

ANDRUS ANSIP

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Mr. Toshiyuki Zamma
Chairman ICA and Executive Advisor to Government CIO
National Strategy office of Information and Communication Technology
Cabinet Secretariat, Government of Japan
3-3-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100-0013
Japan

Subject: 50th anniversary of ICA

Dear Mr. Zamma,

It was with great interest that I received the news about the International Council for Information Technology in Government Administration (ICA) celebrating its 50th Conference this year.

I understand that since 1967, ICA has successfully brought together information technology officials from around the world on an annual basis to meet and share the lessons learned and successes within their countries. ICA is in that sense a unique organization. It is very useful to balance the formality of international bodies with the informality that results in long-term professional relationships, with opportunities for collaboration throughout the year.

As Vice-President for the Digital Single Market in the European Commission I also support and promote the formal and informal interaction between country CIOs and Heads of eGovernment. As we are building the European Single Market by 2020, improving interoperability between Member States is essential.

Several CIOs of EU countries are members of ICA and I can only but encourage them to also interact outside of Europe. It is of utmost importance to share experiences among professionals, gain knowledge from your peers from around the world and step up co-operation. Indeed, Europe's Digital Single Market is open to the world. We believe that a more interoperable Europe with less legal fragmentation helps us build in partnership the secure, trusted and open global digital data flows that people and business around the globe expect.

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I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chair, as well as the whole ICA community for the continued efforts to bring Public Sector CIOs from around the world together in order to continuously make public services more efficient, more accountable and more accessible, to the benefit of citizens and businesses.

Please convey my congratulations to all your members and to all participants of the 50th conference in Medellin this November.

Yours sincerely,



Andrus Ansip

Cc: Mr Frank Leyman, ICA Programme Committee Chair, International Relations
Manager FEDICT, Belgium