



ICANN Board,

I would like to commend the leadership at ICANN for responding to the broad community by proposing its draft expression of interest/pre-registration model. I am hopeful that ICANN will continue to be resolute and not allow a few corporate representatives to prevent 1.7 billion users from enjoying a larger, more diverse, free and vibrant internet. For ICANN to capitulate to these narrow corporate and special interests would reflect a complete abandonment of the principles of ICANN and negate its reason for being.

I'm confident that ICANN will not fail in this way. Over the last year I have watched this organization approach the introduction of new gtlds by working tirelessly in an attempt to balance the disparate interests of many constituencies and stakeholders. I have seen extensive commercial and technical research done and redone, checked and rechecked.

Unfortunately, I've also heard the non-constructive arguments of the opponents of new gtlds repeated ad nauseum, with no real interest in solutions, offering only filibuster and red herring after red herring. These people are paid to come to every ICANN meeting and hinder the process in the interest only of shareholder wealth, inimical to the interests of the vast majority of the world's internet users. Thankfully, ICANN has defended that vast majority and developed a solid proposal.

I strongly support these points as presented in the proposed plan:

- A deposit of \$55,000 -- it is a significant enough deposit to provide ICANN an upper bound, which should help resolve many concerns and curtail the theoretical discussion, which mires the process.
- The participant and string information must be made public -- this too will obviate the theoreticals, and hopefully the transparency will expedite the acceptance of applications for new tlds.
- The communications campaign -- this is crucial and will promote competition.
- The issues of vertical separation and two character IDN's -- these issues should be resolved in advance of the opening of the window. However, as these issues have already been heavily researched and discussed, a deadline is in order as not to further delay the EOI process...

Again, kudos to ICANN for seeing through the self-serving obfuscation and delay, and for taking positive, tangible, sensible steps to get this process moving.

Thank you,

Minor Childers
Future Applicant

W O R L D C A R B O N D A T A B A S E