

Dear Manal, Katrina, Maureen, Keith, Rod, Brad, Aftab and Fred:

The process for the 2019 Multistakeholder Ethos Award is opening shortly, and I would like to give you some more details about the Award, our goal of presenting the fifth annual award at the ICANN65 Policy Forum in Marrakech and the desire to have up to two (2) members from each of your communities made available to help choose the recipient(s) of the award.

Following a successful collaboration between staff and panelists who served on the last two selection committees, the award program has been maintained intact for this year. Notable changes were rolled two years ago, as you may be aware, which included updated award criteria language and a more detailed and streamlined nomination process via a nomination form. Panelists shared positive feedback regarding the introduction of calls with nominators which were decisive in the selection process in the last two years. Please find attached an overview document outlining the program details.

In order to achieve the goal of presenting the award at ICANN65, we will announce the opening of the recipient nomination period in a couple of weeks – we are targeting the second week of December. That nomination period will run through the 22nd of March 2019 for nominations to be submitted from the full ICANN community.

In the meantime, between now and 14 January 2019 we'd like to identify interested community members from your communities to help select the recipient(s) of the award. Following the framework used for the previous awards, we would like to offer you the opportunity to name up to two people from your community (including yourself if you would like) to comprise the panel that will select the award recipient(s).

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank panelists who served on previous panels and helped shape the award process for the future. Moving forward it would be ideal for panelists to serve a maximum of two consecutive terms on the selection panel to ensure diversity and variety of input and equal opportunity among community members to take part in this valuable effort of fellow recognition. Alternatively, it would be great if one of the two slots could be rotated, for the reasons listed above.

With appropriate staff support, we envision the workload of the selection panelists will be limited. Some time will be necessarily devoted to reviewing nominations, but we expect weekly one-hour calls from the end of March to June to discuss the process, review the nominations and select the award recipient.

We'd like to have panelist names from you by 14 January 2019 so that an initial panelist call can be scheduled before the nomination period ends, a second call can take place shortly after the nomination period closes and then additional calls can be scheduled to make award recipient decisions.

Following the successful efforts carried out in London, Buenos Aires, Helsinki, Johannesburg and Panama, as well as the positive feedback received from the selection panels, we are happy to reaffirm that this award will be an annual award to be presented during the welcome reception of the Policy Forums. Please note that volunteers who previously served on the selection panel are welcome to serve again, if they wish to do so, bearing in mind some diversity of input and a two consecutive term cap if possible.

Please share any thoughts, comments or ideas with me on this list. I look forward to working with you on this effort.