I would like to nominate for a position on the Open Government Forum and provide the following supporting information.

I am a founding member of the Australian Open Government Partnership Network. The Network was formed in order to provide a vehicle for civil society groups and individuals to constructively engage in and assist the establishment of the Open Government project.

I am the Executive Director of Internet Australia, the NFP peak body representing Internet users. Internet Australia is committed to the principle that "the Internet is for everyone" and to leveraging the Internet in order to make information available in forms previously not possible to people who previously were unable to secure access to information about government and related activities.

I was an Expert Panel member for a review of the Government's investment in the Indigenous broadcasting and media sector. In this role I undertook industry and community consultations throughout Australia and in New Zealand and developed recommendations designed, among other things, to improve the governance and accountability processes within the sector.

As the Honorary Secretary of Australian Community Television Alliance I negotiated with the Government on behalf of five State capital city community television stations, securing additional broadcast spectrum for a digital channel plus ongoing transmission funding. In my role with Internet Australia I helped establish a Parliamentary Friends of the Internet group with the aim of providing a two-way exchange of information about the Internet so that MP's and Senators are well briefed on important Internet related issues.

I am actively involved with a range of organisations and individuals with a commitment to stakeholder and community engagement and see my role as a potential forum member as a concrete means of coordinating and collaborating with a wide group of people committed to Open Government.

A fuller view of my experience and capabilities is available via LinkedIn and Wikipedia through the links provided below.

Thank you

LAURIE PATTON | Executive Director, Internet Australia