



United States Council for International Business

1212 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-1689
tel: 212-354-4480 ~ fax: 212-575-0327
e-mail: info@uscib.org ~ Internet: www.uscib.org

Serving American Business as U.S. Affiliate of:

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
International Organisation of Employers (IOE)
Business and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC) to the OECD
ATA Carnet System

COMMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ON THE NEW sTLD APPLICATIONS

Submitted: April 30, 2004

The United States Council for International Business (USCIB) greatly appreciates the opportunity to provide the views of our members on the applications of the ten sponsored top-level domain (sTLD) applications currently being reviewed by ICANN.

Our members applaud ICANN on the progress made toward the development of objective criteria for the introduction of new gTLDs. Indeed, the criteria established for the introduction of the sTLDs corresponded with USCIB's views on this issue, including:

- A recognition that the overarching concern in the introduction of any new TLD is to ensure that it does not affect the stability of the DNS;
- The development of a transparent process for the selection of new gTLDs based on objective criteria;
- Any new gTLDs should ensure differentiated space;
- A demonstration of broad support from the affected community to which an sTLD would apply; and
- Any new gTLD must comply with the UDRP and Whois requirements and other consensus policies directly related to the technical coordination and continued stability of the Internet.

We believe that each application should be considered based on these criteria. In reviewing the applications, our members are concerned that some of the applications have not provided adequate proof to establish the broad support of the affected community. In some cases, the community is so broad that the proposal does not match the sponsorship.

Accordingly, we reiterate our strong support for an sTLD application review process that requires all applicants to demonstrate clearly that they have consulted with and obtained the support of the affected community broadly defined. When such consultation and support is not clearly demonstrated we believe that the particular application should not be approved.

We hope that these views are helpful to you as you proceed with your deliberations.

Please do not hesitate to contact David Fares (dfares@uscib.org) if you have any questions regarding these comments.