

San José, 13 November 2015

Re: Call for Volunteers for the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team

To the
Chair of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) of ICANN
and the
CEO of ICANN

Gentlemen,

I respectfully write to express my interest in volunteering for the first Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review under ICANNs AoC, based on my personal engagement in the community, as well as my background as an economist and my first-hand professional experience in Competition and Consumer Protection related matters:

- My interest in the competition area started during my Masters studies in economics at the University of Hamburg. I had the great opportunity to serve as a research assistant to Prof. A. Gutowsky, who was involved as expert in a large competition case to the German Competition Authority on behalf of the pharmaceutical sector.
- On completion of my studies in Hamburg, I worked for three years with the Costa Rican Government in the newly created Export and Investment promotion agency, which was involved in the first FTC case of antidumping.
- During my second degree I had the opportunity to further develop my background in econometric modelling, in particular for the energy sector.
- The following decade I worked with a Swiss multinational, which greatly increased my exposure to cases in antitrust regulation in the EU and US.
- Finally, as Costa Rica decided to open its telecommunications sector in 2008, I was appointed commissioner to the new national regulatory agency, which has the direct legal responsibility over competition and consumer protection in the telecommunications sector. Key tasks for this new agency included licensing new operators, approving mergers and developing from scratch a new model for consumer protection. Additionally, as Chair of the Latin American Regulators Groups REGULATEL during 2012 and 2013, I followed closely the changes in the Mexican and Brazilian competition framework for telecoms. 2013 I organised a full-day joint session with the Latin-American competition authorities and European Commission on competition in telecom.
- From 2011 to 2013 I participated in the GAC “early warning” and “advice” discussions on the new gTLD program, its safeguards, and particular cases. In 2013 I was honoured to be part of the second ATRT Review Team, learning much in that position in terms of the effectiveness and time limitations of the review process from the very fine Chair and Co-chairs as well as the other team colleagues. Finally, since last October, I participate as a NomCom appointee to the GNSO Council, in which role I have observed and participated in a broad range of policy development activity dealing with the impacts of the new gTLD round and its implications.
- Over the last two years I have been retained to advice REGULATEL, which has a standing Working Group on Competition, headed by the Mexican and Spanish regulators, both of which have direct responsibility for competition issues in telecom.

I presently Chair the Costa Rica Chapter of ISOC, which is both an ALS as well as an active member in the NPOC-NCSG. Nevertheless, given my professional background, I would prefer in first instance to be considered as an independent expert to the Review Team, and in the second instance, I would ask for the support from the GNSO Council, where I'm most active for the time being.

As referees with whom I have worked directly over the last few years on this issues I wish finally to mention Mr. Mony de Swaan and Mr. Eduardo Perez Motta, former Chairs of the Mexican Telecom and Competition agencies respectively, as well as Dr. Reinald Krüger from the European Commission (DG CNECT).

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CRG', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carlos Raúl Gutiérrez