



Mr. Göran Marby
President and CEO
Internet Corporation for Assigned
Names and Numbers (ICANN)
12025 Waterfront Drive
Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536
United States of America

August 10, 2016

Dear Mr. Marby,

I have the pleasure to extend my warm congratulations on your appointment as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

Your appointment coincides with an important evolution in the Domain Name System (DNS): the introduction of new generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs); the planned transition of DNS governance and oversight in ICANN's multi-stakeholder model; and ICANN's decision to initiate a policy review of Rights Protection Mechanisms, including the widely relied-upon Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP).

Comprised of 188 Member States, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is the international forum for the development of balanced intellectual property systems. As you would know, WIPO moreover is the globally-recognized leader in the provision of not-for-profit domain name dispute resolution services under the UDRP.

Over time, WIPO and ICANN have positively collaborated to reflect trademark norms in the DNS. This is nowhere more evident than in the recognition of the WIPO-created UDRP as an international policy success for ICANN. More recently, this collaboration was on display in WIPO's successful management of ICANN's new gTLD Legal Rights Objection process.

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Mr. Göran Marby, Los Angeles – August 10, 2016

Some 16 years and 35,000 WIPO cases following its creation for gTLDs and subsequent adoption by numerous country code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs), the UDRP continues to operate for the benefit of all stakeholders, particularly in its harmonized criteria and impartial application of jurisprudence.

My colleagues in WIPO's Arbitration and Mediation Center look forward to continuing to work together with ICANN in preserving the UDRP as an alternative to the courts and a safe harbor for registration authorities.

In these shared goals, I hope to count on your considered support for appropriately reflecting WIPO's unique UDRP expertise and stewardship in ICANN's UDRP review processes, however these take shape.

I am sure that your experience as immediate past Director General of the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority, together with your previous experience as an executive within the technology sector, will serve ICANN and its stakeholders well in this important period.

Finally, as conveyed at the most recent ICANN meeting in Helsinki, Finland, by my colleague Brian Beckham, Head, Internet Dispute Resolution Section, WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center, I look forward to the possibility of welcoming you personally to WIPO's offices on your next visit to Geneva.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Francis Gurry

Francis Gurry
Director General



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

31 August 2016

Francis Gurry
Director General
WIPO
34, Chemin de Colombettes
1211, Geneva

Dear Francis

Thank you for your kind letter of 10th August and for your outline of the important work you do with respect to arbitration and mediation with respect to property rights in the DNS.

I agree with you that we are witnessing an evolution in our work at ICANN, and are looking ahead to the transition of the IANA stewardship from the US Authorities to the global public multistakeholder Internet Community at the end of September. Progress on this significant project has only been made possible through the excellent work of many organisations and individuals in the ICANN Community, including governments, business, civil society and of course IGOs.

I recognise the importance of the review of Rights Protection Mechanisms for WIPO and of course for the important UDRP, which you have successfully shepherded for 16 years. The Community, as you know, sought this review and I am confident that with the benefit of your input, and those of other experts, the outcome will be positive.

I am also grateful to WIPO, and to Brian Beckham in particular for the contribution you are making to resolve the complex issue of protecting IGO acronyms from fraudulent or vexatious use within the context of the new gTLD Programme. I look forward, given the recent progress that has been made, to a permanent solution being agreed, and then, adopted by the different stakeholders in the near future.



Finally, let me thank you for your best wishes and kind regards; I am enjoying the challenge and indeed hope to be in Geneva in the near future. Would be a pleasure to meet you and learn more about your work and the UDRP.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Göran Marby", written in a cursive style.

Göran Marby
President & CEO ICANN