Completion of the Development of the APTLD Strategic Plan for 2019-2021

Dear Chair Lu,

On behalf of the Working Group on the Development of the APTLD Strategic Plan for 2019-2021 (DSPWG) I am pleased to update you on the following:

The DSPWG was established per the AGM suggestion in March 2019. Seven representatives of the community volunteered to participate as members:

- Ms. Aisha Al-Mamari, .OM
- Mr. Brent Carey, .NZ
- Mr. Gihan Dias, .LK
- Mr. Nigel Phair, .AU
- Mr. Sergo Karakozov, IDN ccTLD Georgia
- Mr. Wilson Wong, .HK
- Mr. Stephen Deerhake, .AS (elected as Chair)

The APTLD staff served as DSPWG’s Secretariat and facilitated communication, and provided able clerical services to the DSPWG.

The DSPWG appeared well diverse and included representatives of all APTLD’s sub-regions; it was also diverse gender-wise, although greater gender diversity would have been welcomed.

The DSPWG held four rounds of extensive teleconferences in the span of nearly two months.
We worked on the Strategic Plan by drafting and updating its substance and wording. Between teleconferences, WG members suggested additional edits, which were discussed during the subsequent teleconferences.

In its present format, the Strategic Plan consists of five sections, namely:

- Mission and Vision
- Objective 1
- Objective 2
- Objective 3
- Objective 4

which we believe adequately mirror the community’s needs and expectations for the next three years. It should be specifically noted that all the decisions on the content and wording were made by consensus, with one exception.

That single exception concerns para 4.7, which currently reads,

4.7 Adopt good practice-based APTLD’s Accountability and Transparency Framework as a guiding fundamental of its future operation and regularly review APTLD’s performance against standards stipulated therein.

As some Board members had earlier suggested that this is an operational rather than a strategic matter, DSPWG members have left it for the Board to make a final decision on whether or not to include it in the final form of the Strategic Plan.

We believe that we have completed our job to the best of our expertise and competence and would like to thank the Board for having initiated the discussion and the exercise whose implementation should be of paramount importance for the community.

As Chair of the Working Group, I would like to personally thank all of the members of the Working Group for their volunteering to be a part of the Working Group, as well as for their labors and contributions which insured the success of the Group’s effort.

I also wish to apologise to you for the slight delay in reporting the final deliberations of the Working Group to you and the Board.
Finally, I also wish to thank Leonid Todorov and Molly Dong for their excellent Secretarial and meeting facilitation services.

On behalf of the DSPWG members,
with Kind Regards

[Signature]

Stephen Deerhake, Chair, SDPWG