Executive Summary of .MUSIC’s Request for Re-Consideration

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the ICANN Bylaws, the below identified requester and referenced Community Objectors, submits within Request for Reconsideration (the “Objector”). Objector and its related entities are concerned by the failure of the International Chamber of Commerce (“ICC”) to follow ICANN policies, rules and processes expressed in the Applicant Guidebook (AGB). Objector and its related entities relied on ICANN to appropriately instruct, guide and inform the ICC both before and during the Objection process.

First, Objector expected that the ICC would appoint and instruct an appropriately qualified expert familiar with the unique needs and requirements presented in the gTLD Program, and the needs and composition of the relevant community (in this case, a music expert).

Second, Objectors and related entities expected that ICANN would advise the ICC and its Experts of relevant substantive changes and developments in the New gTLD program during the pendency of the Objections – developments that have resulted in substantial, material changes. Indeed, the GAC Advice first presented through its Beijing Communiqué resulted in wholesale changes in Applicants’ Applications that directly impact the Objections and Objectors’ legitimate community interests.

Third, Objector is troubled by the inconsistent decisions in the Community Objection Process that were not given equal fair treatment and review by ICANN, namely preferential treatment provided to “.BRAND Applicants” and the possible creation of a review mechanism for String Confusion Objections (at the expense of other Objection processes such as Community Objections or Legal Rights Objections).

Finally, it bears noting that there are cases where there is a clear discrepancy between Applicant positions as set forth in their Applications and statements made during Objection proceedings, and later changes made in response to the issues raised by the GAC Advice. ICANN has not taken any action to ensure that Applicant changes in position are appropriately documented and available for public review. Indeed, per the AGB, such substantial changes in Applicant position (i.e. changing from a closed registry to an open registry, or moving from having no safeguards to allegedly adding Public Interest Commitments (“PICs”) and “Safeguards” for intellectual property) require the Applicant to submit a change request to their Application for review and evaluation.
Attached are (i) the .MUSIC “Re-Consideration Request” and (ii) Supplemental evidence and documents provided in Annexes A through L for ICANN Board Governance Committee consideration.