



Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto

Buenos Aires, 3 August, 2012.

ICANN

Steve Crocker, Chairman of The Board of Directors
The Honorable ICANN Board of Directors
Cc: Akram Atallah, President and CEO
Cc: Kurt Pritz, Senior Vice President, Stakeholder Relations and Director New gTLD Program
Cc: Heather Dryden, Chair of the Governmental Advisor Committee of ICANN
Cc: Rodrigo de la Parra, Vicepresident Latin America

Reference: The use of Patagonia's Region name for a closed brand New gTLD.

Dear Members of the ICANN Board,

As you already know, during the last ICANN meeting in June held in Prague, Argentina has expressed its concern about a requested TLD that uses the name of a vast region located in the southern area of our country, named Patagonia.

Patagonia is a region of Argentina that comprises the provinces of the south of the country. It is a vast and beautiful region, it is well known by the beauty of its landscapes, it is a relevant region for our economy because it has oil, fishing, mining and agriculture resources. It is also a region with a vibrant local community.

Argentina believes that the ICANN Board must ensure that the panel judging new gTLDs application should not allow the use of Patagonia as a closed brand TLD, as it has been requested.

Argentina believes that if the TLD .patagonia is granted to a private company as a closed brand TLD without the corresponding authorization of the relevant government of the provinces that comprise Patagonia and of the national government, this will be a precedent for future rounds of new gTLD requests and then other regional names could be captured by brands.

If you have any doubts or questions, please contact me or contact directly our GAC representative Dr. Olga Cavalli (olgacavalli@gmail.com).

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Morelli'.

Ambassador Alfredo Morelli
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