



# KOSHER CERTIFICATION

COMMITTEE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TORAH

RABBI DON YOEL LEVY  
KASHRUS ADMINISTRATOR

RABBI BERNARD LEVY  
1965-1987

November 27, 2013

VIA EMAIL (fadi.chehade@icann.org)  
AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Fadi Chehadé  
Chief Executive Officer  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers  
12025 East Waterfront Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90094

**Re: Fair Administration and Community Involvement and Support for .KOSHER**

Dear Mr. Chehadé:

I write on behalf OK Kosher Certification ("OK"), one of the world's oldest and largest international kosher certification organizations, to follow up on my correspondence of August 13, 2013, and to respond to a letter sent to you by OK's commercial competitors on November 14, 2013.

As I stated previously, OK is recognized and highly regarded as a global leader within the kosher food certification industry, and provides certification services in over ninety countries on six continents with the support of more than 350 of the world's leading kosher experts. OK's subsidiary Kosher Marketing Assets LLC ("KMA") applied to operate the new gTLD .KOSHER for the benefit of the entire kosher industry, including consumers, producers, vendors and certifiers of kosher food.

OK's competitors continue their campaign to unfairly block progression of the .KOSHER gTLD by spreading new false and misleading information about KMA's application. Their new letter again mischaracterizes the .KOSHER application.

In line with the Public Interest Commitments of Specification 11 of the Registry Agreement, KMA will operate .KOSHER in a transparent manner consistent with the principles of openness and non-discrimination. Contrary to the letter's assertions, KMA's proposed operation of .KOSHER will not violate ICANN's specifications on restricted access registries. KMA will establish, publish and adhere to clear registration policies with appropriate eligibility requirements and fairly administer the gTLD. KMA's commitments will be enforceable through ICANN's Public Interest Commitment Dispute Resolution Policy.

KMA's application states that domains will be available to entities and individuals who meet eligibility of being "personally visited, inspected, and are known to be using the domain to promote Kosher Certification." This proposed eligibility requirement is not limited to verification solely by OK Kosher. KMA intends the gTLD to be inclusive of kosher certification organizations and their clients, promote industry competition, and encourage demand for kosher products generally.



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OK's competitors also repeat their demand for "equal treatment" of .KOSHER with Asia Green IT System's .HALAL gTLD application, namely that both should be ineligible to proceed to contract.

As you know, the .HALAL application was opposed by some members of the Governmental Advisory Committee ("GAC") for "lack [of] community involvement and support."

By contrast, the GAC does not oppose the proposed .KOSHER gTLD, as it includes direct involvement of OK and support by over forty kosher certification organizations, certifying rabbis, and other essential kosher industry players from over twenty countries worldwide, including such prominent figures as Rabbi Berel Lazar, the Chief Rabbi of Russia and Rabbi Levi Shemtov, who certifies the events at the Capitol and White House in Washington, D.C.

On behalf of OK Kosher Certification, I thank you for your kind attention to this matter. Should you wish to learn more about KMA, OK, or the community involvement and support for the .KOSHER gTLD, please do not hesitate to contact me, as I would be happy to speak with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Don Yoel Levy

cc: Dr. Stephen D. Crocker, Chairman of the Board (steve.crocker@icann.org)  
Mr. Cherine Chalaby, Chair, Board New gTLD Committee (cherine.chalaby@icann.org)  
Ms. Heather Dryden, Chair, ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee  
(heather.dryden@ic.gc.ca)  
Mr. Akram Atallah, President, Generic Domains Division (akram.atallah@icann.org)