



United States Council for International Business

Thomas M.T. Niles, President

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Dr. Vinton G. Cerf
Chairman
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330
Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601

VIA EMAIL: Two Pages Total

Dear Dr. Cerf:

USCIB appreciates the opportunity to offer its views on the ongoing discussions within the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) on the introduction of new generic top-level domains (gTLDs). The technical coordination of the Internet is of critical importance to all of our members given that an increasing amount of their business is conducted over it. As such, it is essential to ensure that the introduction of new gTLDs does not in anyway interfere with the smooth and stable functioning of the domain name system. Moreover, ICANN must weigh fully the implications of new gTLDs.

Accordingly, USCIB appreciates ICANN's reiteration of its commitment to evaluate the effect that the introduction of the "proof of concept" gTLDs has had on the root-server system, trademarks, market confusion, etc. We support the development of a transparent process for the selection of new gTLDs based on objective criteria, noting that our members believe that new gTLDs should ensure differentiated space that, among other things, does not require trademark holders to register defensively. We also believe that the introduction of new gTLDs must:

1. be limited to sponsored gTLDs that have broad support from the affected community;
2. comply with the UDRP and Whois requirements and other consensus policies directly related to the technical coordination and continued stability of the Internet; and
3. be included in the review being conducted by ICANN on the "proof of concept" gTLDs until a transparent process referred to above is approved.

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

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me or my colleague David Fares.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas M.T. Niles', with a stylized, cursive script.

Thomas M.T. Niles

Cc: Alejandro Pisanty, Vice Chairman
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