

Josh Bourne, President

September 30, 2010

Phil Lodico, Vice President

American International Group, Inc.

Bacardi & Company Limited

Carlson/Carlson Hotels Worldwide/Carlson Restaurants Worldwide

Dell Inc.

DIRECTV, Inc.

Eli Lilly and Company

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Harrah's Entertainment, Inc

Hewlett-Packard Company

Hilton Hotels Corporation

HSBC Holdings plc.

InterContinental Hotels Group

Marriott International, Inc.

Morgan Stanley

New York Life Insurance Company

NIKE, Inc.

Verizon Communications Inc.

Wells Fargo & Company

Wyndham Worldwide Corporation

Mr. Peter Dengate Thrush Chairman of the Board ICANN

Cc: Rod Beckstrom President and CEO ICANN

Mr. Thrush,

As a coalition of major brand owners, CADNA urges ICANN to provide a full public response to the GAC's concerns and recommendations as outlined in the GAC's September 23 letter Re: GAC Comments on new GTLDs and DAGv4.

As the GAC's letter states, "consultations by individual GAC members with business stakeholders underline how [substantial and often prohibitive defensive registration cost of new TLDs] remains a fundamental downside to the expansion of the gTLD space, far outweighing any perception of opportunities for innovation and customer-orientated benefits from the creation of corporate brand TLDs."

The GAC goes on to suggest that "more concerted attention needs to be paid by ICANN to mitigate the costs to brand owners of new gTLDs arising from the need to acquire defensive registrations."

CADNA acknowledges ICANN's plans to publish descriptions of a "substantive evaluation" process for trademarks in the next Draft Applicant Guidebook (DAGv5), and the coalition looks forward to seeing how the GAC's concerns are addressed in this and any additional language. CADNA is particularly eager to see ICANN's response to the GAC's call for an analysis of the economic and market impacts of the TLD launch, particularly with regard to the planned launch's effects on competition, innovation and trademark protection.

Sincerely yours,

Josh Bourne President, CADNA