12 March 2016

Your Excellency, Dear Presidenta Dilma Rousseff,

Today is my last official day at ICANN. And this is the last official letter of my my tenure as the President and CEO of ICANN. I choose to address it to you because our partnership, which started on 10 October 2013, shall be remembered as a key turning point in digital geopolitics.

I would like to take a moment to express my most sincere gratitude for the partnership we forged on that day, and the steadfast leadership you and your country have shown in global Internet governance during your presidency.

When we first met in your office in Brasilia in 2013 (pictured), we agreed on the benefits the world would derive from having Brazil take a global leadership position based on its own successful domestic multistakeholder governance model - the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI.br). Since then, the important role Brazil has played in shaping the global Internet governance space cannot be overstated.

The NETmundial conference held in São Paulo in April 2014 is one of the shining examples showcasing Brazil's leadership, bringing together stakeholders from across the world to craft a set of Principles and a Roadmap for the further evolution of the digital governance ecosystem. You, your government, and CGI.br showed great vision, courage and determination by organizing this historic effort.

Brazil has been instrumental in advancing a global Internet that promotes inclusion, freedom and diversity. I have no doubt you will continue to do so in the future.

As I move on from ICANN, I look forward to working closely with Brazil to further strengthen the global digital governance system.

With my highest regards to your Excellency and my best wishes to your great country.

Sincerely,

Fadi Chehadé
President and CEO, ICANN