



Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

22 September 2004

Via E-mail: steve@stevicrocker.com

Steve Crocker
Chair
ICANN Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)

Re: Request for Assistance with Development of New TLD Policy

Dear Mr. Crocker,

Since the establishment of the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC), ICANN has appreciated the SSAC's active contributions to on matters relating to the security and integrity of the Internet's naming and address allocation systems. As you are aware, the development of an appropriate process and policy for the creation of new gTLDs has been a topic of Board and community debate since the creation of ICANN.

ICANN has committed to develop and implement this year a comprehensive process to move from the proof of concept test of new TLD introductions commenced with the 2000 round to a liberalised and predictable strategy for selecting new gTLDs using straightforward, transparent, and objective procedures that preserve the stability of the Internet. This process will include consideration and evaluation of:

- a. The potential impact of new gTLDs on the Internet root server system and Internet stability;
- b. The creation and implementation of selection criteria for new and existing TLD registries, including public explanation of the process, selection criteria, and the rationale for selection decisions;
- c. Potential consumer benefits/costs associated with establishing a competitive environment for TLD registries; and
- d. Recommendations from expert advisory panels, bodies, agencies, or organisations regarding economic, competition, trademark, and intellectual property issues.

To accomplish these objectives, ICANN requests the SSAC's expert advice on technical stability issues related to the introduction of new TLDs, including planning for registry failures.

Thank you very much for your anticipated cooperation. Your advice will provide a valuable service to ICANN and to the Internet community.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul D. Twomey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "P".

Dr. Paul Twomey
President and CEO
ICANN