

**Bertrand de La Chapelle**

Redacted

**Pr. Wolfgang KLEINWACHTER**  
**Chair of the ICANN Nominating Committee**

**Dear Wolfgang, dear NomCom Members,**

**I am deeply honored by this nomination as ICANN Director and the trust thus bestowed upon me. I am fully conscious of the high responsibilities and duties it entails.**

**In particular, independence of ICANN Directors is a key condition for the proper functioning of the Board and the organization as a whole and I have always attached the highest importance to it. I therefore want to publicly repeat here the pledge made in my statement of interest and during the selection process to do what is necessary to be in full conformity with the ICANN Bylaws and in particular its Article VI Section 4.1 :**

***“Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, no official of a national government or a multinational entity established by treaty or other agreement between national governments may serve as a Director. As used herein, the term “official” means a person (i) who holds an elective governmental office or (ii) who is employed by such government or multinational entity and whose primary function with such government or entity is to develop or influence governmental or public policies.”***

**Being a Board Director is incompatible with my present role as Thematic Ambassador and Special Envoy for the Information Society in the French Foreign and European Affairs Ministry. I will therefore leave this position before joining the Board in Carthage. I know this issue is sensitive in significant parts of the ICANN community and wanted to make this clear right away to avoid any misunderstanding or concern.**

**Being, I believe, the first person selected by the NomCom directly from the GAC, I am probably the first Director who has to leave his current job position to join the Board and needs to find alternative financial resources. I will therefore devote the next months to identifying appropriate sources of funding that are diversified and limit the risk of conflict of interest in upcoming Board discussions.**

**I hope this will help answer potential questions and confirm my commitment to respecting the Bylaws provisions and the general principle of independence of ICANN Directors.**

**With again my sincere thanks for your trust.**

**Best**



**Bertrand de La Chapelle**