



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

23 March 2015

Mr. Boubker Seddik Badr
Director of Digital Economy
Ministry of Industry, Trade, Investment and Digital Economy of the Kingdom of Morocco
Quartier Administratif
Rabat Chellah
Morocco

Re: New gTLD Application for .TATA

Dear Mr. Badr:

Thank you for your letter of 26 February 2015. We appreciate your communication, and we have posted the letter to the gTLD correspondence page (<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/badr-to-atallah-26feb15-en.pdf>).

We understand that you are asking for clarification regarding whether the operation of the gTLD “.TATAMOTOR” by Tata Motors Ltd. will affect the Moroccan government’s ability to apply for the gTLD “.TATA”. Additionally, we also understand that you would like ICANN to guarantee that the Moroccan government can apply for the gTLD “.TATA” as a geographic name gTLD.

We would like to clarify that Tata Motor Ltd’s operation of the gTLD “.TATAMOTORS” does not have any bearing on Tata Motor Ltd’s “.TATA” application. As you are aware, that .TATA application is currently undergoing geographic name re-evaluation based on current ICANN and New gTLD Program processes.¹

As the application window for the current round of new gTLDs closed on 30 May 2012, it is not possible for another application for the .TATA gTLD to be submitted at this time for the current round. If the .TATA string is not delegated in this round, then the Moroccan government/Tata subdivision may apply for the gTLD “.TATA” when the application window for the next round opens, subject to all of the rules and requirements of the next round.

¹ See: <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/atallah-to-badr-02feb15-en.pdf>



ICANN is currently in the process of reviewing the New gTLD Program in anticipation of the next application round. We encourage you to submit any suggestions that you may have on Program processes through the appropriate public comment forum or to the Customer Service Center at newgtd@icann.org. For more information on New gTLD Program Reviews, visit the New gTLD Program's microsite (<http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/reviews>).

I hope that this information addresses your questions. Please let us know if you have any further questions or concerns. Thank you for your participation in ICANN's multistakeholder process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Akram Atallah", is written in a cursive style.

Akram Atallah
President, Global Domains Division