



Mr. Kurt Erik Lindqvist
President and CEO
Internet Corporation for Assigned
Names and Numbers (ICANN)
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United States of America

February 3, 2025

Dear Mr. Lindqvist,

Please accept my warm congratulations on your appointment as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

As a veteran of the Internet, your appointment coincides with important moments for the Domain Name System (DNS): ICANN's planned introduction of further new generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs); discussions around both Internet governance generally and concerning the future of registration data specifically, including its importance for Intellectual Property owners; and, ICANN's decision to initiate a policy review of the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP).

Comprised of 193 Member States, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) leads the development of a balanced and effective global intellectual property ecosystem to promote innovation and creativity for a better and more sustainable future.

Having managed nearly 75,000 cases since its inception, WIPO is the globally-recognized leader in the provision of not-for-profit domain name dispute resolution services under the UDRP which was adopted by ICANN as its first Consensus Policy in 1999 on the basis of a Report produced by WIPO and which since then has been regarded as an international policy success for ICANN. Unique among UDRP case administration providers, WIPO's Arbitration and Mediation Center (AMC) continues to invest in the UDRP and in the spirit of section 13.1 of ICANN's Bylaws, has commenced a review of the UDRP to inform ICANN's policy process which we trust will prove useful

(see <https://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/resources/wipo-icaudrpreview.html>).

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Mr. Kurt Erik Lindqvist, Los Angeles – February 3, 2025

I am pleased to also note that WIPO has responded positively to ICANN's call for Request for Information (RFI) both for Legal Rights Objections – which it successfully managed in the last new gTLD round, and also for String Confusion Objections in the context of ICANN's new gTLD Program.

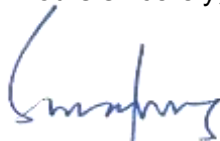
My colleagues look forward to continuing to work together with ICANN in preserving the UDRP as a tool to combat trademark abuse on the Internet, and as a safe harbor for registration authorities.

To mark the 25th anniversary of the UDRP, on Wednesday April 23rd, WIPO's Arbitration and Mediation Center will host an event covering a range of topics, and we would be pleased if you are able to provide opening remarks for a session on ICANN and on its new gTLD Program (see <https://www.wipo.int/amc/en/events/workshops/2025/domainname>.)

We look forward to hearing from you. The reply could be sent to arbiter.meetings@wipo.int and my colleagues in the AMC will reach out to finalize arrangements.

I am confident that your technical expertise and policy experience will serve ICANN well in the years to come and help strengthen our collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Daren Tang', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Daren Tang
Director General