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**MISSION STATEMENT
ccNSO APPOINTEE TO THE ICANN BOARD**

Background

I have been nominated to take up one of the ccNSO appointed seats on the ICANN Board. The ccNSO Council Chairperson has requested me to provide the ccNSO Council with an indication of my objectives if such nomination is ratified by the ccNSO Council.

My involvement with ICANN dates back to 2001, however my involvement has diminished somewhat in the last two years and I will need to spend some time reacquainting myself with most recent developments within ICANN.

Challenges

In particular I recognise the numerous challenges that ICANN has overcome in the approximately seven years I have been involved with the organisation, all of which have a significant impact on the ccTLD community. I also recognise the current challenges faced by ICANN, including security and stability in an increasingly diverse environment and general Internet governance issues from the WSIS and the IGF and beyond, which are also of great importance to ccTLDs. In addition, the implementation of Internationalised Domain Names and new generic Top Level Domains present challenges both to ICANN generally and ccTLDs specifically. Of course there are also the future challenges that will be faced in this incredibly dynamic environment.

Governance

Given that the role of ICANN is centrally concerned with governance of the Internet in regard to its mission to coordinate, at the overall level, the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers, and in particular to ensure the stable and secure operation of the Internet's unique identifier systems, as well as policy development reasonably and appropriately related to these technical functions. Given further that ICANN's core values include seeking and supporting broad, informed participation reflecting the functional, geographic, and cultural diversity of the Internet at all levels of policy development and decision-making.

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In addition, the Board of Directors in any organisation plays a vital role in corporate governance encompassing policies, processes and people, which serve the needs of stakeholders by directing and controlling management activities with good technical and business savvy, objectivity and integrity.

Board of Directors have the responsibility to endorse the organisation's strategy, develop directional policy, appoint, supervise and remunerate senior executives and to ensure accountability of the organisation to its stakeholders. These are fiduciary or trustee responsibilities requiring significant commitment of both expertise and time.

Mission

As such I see my mission, in accepting the ccNSO appointment to the ICANN Board (if ratified by the ccNSO Council) as three fold:

- working as a member of the Board in ensuring appropriate corporate governance within ICANN;
- working within the ICANN Board structures to ensure that ICANN fulfils its mission within the broader sphere of Internet resource allocation as well as Internet governance generally; and
- bringing my views to the fore as an appointee of the ccNSO, a person involved in ccTLD administration and a citizen and inhabitant of a developing country and a proud South African and African, as the ICANN Board continues to deal with the challenges identified above.

In this regard, I see my specific roles and responsibilities as:

- being an independent minded and ethical Director;
- demand answers from the management that the Board is charged with overseeing, where that management's primary objective is to relentlessly develop and implement successful strategies, ensure stakeholder's see value from the organisation, comply with the organisation's core values and cut waste;
- regularly and constructively communicating with stakeholders and view them as partners, not impediments;
- acting as a voice for the ccTLD community on the ICANN Board and making the Board aware of issues affecting the ccTLD community generally and the ccNSO specifically, while maintaining my integrity and independence;
- acting as a voice for developing communities such as in my own country and continent and ensuring the development agenda obtains appropriate

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focus on the general ICANN agenda, by making the Board aware of issues affecting developing communities; and

- maintaining my focus on the primary job, in the context of my fiduciary responsibility and the highest standard of ethical conduct.