



24 February 2009

Mons. Carlo Maria Polvani  
Holy See's Representative to the GAC  
The Vatican  
ROME ITALY

Via Email address : cmp <polvani@net.va

Dear Mons. Carlo Maria Polvani

Thank you for the statement prepared by the Holy See regarding the introduction of new gTLDs, in particular the possible perils connected with the assignment of new gTLDs with reference to religious traditions.

ICANN has recently published version 2 of the Draft Applicant Guidebook for new gTLDs and is seeking public comments on this version. Under the current version, established institutions are eligible to file a community objection to a gTLD application. The "defined community" must be a community related to the applied-for gTLD string in the application that is the subject of the objection. An objection may be filed if there is substantial opposition to the gTLD application from a significant portion of the community to which the gTLD string may be explicitly or implicitly targeted.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss the concerns raised by the Holy See within the context of the process being developed for community objections as described above. I would also appreciate your assistance, in whatever formal or informal capacity you consider appropriate, in identifying possible interlocutors who may be a useful resource in progressing and providing advice on the issues of concern raised by the Holy See.

Yours sincerely

Dr Paul D Twomey  
President & CEO