

To the courteous attention of Nigel Hickson, VP, Stakeholder Engagement – Europe

In copy:

Dr Steve Crocker, Chair of the ICANN Board

Mr Cherine Chalaby, Chair of the new gTLD Program Committee Board

Mr Fadi Chehadé, CEO of ICANN

Mr Akram Atallah, COO of ICANN

Brussels, 18 April 2014

Object: Invitation to assist to the negotiations between the applicants and the GI wine sector on the “.wine”

Dear Sir,

We are contacting you on behalf of the European appellation wine industry, in particular the European Federation of Origin Wines (EFOW) www.efow.eu.

We are following up on the NGPC resolution of 04/04/2014 which invites *“the relevant impacted parties to negotiate, which they are encouraged to do”*.

Considering the fact that legal certainty is a key issue for the wine sector, in particular with regard to the protection of Geographical Indications, we have invited the three applicants to a meeting in Brussels under the auspices of the European Commission on 15 and 16 May (please see letters in copy). We have also reached out to other appellations around the world, more specifically the signatories of the Declaration to Protect Wine Place & Origin www.protectplace.com.

Our objective is to strike a deal before the end of the 60 day period. We believe that there is room for a mutually satisfactory agreement which would set out adequate safeguards.

On that occasion, we would also like to invite you and other interested ICANN parties to assist to these multi-stakeholders negotiations in order to ensure a high level of transparency.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,



Riccardo RICCI CURBASTRO
President of EFOW