

Re: New gTLD Auction Proceeds Discussion Paper

1. Use of the Funds

“ICANN's use of the [auction] funds should be spent in a beneficent way; such as supporting standardization, security hardening, and internationalization of the technology; accessibility, and closing the digital divide.” – [Tim Berners Lee](#), NETmundial (2014)

I concur with Tim Berners Lee statement, above, at NETmundial. I also concur with the [comments already submitted by Brian Carpenter](#).

2. Conflicts of interest

Conflicts of interest should foreclose from participation in the decision-making process, those stakeholders who have previously made clear their desire that the auction proceeds be expended for their own self-seeking purposes, including, but not limited to, new gTLD registry operators, new gTLD service providers, and new gTLD lobbyists such as the DNA, the [Domain Name Association](#), as well as others. *See:*

- [Is It ICANN's Job To Market New gTLD Domain Names?](#)
- [ICANN is NOT a new gTLDs Marketing Agency: ICANN 53 Review, Part 3](#)
- [Why Did ICANN Become a Member of Trademark Lobbyist Group INTA?](#)
- [ICANN 54: New gTLDs Still Beg For Money, Claim Severe 'Implications'](#)

I agree with the sentiments recently expressed by **Dr. Paul Vixie**—see [New top-level domains a money grab and a mistake: Paul Vixie \(ZDnet, October 26, 2015\)](#)—that ICANN should serve the **global public interest**.

The world is watching. How ICANN and the ICANN community decide to use the auction funds may be a key indicator whether ICANN is fit for internet governance, in the global public interest, without government oversight.

Respectfully submitted,

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