31 January 2013

The Biotechnology Industry Organization
1201 Maryland Avenue SW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 90024

Dear Sirs and Madams:

On behalf of Fadi Chehadé, thank you for your letter dated 16 November 2012 regarding the .BIO application. We appreciate your interest in the New gTLD Program and that you took the time to write to us.

All applications to the New gTLD Program are reviewed by third-party evaluators. The program provides avenues to raise formal objections. Parties with standing have the option to have their objections considered before a panel of qualified experts. Section 3.2.2 of the Applicant Guidebook describes the four types of objections: (1) String Confusion Objection, (2) Legal Rights Objection, (3) Limited Public Interest Objection, and (4) Community Objection. A formal objection will be handled by a dispute resolution process. For more information about the objection and dispute resolution process, see http://newgtld.icann.org/en/program-status/objection-dispute-resolution and Module 3 of the Applicant Guidebook. The deadline to file an objection is 13 March 2013.

Thank you again for contacting us, and we look forward to your continued participation in the New gTLD Program.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Willett
General Manager, New gTLD Program