

A CALL TO NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS: BECOME INVOLVED WITH ICANN

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What is ICANN?

ICANN (“Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers”): According to the ICANN website: “ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit partnership of people from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet’s unique identifiers.”

Thank you for your interest in ICANN and please let me know if you have any questions or would like to discuss these issues in detail. Please send an email to Debra Hughes at Debbie@npoc.org.

How can your organization participate?

Support the Creation of a Not for Profit Operational Concerns Constituency (“NPOC”).

Purpose:

The purpose of the NPOC shall be to allow not-for-profit organizations that deliver services for primarily non-commercial purposes opportunity to affiliate, discuss and participate in the development of DNS policies. Issues such as the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet, increasing social inclusion of non-governmental organizations with technology, and increasing public participation, communication and global outreach are important to the proposed NPOC membership.

Membership: The constituency will represent geographically diverse organizations and communities. Members will not be required to have any special expertise. Member organizations should own at least one domain name, maintain or have plans to create an organization website and agree to participate in the multi-stakeholder model. There is no fee or subscription for your organization to join or participate in the new constituency.

If you support the concept of forming a not-for-profit constituency within ICANN and would like to join, please prepare a letter addressed to ICANN Board of Directors and send to the attention of Debra Hughes at Debbie@npoc.org. A sample letter can be provided for your convenience.

Next, join the Non Commercial Stakeholder’s Group (“NCSG”)

The not-for-profit constituency shall be an affinity group of similarly situation not for profit organizations organized under the NCSG. Joining the NCSG provides your organization with an opportunity to engage with the existing members of the non commercial community (individual users, professors and academics, consumer advocacy groups, etc.) that have distinct perspectives about domain name issues. You can join or observe those conversations and debate. To join to NCSG, send an email to NCSG-EC@n4c.eu indicating your intent to join. Please include your organization’s name, website and an official document confirming your organization’s not for profit status in your jurisdiction.

Why should your organization care about ICANN and its policies?

Does your organization think it is important to engage its volunteers, members, supporters or community:

- ✓ In a **safe** and **resilient** Internet environment, free from cyber threats and attacks that is able to manage increasing volume of Internet users and related activities?
- ✓ Using a **reliable** Internet environment for transmitting educational information, delivering online training, or providing humanitarian or other mission-related services via a website or email

address?

- ✓ Using a **secure** environment for receiving and storing sensitive information, such as volunteer, member or donor’s information?
- ✓ Using a **secure** environment to conduct transactions, such as collecting donations, membership fees or other fundraising or financial activities?

If the answer to any of the above is yes, your organization is already an important ICANN stakeholder and should consider participation in ICANN policy development.