

09 February 2010

## **APTLD's Comment on ICANN's Discussion Draft: Affirmation Reviews**

APTLD would like to submit the following comments in response to the call for public comment to the Discussion Draft: Affirmation Reviews (<http://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/public-comment-201001.htm#affrev>).

APTLD sees the selection process of the review teams as one of the foundational process of the whole Affirmation Review. The credibility of the selection process hinges on both the composition of the "selector" teams and the transparency of the selection process. Although the credibility of ICANN Board Chair, GAC Chair, and ICANN CEO as "selectors" is unquestionable, we suggest increasing the number of "selectors" for each team to four. The extra positions could be filled by NomCom members or other independent players of the industry.

Apart from increasing the number of selectors, other means such as including observers in selection meetings can also be considered. The selection process should also be made public and transparent. The community should be well informed of the discussion and decisions made in relation to the review team selection.

By increasing the number of "selectors" and making the selection process transparent, the credibility of the review team selection can be further enhanced.

To ensure that the review teams will take into account current views and perspectives, a rotation scheme should be put in place to ensure that a certain number of team members will be replaced with new ones every time a new review cycle is started. APTLD would also like to see a clearer and more specific methodology of the Affirmation Review process.