

1 June 2009

Via email to: [new-constituency@icann.org](mailto:new-constituency@icann.org)

ICANN Board of Directors  
Peter Dengate Thrush, Chair  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers  
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330  
Marina Del Rey, California 90292

Re: City Top-Level Domain Constituency Petition and Charter

Dear Chairman Dengate Thrush and the ICANN Board:

Pursuant to the processes established by the ICANN Staff, please accept the attached Petition and Charter for the City Top-Level Domain Constituency (CTLDC) to join the Registry Stakeholders Group (RySG).

As the original Notice of Intent to Form (NOIF) the City Top-Level Domain Constituency explains the mission includes:

- *To represent the views and interests of those who are operating or planning to operate a top-level domain which is based on a string that is associated with a city community.*
- *To be an advocate of city top-level domain stakeholders and their interests in ICANN processes, incorporating governments and authorities, businesses, organizations, individuals and the general public interest of cities.*
- *To promote international cooperation, networking, and knowledge sharing among members and related stakeholders and with ICANN.*
- *To ensure that ICANN policies are consistent with the city's vital interest and of a stable, secure and reliable Internet.*

The rationale to form the City Top-Level Domain Constituency is

- *cityTLDs are a reasonable expansion of the DNS, since city identity is one of the oldest, strongest and most popular ways that people identify themselves.*
- *Top-level domains for cities are an important part of the evolution of the domain name system (DNS) and need to be represented in the ICANN's governance structure.*
- *Cities are global drivers of innovation and progress, centers of social, economic and political power, and are projected to contain two-thirds of the world's population by 2030.*
- *cityTLD registries will have the support and operate within the influence of cities; as well as the support (or non objection) of their national government.*
- *cityTLDs not only offer the plain domain name registration but also have a higher-order responsibility in the allocation and structure of the city and the cities' namespace.*
- *cityTLD registries will reflect the needs of city residents and organizations and the CTLDC will enable its member registries to represent these needs within*

*the GNSO and ICANN structures thereby representing city interests on the Internet's top-level.*

The City Top-Level Domain Constituency fills a significant gap in the breadth of representation within the RySG. The NOIF explains:

*GNSO and ICANN policy decisions have a huge impact on the development of the world's digital identity and addressing of organizations, businesses, and peoples in terms of governance, politics, economy, and culture. The CTLDC will widen the GNSO's scope in policy development through the inclusion of the multi-faceted city top-level domains which aim to create more livable cities and meet the needs and demands of their billions of peoples, enterprises, organizations, and the public interest.*

*With support and incorporation of the CTLDC the GNSO will benefit from a broadened representation and view of very important true global players, the cities. The inclusion of the CTLDC with its member's multi-stakeholder approach will be also a helpful link of the GNSO to local residents, governments, authorities, and economies.*

The City Top-Level Domain Constituency is committed to broad outreach and recruitment in addition to those who have already become involved. The NOIF explains:

*The individual cityTLD initiatives of Berlin, New York, and Paris already started to conduct an outreach and recruitment program to make city communities and the Internet community at large aware on the opportunities and benefits that will arise with their own Internet name spaces. The cityTLD's activities already included national and international press appearance, speeches, and workshops on national and international levels, including ICANN meetings, the IGF, city organizations like EURO CITIES, participation in city related events such as Urban Age or Place Branding & Public Diplomacy, publications and abstracts in local and international media targeting governments, businesses and related city stakeholder groups.*

*This outreach and recruitment program will be continued and intensified once the constituency has been approved in order to expand and grow of the number of constituency members.*

On behalf of those who have expressed an interest in being member in the City Top-Level Domain Constituency and the city top-level domain initiatives mentioned below, I request your acceptance of our petition and proposed charter.

Very truly yours,

Dirk Krischenowski

on behalf of

.bcn - represented by Raquel Gisbert (Ajuntament de Barcelona), Marta Téllez (project manager) and Amadeu Abril i Abril (adviser)

.berlin - represented by the Dirk Krischenowski (founder and CEO of dotBERLIN GmbH & Co. KG)

.hamburg - represented by the Oliver Süme (founder and CEO of Initiative dotHamburg e.V.)

.nyc - represented by Antony Van Couvering (founder and CEO of Dot NYC LLC) and Thomas Lowenhaupt (founder and managing director of Connecting.nyc, Inc.)

.paris - represented by Eric Spitz (City of Paris legal department) and Stéphane Van Gelder (General manager of INDOM, consultant to the City of Paris)

Attachments:

City Top-Level Domain (CTLD) Constituency Petition and Charter