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January 10, 2014

Ms. Christine Willett
Vice President, gTLD Operations
ICANN
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094

Dear Christine,

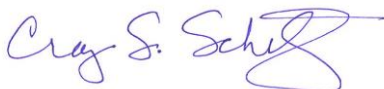
On September 25, 2013, CTAG submitted a letter to ICANN citing its observation that some standard applicants were publicly condemning community applicants and ridiculing the International Chamber of Commerce's handling of the Community Objections process. We understand these attacks have been lobbying efforts intended to undermine the outcome for community applicants. We are pleased to see that despite these efforts a number of community applicants are continuing to progress through ICANN's consideration process as a result of the community objection proceedings.

We write today regarding the latest tactics by some standard applicants to sabotage ICANN's Community Priority Evaluation (CPE) process. In recent months several standard applicants have offered their CPE analysis of a number of community applications and it's not surprising that not one achieved the requisite score of 14 to prevail in CPE. While the CTAG has not historically commented on the behaviour of or communications from any specific applicant, we would like to be on the record regarding the actions of the standard applicants that submitted their CPE analysis to ICANN as correspondence and requested copies be provided to the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), ICANN's selected CPE service provider.

The EIU has a difficult and critical role to play in the application consideration process as its determinations will ultimately determine the fate of dozens of applications. We certainly hope the EIU takes these efforts for exactly what they are, another opportunity to poison the CPE process and derail community applications. We fully expect the EIU will perform its work without regard to this noise from these self-serving standard applicants and that they will avail themselves of ICANN's Clarifying Questions process when necessary and appropriate.

The CTAG requests that ICANN post this letter as correspondence and forward a copy to the EIU's administrator for the CPE process.

Sincerely,



Craig S. Schwartz
CTAG Coordinator

The Community TLD Applicant Group

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cc: Mr. Fadi Chehadé, President and CEO, ICANN
Mr. Akram Atallah, President, Generic Domains Division, ICANN
Mr. Cherine Chalaby, Board Chair, New gTLD Program, ICANN
Ms. Heather Dryden, Chair, GAC, ICANN
Mr. Steven Chan, gTLD Operations Manager, ICANN

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7. CPA - American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
8. ECO - Big Room Inc.
9. GAL - Asociacion puntoGAL
10. GAY - dotgay llc
11. GMBH - TLDDOT GmbH
12. GREE - GREE, Inc.
13. HAMBURG - Hamburg Top-Level-Domain GmbH
14. HOTEL - HOTEL Top-Level-Domain S.a.r.l
15. KIDS - DotKids Foundation Limited
16. MED - HEXAP SAS
17. MUSIC - DotMusic / CGR E-Commerce Ltd
18. MUSIC – .music LLC / Far Further
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- 26. TATAR - Coordination Center of Regional Domain of Tatarstan Republic LLC
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