The National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority of Egypt (NTRA) welcomes the process initiated by ICANN at its Singapore49 meeting, following the recent NTIA announcement of March 14 on the Intent to Transition Key Internet Domain Name Functions. In the announcement, and with its unique position as both the current IANA functions contractor and the global coordinator for the DNS, ICANN was given the responsibility to convene stakeholders across the global Internet community to develop a proposal to transition the current role played by NTIA in the coordination of the Internet’s domain name system (DNS).

For ICANN to achieve the goal of a global multistakeholder process, the consultation process needs to make sure that all stakeholders from different parts of the world are fully engaged on equal footing, and on a truly global basis. In this respect, ICANN needs to make use of relevant international and regional discussion fora, expanding engagement beyond its regular meetings as indicated in the published consultation process timeline ([http://www.icann.org/en/about/agreements/iana/functions-transfer-process-14mar14-en.pdf](http://www.icann.org/en/about/agreements/iana/functions-transfer-process-14mar14-en.pdf)).

The process should also engage multistakeholder communities built around various regional initiatives in the field of Internet Governance, so that the regional perspectives are considered, in addition to globally recognized multistakeholder venues such as the Internet Governance Forum. ICANN may also need to organize regional consultation meetings with various stakeholders across the different regions. ICANN should also explore innovative partnerships with other organizations to mobilize resources.

Furthermore, at ICANN 49 meeting in Singapore, it has been stressed by various actors, including NTIA, that engagement of stakeholders in developing economies is essential. It is hence necessary for ICANN to translate this important need into actions. For that, the consultation process needs to take into consideration special needs of communities in developing and least developed countries, particularly in designing suitable models and formats of such consultation process, and its supporting activities. Additionally, ICANN needs to quickly consider unconventional measures to foster participation of these communities in the discussion, in a fashion that responds to the pressing timeline and the utmost importance of meaningful inclusion. Relying solely on existing programs in their current format, including the ICANN fellowship program, doesn't respond to the urgent need for wider participation.

Lastly, ICANN needs to reassure communities across the globe of the full transparency of this process, and its open, bottom-up nature. It’s by committing to these fundamental principles that ICANN deservedly built the trust of the community around it, and will continue to strengthen this trust.

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