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President Bill Clinton Voices Support for ICANN's Multi-Stakeholder Model of Internet Governance

Emphasizes Link between Internet and Job Creation

San Francisco, California. President Bill Clinton, the 42nd President of the United States, praised the success of ICANN's multi-stakeholder model by pointing out that when he took office in 1992, there were about 50 Internet web sites. When he left office eight years later, there were roughly 36 million.

"We've seen an enormous amount of success," said President Clinton. "All of you played a role in that and I am grateful. We have in its new incarnation, the international community, governments and the private sector working together to get information to people all over the globe and I think it's a good model."

The Clinton administration was instrumental in 1998 in helping to form the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) as a unique non-profit multi-stakeholder organization to coordinate the global Internet addressing system.

President Clinton stressed the link between job creation and information technology during his address Wednesday evening to about thirteen hundred people at ICANN's on-going Silicon Valley-San Francisco international public meeting.

Discussions during the weeklong meeting have delved into a wide range of subjects, including the possible addition of new generic top-level domains. Participants have also considered issues ranging from expanding IPv6 Internet address protocols to the best way in which to deal with online cyber security threats.

The meeting will draw to a close on Friday with a series of votes by ICANN's international board of directors.

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To see the entire schedule for ICANN's Silicon Valley/San Francisco meeting, go here: http://svsf40.icann.org/full-schedule

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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.