.travel

14 September 2006

Patrick Jones
ICANN
4676 Admiralty Way
Suite 330
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Re: Referral of Request for New Registry Service

Dear Patrick,

Thank you for your letter dated September 13, 2006 regarding your preliminary determination on our proposal for a new registry service. As requested, this letter is to let you know that we wish to continue with the evaluation of our proposal by the Registry Service Technical Evaluation Panel (RSTEP).

We are disappointed at the advisory provided by SSAC with regard to our proposed service. We had made it very clear in our proposal that our service would be similar to .museum rather than the service proposed by VeriSign. Further, we believe that the SSAC recommendation should support our service because they clearly recommended that the wildcard mechanism was intended "to be used only in narrow contexts (for example, MX records for e-mail applications), generally within a single enterprise, and is currently used in top-level domains that are generally small and well-organized." **.travel** TLD with 20,500 registered domain names and organized specifically for travel and tourism entities should be considered as a top-level domain that is small and well-organized.

With regard to your assertion that we had stated during the sTLD application process that we would not introduce the wildcard without the acceptance of SSAC and IETF, we wish to point out that at the time of our application there was no system such as RSTEP in place and what we wanted to convey was that we would not introduce such a service without ICANN approval. In other words we would be bound by the recommendation of RSTEP and not that of SSAC and IETF.

I look forward to working with you and your colleagues during the registry service evaluation period.

Sincerely

Cherian Mathai

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