

No. 511.9/ 630

Ministry of Information and Communication Technology The Government Complex Building B Chaeng Wattana Rd., Laksi, Bangkok, 10210, Thailand

24 June B.E. 2556 (2013)

Dear Dr. Steve D. Crocker Chairman of the Board,

In my capacity as Minister of Information and Communication Technology of Thailand, responsible for planning, developing, promoting and regulating activities related to information and communication technology, I take this opportunity to draw your attention to the issue of the application for 'thai' as a new gTLD.

It is my understanding that the government may object to such an application at any time including after the new gTLD has been delegated. The application of Better Living Manage Company Limited (BLM), for '.thai' top level domain, was filed as a community type. However, it has not shown any solid proof that its operation will be for the best interest of the Thai community. This compels me to register such an objection with you.

In addition, the string 'THAI' is a name by which my country is commonly known. It is the distinctive element of the country's name in English and is strongly associated with the Thai community in many ways, including nationality, language, race and culture. Allowing a private company, which lacks sufficient support from 'Thai' representing communities, to be the sole operator of the gTLD 'thai' will lead to sensitive problems and could prove harmful to the Thai community at large.

Based on the above rationale, I must register my objection to the application #1-2112-4478 for the string '.thai' and request that ICANN Board of Directors refrain from proceeding with such an application.

Yours sincerely

Group Captain Annudith Wakernthap.

Anudith Nakornthap

Minister of Information and Communication Technology

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