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Dear ICANN,

I have been informed that the ICANN is allowing the public to comment on the discussion and planning of the Expressions of Interest (EOI). I believe the EOI will provide incalculable value to both ICANN and potential application candidates. Many visionaries foresee the Internet Domain Space as being underrepresented and vacuous, not so much an organic, community-directed transference experience. I want my voice to be heard so I have redefined the contraction EOI as **Exploration, Observation, and Investigation.**

Exploration:

-traveling in or through an unfamiliar area in order to learn about it.

The expansion of generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) will provide an opportunity for everyone to experience a personal Internet identity. The first step in building the foundation for this eventual opportunity is the EOI. Capable parties interested in pursuing gTLDs must be given the ample vision from ICANN. I know that without the EOI process, the distress of disengagement and delay will draw heavy on the ICANN administration. Exploration, providing optimism, and a tangible platform will certainly provide significant progress. Throughout history the first step to real progress is the most difficult, thus exploring all options is critical.

Observation:

-the ability to notice the behavior and needs of individuals.

A fundamental component of advancement is providing the needed resources for individuals, NGOs, government agencies, educational institutions, etc. to express their support or opposition to the expansion of gTLDs. Without the EOI there is no mechanism to observe and thus, the process withers. We must provide a fair and ecumenical platform for interaction. The natural vetting process, developing a threshold for earnest participants, and communication will allow competent parties to move forward in the mission. We must all agree that without this open and organic design we all lose. Many have invested so much to this point; this is an observation that we cannot overlook. To lose optimism is to lose good judgment.

Investigation:

-formal inquiry or systematic examination

Finally, the EOI will illuminate each comment and concern. Content examination will complete the EOI process and allow reviewers the resources to move forward by announcing the data and the next steps toward the final objective. I believe this is not that complicated. Information is strength and the EOI has one very dominant responsibility to the global Internet community; to provide the best information and most ecumenical means of presenting information to the world.

Let's not become entangled in details that distract or swamp the progress of the new gTLD progression. Always look forward, never backward...

Sincerely,

Terri Durbin

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