



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

16 April 2013

Mr. Eduardo Paes
Mayor of the City of Rio de Janeiro
Rua Afonso Cavalcanti, 455 - 13^o andar
Cidade Nova
Rio de Janeiro - RJ
20211-110
Brazil

Dear Mr. Eduardo Paes:

Thank you for your letter dated 9 November 2012, regarding the application for .RIO. We appreciate your interest in the New gTLD Program, and we have posted your letter to the New gTLD correspondence page at (<http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/correspondence/paes-to-chehade-chalaby-09nov12-en.pdf>).

The New gTLD Program intends to open up the top level of the Internet's namespace to foster diversity, encourage competition, and enhance the utility of the DNS. We have included many measures to support these goals, including priority for internationalized domain names and community priority evaluations for applications that have met the requirements to receive a community-based designation. However, due to the high volume of New gTLD applications and root scale limitations, it is not possible for ICANN to process all applications in a single batch and simultaneously release results. Therefore, we must process applications based on the criteria that were reached through the public comment process and that have been supported by the ICANN Board of Directors.

We appreciate your comments about prioritizing public-serving applications, and recognize this issue is important to .RIO's mission to serve an underrepresented geographic region in a manner serving the public interest. As communicated during the ICANN meeting in Toronto, we anticipate that all applications will have completed Initial Evaluation by the end of August 2013. We will continue in our efforts to ensure that ICANN meets the community's expectations and delivers the delegation of all new gTLDs, including .RIO, within the communicated schedule and according to the approved process.

We thank you for communication, and we look forward to your continued participation in the New gTLD Program and ICANN's multi-stakeholder model.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Willett
Vice President, gTLD Operations

Los Angeles
Offices:

12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Brussels

Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536
Silicon Valley

USA T +1 310 301 5800
Sydney

F +1 310 823 8649
Washington

<http://icann.org>