

INTA Internet Committee Comments
on the Amendment of the GNSO Operating Procedures
on the 2010 Selection Process for Seat 13 of the ICANN Board
February 18, 2010

The Internet Committee of International Trademark Association (“INTA”) is pleased to provide the following comments on the proposed Amendment of the GNSO Operating Procedures on the 2010 Selection Process for Seat 13 of the ICANN Board published by ICANN on January 28, 2010 (<http://www.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-28jan10-en.htm>).

The Committee’s comments are limited to the single item published for public comment relating to the selection timetable for Seat 13 of the ICANN Board, with all other issues related to the selection of the seat to be left for decision by the Contracted Party House. The Committee has no objection to the proposed time table as put forward. However, the Committee requests equal treatment for the Non-Contracted Party House. In other words, when Non-Contracted Party House develops the process to fill Seat 14, the Non-Contracted Party House should be given the same latitude to determine how to fill the seat. The Non-Contracted Party House should not be required to adopt any of the procedures or mechanisms as laid out by the Contracted Party House during its process for Seat 13, simply because that House developed its procedure first.

The Committee’s understanding is that an important component of the reorganization of the GNSO was that each House would determine its own criteria for filling its allotted seat. It is also our understanding that the timing for the Contracted Party House to fill its seat first was greatly debated, and that the Non-Contracted Party House conceded this point to allow the GNSO reorganization process to move forward. Therefore the Non-Contracted Party House should not be penalized in any way for making this concession.

Thank you for considering our views on this important topic. Should you have any questions regarding our submission, please contact External Relation Manager, Claudio DiGangi at: cdigangi@inta.org

ABOUT INTA

The International Trademark Association (INTA) is a 131-year-old not-for-profit association of over 5,600 member organizations from over 190 countries. One of INTA’s key goals is the promotion and protection of trademarks as essential elements of national and international commerce. During the last decade, INTA has served as a leading voice for trademark owners in the development of cyberspace, including as a founding member of ICANN’s Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC).