



European Communities Trade Mark Association

Antwerp, 25 June 2008

To: Paul Twomey
President & CEO
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330
Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601
USA

BY MAIL AND EMAIL TO twomey@icann.org

Dear Mr Twomey,

GNSO IMPROVEMENTS REPORT

This letter is addressed to you and through you to the Members of the ICANN Board and to the ICANN Policy Staff.

The European Communities Trade Mark Association (ECTA) is the principal pan-European body representing the interests of those professionals who practice within the European Union in the fields of trade marks and related IP. ECTA brings together all those persons practising professionally in the Member States of the European Community in the field of trade marks, designs and related IP matters, or having a common interest concerning the protection of trade marks and related rights in the European Union. ECTA has members in some 85 countries, not merely in the European Union. These professionals are trade mark advisors, trade mark attorneys, lawyers practising in industry and other specialist practitioners in these areas. ECTA has some 1400 members drawn from industry and from private practice, and our web site can be found at www.ecta.eu.

ECTA acts as an informed spokesman on all problems relating to the protection and use of trade marks and directly related issues as well as design rights in the European Union and has established close links with the European Commission and other non-governmental organizations in the intellectual property field, including the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (Trade Marks and Designs), as well as with the World Intellectual Property Organization. ECTA is a member of the IP constituency of the GNSO.

ECTA joins with the Association of European Trade Mark Owners, MARQUES, (who wrote to you on 27th May 2008) in expressing concern over the GNSO Improvements Report. ECTA recognises the value of improving the GNSO but is extremely concerned that the proposals would empower registries and registrants at the

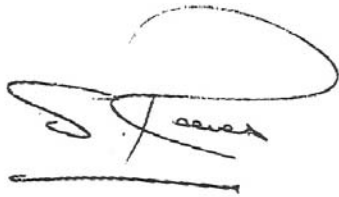
expense of the private sector, which will be to the long term detriment of all concerned. As MARQUES has already commented, if trade mark owners and those who represent them are out voted on every issue, many will see little reason to seek to continue in ICANN's decision making process, but will seek to address concerns direct to and through the national and international government agencies with which they already have established relations. ICANN without representation from the private sector will be no more than a trade association.

ECTA confirms its support for the Joint Users Proposal which is on-line at:

<http://forum.icann.org/lists/gnso-improvements-report-2008/msg00012.html>

If we can help further by discussing or expanding upon any issue, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Reeves', with a large loop at the top and a horizontal line at the bottom.

Simon Reeves
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Ramage', with a large loop at the top and a horizontal line at the bottom.

Eric Ramage
Chair of the Internet Committee