Web Inventor’s World Wide Web Foundation Names Adrian Lovett As New President & CEO

Washington DC, 21 June 2017. The World Wide Web Foundation has today named experienced global leader, advocate and campaigner, Adrian Lovett, as its new President & Chief Executive Officer.

Adrian Lovett recently completed a term as interim CEO for the global anti-poverty campaign, ONE, where he has served in leadership roles and managed a diverse team for the last six years. His 20-year career in international development and advocacy has centred on delivering policy change on complex global issues in North America, Europe and the Global South. He played a leading role in campaigns such as Make Poverty History and Jubilee 2000, and held senior posts at Oxfam and Save the Children. He takes over from interim CEO Jose M. Alonso, who has led the Foundation since May 2017 when Anne Jellema moved on after five years in the CEO position.

Established by web inventor Sir Tim Berners-Lee in 2009, the Web Foundation’s mission is to establish the open web as a public good and a basic right. Lovett will lead the Foundation's diverse international team of advocates, researchers and activists on five continents in their work to secure the policy changes necessary for digital equality — a world where everyone has the same rights and opportunities online.

Commenting, Sir Tim Berners-Lee, inventor of the web, and Founding Director of the Web Foundation said:

“Adrian brings to the Foundation his broad experience in driving policy change on complex issues, as well as his skills in leading and managing diverse international teams. He shares our commitment to digital equality, and believes in the web as a powerful catalyst for change. Along with the Board and Web Foundation team, I’m looking forward to working with him - especially at this time when defending and enhancing the open web is critical for humanity.”

Adrian Lovett added:

“The mission of Sir Tim Berners-Lee and the Web Foundation is one that defines our time. Every woman and every man should have the power to access and use the open web to improve their lives, whether in London or Lagos. Achieving this digital equality will not only help the world overcome poverty and disease - it can enable all of us to fulfil our human potential. But it will require an intensified, co-ordinated effort that engages and inspires citizens and policy-makers around the world. I’m thrilled to have the chance to contribute to that effort, and to work with the fantastic Web Foundation team and its partners to achieve our goal.”
Afsaneh Mashayekhi Beschloss, Chair of the World Wide Web Foundation, concluded:

“Adrian’s unique background and experience in public policy are important assets to the World Wide Web Foundation. I’m looking forward to collaborating with him and welcome him warmly as our next President and CEO of the Web Foundation”

Lovett will take up the post on 4 September, and will be based in the Foundation’s London office.

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For further information, or to request interviews please email: press@webfoundation.org.

Notes to Editors

The World Wide Web Foundation was established in 2009 by web inventor Sir Tim Berners-Lee to advance the open web as a public good and a basic right. We are an independent, international organisation fighting for digital equality—a world where everyone can access the web and use it to improve their lives. For more information, please visit our website at: www.webfoundation.org