



Dr. Steven Crocker  
Board of Directors, Chair  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names  
and Numbers  
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536

Lausanne, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015

**Ref:** ICANN Independent Review Proceeding: 01-14-0001-6263 (Donuts, Inc. v ICANN)

Dear Dr. Crocker,

The Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) is the umbrella organisation of twenty-eight member sporting International Federations<sup>1</sup>, which govern the sports featured on the Olympic Summer Games programme.

ASOIF's mission is to unite, promote and support the International Summer Olympic Federations; to preserve their autonomy, while co-ordinating their common interests and goals. Consistent with that mission, ASOIF respectfully submits this letter to ICANN in connection with the above referenced Independent Review Proceeding (IRP) to offer its support for World Rugby and the .RUGBY gTLD. ASOIF would also like to offer its support to SportAccord, the applicant for .SPORT gTLD, who has worked in collaboration with the broader sport community in connection with its application.

Both of these organizations had successfully filed and prevailed in Community Challenges filed with the International Chamber of Commerce in accordance with the procedures outlines in ICANN's Applicant Guidebook. Unfortunately, both of these applicants have had their applications placed "on hold" for over a year while competing portfolio applicants have exhausted their various rights under ICANN bylaws. While ASOIF respects this process, it is concerned about potential abuses that negatively impact the respective communities that World Rugby and SportAccord serve.

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<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.asoif.com/IFDirectory/Default.aspx>



In closely, ASOIF appreciates ICANN's recent recognition of the detriment this delay is causing to World Rugby and SportAccord<sup>2</sup>. It would also like to reiterate the repeated advice of ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee to the ICANN Board calling for the protection of new gTLD applicants with "demonstrable community support." Should ICANN or the IRP panel have any additional question or comments please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely yours,

Francesco Ricci Bitti  
President

Andrew Ryan  
Executive Director

cc: Thomas Schneider, Chair, GAC  
SportAccord  
World Rugby

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<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/icann-letter-brief-donuts-10aug15-en.pdf>