *Empowering people to contribute and to participate in building a worldwide culture that opens our hearts and minds by respecting differences.* At the technical level, openness refers to how easily machines can connect to each other and how stable, scalable, and secure the network is. The IP routing and numbering systems, the DNS, or the open standards process, have historically been serving an “open and interoperable Internet “because of the opportunities they have provided to participate, innovate and compete without artificial impediments. *ICANN does not exist only in a technology Internet Governance eco system, but also in fulfilling its mission, influences and contributes to how the open and interoperable Internet functions also at other levels,*