

**Jean-Louis Missika**

Adjoint au Maire de Paris  
Chargé de l'Innovation  
de la Recherche et des Universités

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After reading the draft model for an Expression Of Interest (EOI) proposed by ICANN Staff, the City of Paris would like to make the following comments.

In previous comments, including our comments on the Draft Applicant Guidebook version 3 (DAGv3) which can be read here (<http://forum.icann.org/lists/3gtld-guide/msg00078.html>), we made it very clear that we are worried about the mounting delays to the new gTLD program.

In the light of this, should an EOI model be adopted by ICANN, it must become part of the solution, not create further problems. It is critical that the EOI does not lead to further delays. We would suggest that the EOI can help alleviate some of the problems linked with the ever-increasing delays to the new gTLD program only if, when it is launched, ICANN also commits to:

- A definitive timeline for the new gTLD program;
- A release date for the Final Applicant Guidebook;
- And a launch date for the first round of applications.

We are opposed to any EOI that would create further complications and delays to applicants such as ourselves, i.e. entities applying for Capital City TLDs and/or TLDs designed to serve the public interest. In order to mitigate the risk of an EOI causing delays to this type of TLD application, an exception process should be built into the EOI to allow applicants that are given priority in the DAG (such as Capital City applicants) to submit their application to ICANN without having to go through the EOI.

Regards,

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