



12 February 2010 via Email

Peter Dengate-Thrush, Chairman of the Board
Rod Beckstrom, President & CEO
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Dear Peter and Rod,

Recently, the US Department of State reported that individuals affiliated with a terrorist group residing in Kenya were planning suicide bombing attacks against various targets including the Kenyan International Conference Center in Nairobi, the venue for the 37th International meeting of ICANN in March. This has renewed concerns among many of us who were planning to attend. Based on this recent information and cognizant of its responsibility for the health and well-being of its employees, Go Daddy has decided not to send any of its staff to this meeting. We are also hearing of similar decisions from other constituents of both the Registrar and Registry Stakeholder groups.

Before this most recent report from the US Department of State, the Intellectual Property Constituency had already announced that it would not be represented at the Nairobi meeting, and that any of its constituents who did attend were doing so strictly on an individual basis. Many others who are known as regular and valuable attendees of ICANN meetings also announced they would not be attending. Regardless of one's opinion about Nairobi's risks it is clear that fewer and fewer people plan to attend the Nairobi meeting.

Go Daddy would like to propose that the ICANN Board reconsider postponing the March meeting until a later date, perhaps with a leaner agenda focusing on one or two of the remaining overarching issues. If the Board should decide to meet in Nairobi as planned, we suggest that the Board consider directing Staff to arrange a location where those not attending Nairobi could meet and participate remotely as a group. This would provide two valuable benefits, wider participation in the Nairobi meeting (albeit virtual) and the benefit of some of the face-to-face interaction that will otherwise be missed by those not attending Nairobi. We also suggest that New York City may be an appropriate venue for such remote group participation due to its large resource of possible venues and its convenience as an International hub city.

We all have various tolerance levels for risk, and Go Daddy is grateful to the ICANN Board and Staff for recognizing that and keeping us informed of the security situation in Nairobi, allowing each of us to make our own choice on attending.

Respectfully,
GoDaddy.com, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Ruiz". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tim Ruiz
Vice President
Corporate Development & Policy

CC: ICANN Board, Doug Brent, Nick Tomasso