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For Immediate Release

ICANN Engagement Center to Open In Latin America

Internet leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean Region Develop a three-year strategic plan

Los Angeles, California... The President and Chief Executive Officer of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) today announced the opening of an engagement center in Montevideo, Uruguay.

“The opening of this regional engagement center is part of our growing effort to establish an ICANN presence in all parts of the globe,” said Fadi Chehadé. “We are not merely saying to people ‘come to us.’ We are going to them. We are reaching out to the Latin American/Caribbean region with representatives who will live and work in the area.”

The ICANN engagement center will be based in the *House of the Internet*, where several other Internet organizations are located, including: The Internet Society, the Latin American and Caribbean Network Information Centre (LACNIC), The Latin American and Caribbean TLD Association (LACTLD) and the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Exchange Association (LAC-IX).

“ICANN’s decision to establish its Engagement Center for Latin America and the Caribbean at the House of the Internet makes us proud and at the same time confirms the value of this initiative that recently celebrated its first anniversary,” said Raúl Echeberría, CEO of LACNIC. “All of the organizations in the house will benefit and be strengthened in the achievement of their own objectives and in the joint work for the sake of the community in Latin America and the Caribbean”.

“I recently visited the House of the Internet,” said ICANN Board Chair, Dr. Stephen Crocker. “This is a fantastic model, where a number of different Internet organizations can coordinate their efforts and even share resources, working together for the benefit of Internet users across the region.”

The Latin American/Caribbean engagement center is the second announced in the last few weeks. During ICANN’s recently concluded public meeting in China, Fadi Chehadé announced that an engagement center would soon be opened in Beijing.

It was during the Beijing meeting that a Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee for the Latin American and Caribbean region presented a 3-year strategic plan aimed at strengthening the

Internet critical infrastructure in the region. The committee is made up of regional representatives of Internet users groups, the technical community, the private sector and governments.

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To download a high-resolution photo of the *House of the Internet*, go here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/icann/8664126018/sizes/l/>

To see a video discussion of ICANN's strategy for Latin American, go here:

http://dotsub.com/view/8b749345-c118-41c5-8a17-857661957565?utm_source=player&utm_medium=embed

To review the Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee's strategic plan, go here:

<http://beijing46.icann.org/meetings/beijing2013/presentation-lac-strategy-10apr13-en.pdf>

To hear an audio recording of the presentation of the strategic plan during the ICANN Beijing meeting, go here: <http://audio.icann.org/meetings/beijing2013/lac-strategic-engagement-10apr13-en.mp3>

To download high-resolution photos of the Latin American/Caribbean Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee's presentation of its strategic plan during the Beijing meeting, go here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/icann/sets/72157633220469644/>

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About ICANN: *ICANN's mission is to ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. For more information please visit: www.icann.org.*