



Assistant Director General
for Communication and Information

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
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Organización
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para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Mr Rod Beckstrom
CEO and President
ICANN
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330
Marina del Ray, CA 90292
United States of America

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Dear Mr Beckstrom,

Thank you for your visit to UNESCO's Headquarters last month to strengthen our cooperation through the signature of our agreement, in order to ensure the participation of all languages and scripts in this important development of the Internet. I regret that I was absent at that time, due to travel.

Multilingualism and cultural diversity are among the founding pillars of the knowledge societies vision that UNESCO promotes since the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). Since linguistic diversity and the safeguarding of endangered languages are deeply rooted in UNESCO mandate, we believe that this important agreement will be key to fostering their representation on the Internet. The UNESCO-ICANN cooperation agreement is also a concrete example of the 'enhanced cooperation' recommended by the WSIS Tunis Agenda and an effective multistakeholder undertaking to reach the common goal of a pluralistic, inclusive and multilingual internet.

UNESCO is committed to translating this framework into concrete action, in order to achieve our shared objectives and hope we will have other opportunities to meet again.

Yours sincerely,

Abdul Waheed Khan