



## The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

4 March 2014

Mr. Craig S. Schwartz  
CTAG Coordinator  
Community TLD Applicant Group

Dear Mr. Craig S. Schwartz:

Thank you for your letter dated 29 January 2014, regarding the implementation of GAC Category 1 and Category 2 Safeguard Advice. We appreciate the CTAG's communication, and we have posted the letter to the New gTLD correspondence page (<http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/correspondence/schwartz-to-willett-29jan14-en.pdf>). We have addressed your questions below.

As you may be aware, at the NGPC's meeting on 5 February 2014, the NGPC adopted a scorecard in response to certain open items of GAC Advice from Beijing, Durban, and Buenos Aires. As part of this resolution, the NGPC adopted the implementation framework attached as Annex 2 to the scorecard to address Category 1 Safeguard Advice, and directed the ICANN President and CEO, or his designee, to implement the Category 1 Safeguard Advice in a manner consistent with the implementation framework. You may view the resolution and complete scorecard on the ICANN website (<http://www.icann.org/en/groups/board/documents/resolutions-new-gtld-05feb14-en.htm#1.a>). Resolution of the Category 1 Safeguard GAC advice permits many applications that were previously on hold to proceed to the next phases of the New gTLD Program as other eligibility criteria are met.

In regards to your questions about GAC Category 2 Advice, we would like to remind you that in participating in the New gTLD Program, applicants have certified that the application materials presented are accurate and complete (see the Top-Level Domain Application Terms and Conditions in Module 6 of the Applicant Guidebook: <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/agb/terms-04jun12-en.pdf>). Additionally, per Section 1.2.7 of the Applicant Guidebook, if at any time during the evaluation process information previously submitted becomes untrue or inaccurate, the applicant must notify ICANN of such changes. In the event that there is a "discrepancy between what the applicant states and what the applicant provided in their response to ICANN," the registry operator is still expected to comply with Specification 11 of the Registry Agreement, which prohibits registry operators of generic strings from imposing eligibility criteria for registering names in the TLD that limit registrations exclusively to a single person or entity and/or that person's or



entity's affiliates. Any allegations that a registry operator is violating its obligations under Specification 11 could be addressed through ICANN's Public Interest Commitments Dispute Resolution Procedure (PICDRP) or by ICANN's Contractual Compliance team.

We hope that this information has been helpful to you. Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the New gTLD Customer Service Center at [newgtld@icann.org](mailto:newgtld@icann.org). Thank you for your participation ICANN's multi-stakeholder process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, which appears to read 'Christine Willett'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'C' and 'W'.

Christine A. Willett  
Vice President, gTLD Operations