Report of the Sub-Committee on Ethics and Conflicts of ICANN's Board Governance Committee

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The Sub-Committee, supported by John Jeffrey, ICANN General Counsel & Secretary, met several times in Los Angeles on 3 and 4 February during the ICANN Board Workshop in private sessions. Cherine Chalaby, ICANN Board Chair met with the group regarding the purpose of conducting the background reviews.

The Sub-Committee reviewed each of the background check reports for each of the following board members and board liaisons: Becky Burr, Chris Disspain, Manal Ismail, Ram Mohan, Matthew Shears, Mike Silber and Jonne Soininen.

The reports that were reviewed were produced by an independent investigative firm, the Mintz Group. The Mintz Group has conducted over 10,000 investigations in more than 100 different countries, and are experts in these type of screenings and background checks (https://mintzgroup.com/about-us/). The summaries of the reports varied in length from 5 to 19 pages, and the reports contained appendices and support documentation for their work, including in most cases, hundreds of pages of additional supporting information.

The Sub-Committee reviewed each of the reports, along with additional information provided by the General Counsel.

The Sub-Committee unanimously found that the Mintz background reports and additional information made available to them provided no grounds for questioning the credibility or integrity of any of the board members who were the subject of these reports, and that no additional screening was required resulting from their review. Accordingly, the Sub-Committee recommends to the BGC that no additional activity relating to these reviews is required.