

November 2, 2010

Via Email: new-constituency@icann.org

Peter Dengate Thrush, Chair
Internet Corporation For Assigned Names and Numbers
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330
Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601

Re: New Constituency Petition: Not-for-Profit Organizations Constituency (“NPOC”)

Dear Mr. Dengate-Thrush and the ICANN Board of Directors:

We thank you for the opportunity to submit the attached New Constituency Petition (Petition) for the Not-for-Profit Organizations Constituency (NPOC) pursuant to the Board approved “New Constituency Application Process” governing the formation of new constituencies.¹ We propose that the NPOC be a member of the Non Commercial Stakeholder’s Group (NCSG).

On June 15, 2010, the NPOC Formation Committee submitted a Notice of Intent to Form a New GNSO Constituency with the support of several not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations. Since that time, the NPOC Formation Committee and supporting organizations have engaged various ICANN stakeholders in discussions about the formation of a new constituency as well as how DNS policies impact our organizations. We believe creating a new constituency focused the operational impact of ICANN policies on the service delivery of not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations will be an important addition to the ICANN community. The mission of the Not-for-Profit Organizations Constituency is provided below:

The purpose of the Not-for-Profit Organizations Constituency shall be to represent, specifically, the operational interests of not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations. NPOC Members rely on the Internet and DNS policies to serve their communities. Members shall include not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations with missions that include, but are not limited to, philanthropic, humanitarian, educational, academic and professional development, religious, community associations, promotion of the arts, public interest policy advocacy, health-related services, and social inclusion.

The NPOC shall engage the ICANN community on how proposed and existing policies and initiatives uniquely impact not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations and the delivery of their mission-related services. Specific operational concerns include: domain name registration, expansion of the DNS, fraud and abuse, using the DNS to provide and collect information to members and to serve members and communities.

The operational concerns described above drive how NPOC Members actively manage their infrastructure, create and improve internal processes and controls, manage risks, and respond to and respect the welfare of the communities they represent. The NPOC shall allow its members to affiliate, discuss and participate in the development of DNS policies and how they relate and may impact our operations, outreach programs and member service delivery.

¹ <http://gns0.icann.org/en/improvements/newco-process-en.htm>.

The NPOC Formation Committee and supporting organizations have demonstrated an interest in ICANN matters by: (1) attending/participating in ICANN events/meetings, (2) submitting comments during several Public Comments periods, (3) communicating regularly with interested organizations via conference calls and email lists, and (4) developing a one-page informational sheet about the NPOC for prospective Members.

As one of its major initiatives, the NPOC has placed a priority on ongoing global outreach activities, especially to communities and regions currently under-represented in ICANN. We are pleased that several organizations have already indicated an interest in the NPOC during this pendency period; however, many more are waiting for the NPOC to be officially recognized before joining. Members of the NPOC are working with various ICANN stakeholders to maximize existing resources, marketing avenues and ICANN events for outreach to not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations. The NPOC's general outreach strategy is outlined in the attached Petition; however, we recognize that outreach is a journey, rather than a destination. To that end, NPOC will continue to collaborate with ICANN stakeholders to use best practices in global outreach and to align with and share community resources.

In summary, we respectfully request that Board promptly move forward with a review and consideration of this Petition under the existing Board approved process. The NPOC's proposed charter was written in light of the Operations Steering Committee's new requirements for Constituencies and Stakeholders Groups. We also understand the Board's Structural Improvements Committee is working with NCSG leadership to draft its new charter and have read the most recent version. The NPOC Charter was drafted to acknowledge its membership within the NCSG and subject to its requirements, which would include any changes to the NCSG charter. We believe reviewing the merits of the Petition and approving a new Not-for-Profit Organizations Constituency is not at odds with the Board's contemporaneous review of the NCSG charter.

We strongly believe that the documents provided by the NPOC Formation Committee and the organizational efforts accomplished by this group of not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations demonstrate the NPOC is ready for immediate recognition by the Board. Therefore, we urge the Board to review this Petition using its existing and approved process for recognizing new constituencies.

We look forward to answering any questions the Board may have about the formation and eventual recognition of this important new constituency.

Respectfully Submitted,

/Debra Y. Hughes/

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