

6th October 2009

Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, and
Administrator, NTIA
U.S. Department of Commerce
Herbert C. Hoover Building
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230
United States of America

Dear Mr. Strickling,

The Affirmation of Commitments by the Department of Commerce and ICANN

On behalf of APTLD (Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association), I would like to thank the US Department of Commerce for their efforts to establish ICANN over the past decade, and to now provide ICANN with an increasing independence as it transits from US Government management towards its overarching objectives. I would also like to congratulate ICANN, especially the staff and the Board, who with their commitment, dedication and hard work have made possible this historical step in internationalizing the coordination and management of the Internet's Domain Name System.

The execution of the Affirmation of Commitments is a significant step in terms of increasing the independence of ICANN from the US Government and moving closer to ICANN's important principles of global, bottom up, stakeholder lead, consensus based decision making. It is also an important milestone in improving ICANN's accountability and for redefining its relationship with the global Internet community, especially in the Asia Pacific region.

I am sure APTLD members will continue to participate in the ICANN process with optimism and we look forward to progressing the critical issues such as IDN's (Internationalized Domain Names) for ccTLDs (country-code Top Level Domains) for the benefit of our region.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Shea
Chair
Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association

C.c. Mr. Rod Beckstrom, President and CEO, ICANN