

# Conflicts of Interest Committee Report



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ICANN Board  
Conflicts of Interest  
Committee Chair

San Juan, Puerto Rico

28 June 2007



# COI Committee Members

- Demi Getschko (Chair)
- Joichi Ito
- David Wodelet
- Rajasekhar Ramaraj

# Public Speaking Engagements for Board Members

- Issue - Is it a conflict of interest for a Board member to accept honorariums for public speaking engagements relating to ICANN?
- Response - The COI Committee agreed that each Board member is responsible to identify when and where conflicts or perceptions of conflicts might exist, and recommended that such topics should be brought to the attention of the COI Committee for discussion.

# Staff Participation in ICANN Community Committees



- Issue - Is it a conflict of interest for an ICANN staff member to participate on a advisory committee of an organization that has a contractual relationship with ICANN?
- Response - The COI Committee agreed that if the participation is in furtherance or enhancement of the staff member's job duties and ICANN pays for all expenses related to the participation, there is no conflict.



# Similar Positions in ICANN and a ccTLD

- Issue - Is it a conflict of interest for an ICANN contractor to serve in a similar role with a related entity?
- Response - The COI Committee directed the General Counsel to obtain additional information, (relating to a particular matter raised by a board member) regarding the contractor relationships and return to the Committee if further action is warranted.

# ICANN Community Donations

- Issue - Is there a conflict of interest if a company in a contractual relationship with ICANN makes donations to organizations in which a Board member plays a prominent role?
- Response - The COI Committee agreed that each Board member is responsible to identify when conflicts or perceptions of conflicts might exist, and recommended that such topics should be brought to the attention of the COI Committee for discussion.

# Board Members Becoming Staff

- Issue - Should there be a waiting period between when a former Board member leaves the Board and then performs a staff function; should there be a clear standard in reviewing such situations?
- Response - The COI Committee agreed that each circumstance should be individually considered. Some, but not all, of the relevant criteria for consideration includes, how the board member left the board (end or during term), skill set alignment to position, appropriateness of compensation, and terms under which the individual performs services for ICANN.

# Independent Reviews and ICANN Contractors

- Issue - Are there COI restrictions on the participation of former board members in Bylaws- mandated reviews?
- The COI Committee agreed that where former board members are asked to review structures that they were involved in creating, there is no conflict of interest under the COI policy. There was agreement that it is up to the Board Committee or hiring party to determine appropriateness of such a contract.

# Finance Committee Membership

- Issue - Should a Board member with a business interest in an organization that contributes to ICANN's revenue stream serve on the Board Finance Committee?
- Response - The COI Committee recommended that the BGC not make an appointment to the BFC until additional information could be obtained, and that COI Committee Members would like to confer with the Finance Committee. The Committee agreed that strict adherence to the COI policy would have to be considered relating to any participation in votes at the Committee level.

# Thank You