The Information Technology Industry Council, ITI, is pleased to once again have an opportunity to comment on the work of the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG). We wish to thank ICANN for the chance to provide feedback.

ITI represents the world’s leading providers of information and communications technology (ICT) products and services. As the voice of the high tech community, we advocate policies that help advance technology and innovations and improve people’s lives. Maintaining the existing multistakeholder system of Internet governance is a critical and essential component of that objective.

ITI continues to support the IANA stewardship transition process initiated by the U.S. government last year. We view it as a logical and necessary step in strengthening multistakeholder governance of the Internet. At the same time, we recognize that some stakeholders have concerns regarding the transition in general, and with ICANN processes in particular. Thus, we also support the initiative to identify and secure agreement on ways to enhance ICANN accountability as an essential element of the IANA stewardship transition.

Clearly, the draft CCWG proposal is a substantial body of work, developed through the tireless efforts of an array of stakeholders committed to improving ICANN processes. While there are still important areas yet to be addressed, we support the direction reflected in the draft proposal. If adopted, as we believe it
should be, we are confident that the proposed accountability enhancements will help engender and strengthen trust and confidence in ICANN.

We applaud the CCWG-Accountability for its work on this important initiative, and look forward to the opportunity to evaluate a more complete proposal during the next round of review and comments.

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Director