1. Why do you believe that you are in a position to fairly assess ICANN's mechanisms for accountability, transparency and public input?

As a balanced individual I would like to think that in every argument there are convincing points on both sides but I hold a strong feeling of what is right and what is wrong, what is fair and what is unfair and I have been known to accept changing my point of view and admitting I was wrong when faced with a convincing argument based on facts. My knowledge of ICANN as a whole is rather strong. Ditto for my knowledge of the bottom-up multi-stakeholder model - I have been championing this model for so many years. Finally, my analytical skills in making such assessment were formally acquired since "analysis of complex systems" was one of the courses I took in my Specialised Masters in Competitive Intelligence and Knowledge Management, skills I then used whilst working with the Head of Strategy at Airbus. CI enables you to cross-check fairness thanks to information corroboration.

2. Why do you believe that you are in a position to assess ICANN's focus on the global public interest?

I base this assertion on my experience with the Internet multi-stakeholder model. Back in 1997, before ICANN was created, the US Government was looking at new models for taking over the task of coordinating the Domain Name System and Numbering Resources. I spent some time working on several models for Governance, being particularly involved in the discussions under the umbrella of the Internet Ad-Hoc Committee (IAHC). The aim was to create an organisation which would be efficient, neutral, transparent and accountable to "the Internet community" - in other words, accountable to Internet users. The resulting effort was disliked by the United States due to its rather abrupt "ownership" going from the US Government to the United Nations. The ICANN experiment was created with the view that it satisfied the needs found by the IAHC while retaining US Government veto thanks to a contract signed between the US Department of Commerce and the new entity. A lot of work took place at the time to avoid the pitfalls associated with the decisions that had been taken in the early nineties when operational resources for top level domains had been distributed by contract to companies like Network Solutions (InterNIC) and their operation for the public interest had been

somehow circumvented and turned into a commercial operation. Alas as time went on, ICANN also crept in the same direction in the early part of its life, triggered by events which resulted in a dramatic change in the early 2000s to reduce the direct control of Internet users by reducing the number of Board directors from At-Large to nil. These were the dark days for At-Large but also dark days for ICANN because let's be frank, ICANN was a real mess at the time. ICANN is now improving thanks to the countless number of hours spent by volunteers and across SOs and ACs. It still has a long way to go. I believe that I am in a position to fairly assess its progress because I rely on my own personal institutional memory thanks to having lived through all of ICANN's history and preparation. I will not rely on books or published papers. Personal experience in these matters is best because I can remember the original intents on the founding of ICANN.

3. Why do you believe that you will be able to do the above from the perspective of the ALAC and the global ICANN At-Large Community?

The easy answer for me would be to say that as ALAC Chair for two years running, I am well aware of the aspirations of our community, having had to review every single statement that has been drafted in the At-Large community. Acting as a liaison to the outside world is part of my volunteer job description. But my interest for the At-Large community goes further. I have been an active member of the Internet Society since around 1993 - and this organisation was founded at the time to promote the use of the Internet worldwide. It was user-centric. I was a founder member of the London and then English Chapter of the Internet Society in 1998-1999 - a plan to bring the Internet Society closer to our local Internet users. I have travelled extensively and have always has an international outlook on life, entertaining close personal relationships with friends around the world. I am therefore not your typical White Male European, quite the contrary, I appreciate the differences in cultures and their impact on collaboration in a worldwide context.