

June 27, 2014

Ms. Christine Willett Vice President, gTLD Operations ICANN 12025 Waterfront Drive Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90094

Re: Letters of Endorsement, Application ID# 1-959-51046

Dear Ms. Willett,

In 2012, .Music LLC submitted 42 Letters of Endorsement with its community-based application for .MUSIC. Since that time, more than two dozen additional letters have been written in support of our application.

For the sake of completeness, we have attached all of the Letters of Endorsement. Please post to the New gTLD Correspondence page and make sure these are made available to the Community Priority evaluator(s) at the Economist Intelligence Unit.

These letters are also available at www.farfurther.com.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,

John W. Styll

President and COO

John W. Styll

179 Belle Forest Cr. Suite 104 Nashville, TN. 37221 USA T +1 615.777.3848 js@farfurther.com

www.farfurther.com



700 North Fairfax Street Suite 601 Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone: 703-535-8101 Fax: 703-535-8105 www.oarcrayalties.com

#### To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for a .music TLD.

Our organization, The Alliance of Artists and Recording Companies, Inc. (AARC) is the leading organization representing featured artists and recording companies, both domestically and abroad, in the areas of hometaping/private copy royalties and rental royalties. AARC, a non-profit organization, was formed to collect and distribute Audio Home Recording Act of 1992 (AHRA)royalties to featured recording artists and sound recording copyright owners (usually record companies.) However, based on its success in administering the AHRA royalties, AARC's mandate was expanded to include foreign hometaping/private copy and rental royalties. AARC represents over 100,000 artists and record labels worldwide, which represents a considerable share of all music currently sold and broadcasted.

We feel a .music TLD would be instrumental in the emerging digital market, and the way our world is heading in terms of digital communications. The existence of a .music TLD being approved for official companies and distribution channels who represent music is important for furthering technology and protecting intellectual property.

Sincerely,

tinda R. Bocchi

Executive Director and General Counsel



March 23, 2012

Re: Music Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

The American Association of Independent Music ("AZIM") would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

The American Association of Independent Music ("A2IM"), is the not-for-profit 501(C) (6) trade organization representing the U.S. independent music label community in the areas of advocacy, commerce opportunities and member services including education, <a href="www.a2im.org">www.a2im.org</a>. A2IM started to form in late 2004 to ensure that independent music labels, all of whom are small and medium size enterprises (SME's) were properly represented in the music community so they would not have to endure the business barriers to entry that occurred in the old music in the emerging new digital economy. A2IM received its IRS tax status determination letter granting A2IM tax exempt status effective June 29, 2005.

A2IM's membership is made up of 296 Independent music labels located across the country stretching from Hawaii to Florida, that have banded together to form a central voice advocating for the health of the Independent music sector. Our membership includes independent music label leaders like Beggars Group, Big Machine, Concord Music Group, Curb Records, Epitaph, Razor & Tie, Windup, etc. but it should be noted that our membership is not just made up of these market leaders. A2IM membership also includes music labels of varying sizes (in terms of staffing, number of releases and revenues), and varying genres, many owned by artists like Grammy winner Alison Brown and Garry West of Compass Records in Nashville, Brett Gurewitz of Epitaph/Anti/Hellcat in L.A., the Hanson brothers of 3CG in Tulsa, Joan Jett's Blackheart Records in NYC, Moe's Fatboy label in Buffalo and the Skaggs Family and Gillian Welch's Acony records in Nashville, and many more. Many of our member labels are located across America, in addition to the traditional New York, Nashville and Southern California music bases. For example we have members like Mountain Apple in Hawaii, Barsuk in Seattle, Six Degrees in San Francisco, Basin Street in New Orleans, Saddle Creek in Omaha, RhymeSayers in Minneapolis, Red House in St. Paul, Ghostly in Ann Arbor, Alligator in Chicago, Righteous Babe in Buffalo, YepRoc in Haw River, North Carolina and Tropisounds in Miami. None of our members have U.S. revenues of over \$100 million from recorded music sales; most have revenues as low as \$2-5 million annually. All of our label members have one thing in common: that they are small business people with a love for music who are trying to make a living and compensate their artists and employ their staffs.

Our members, as small creators whose sector comprises over 30% of U.S. recorded music sales, are having their livelihoods challenged by unauthorized unpaid content acquisition over the Internet. Independent music labels are not luddites and the Internet has been the great equalizer for us on our ability to market, promote, monetize and introduce new music. The Internet has opened up countless opportunities for us and we would not do anything to jeopardize this improved access. Additionally, our

American Association of Independent Music - 853 Broadway, Suite 1406, NY, NY 10003 - Ph 212 999 6113 - www.a2im.org

members have embraced new business models that allow for efficient distribution of music, such as the licensing of free-to-the user streaming services and webcasting, one price per month subscription services, bundled mobile services, etc. We honestly feel there is no other industry that has embraced new forms of economic and delivery models as completely as the music industry. Our members also, on their own terms, give away free content to reward existing fans and cultivate new fans of their label's artists. However against this backdrop widespread copyright infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a focused interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that only allows authorized dissemination of music and provides for the financial and legal resources to run the .music gTLD within fair enforcement provision guidelines that protect intellectual property creators.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with many other music related trade associations, representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its proposed registrar requirements, its financial and technical capabilities to operate the gTLD operations and many other areas. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions.

Based on the above, the music creator community group involved decided to endorse the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music creator community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community and A2IM is supporting the group's consensus decision as a member of the music creator community. We are hopeful that Far Further will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions please contact me at the below address.

Sincerely,

Rich Bengloff

Rich B

President

American Association of Independent Music ("A2IM")

853 Broadway, Suite #1406 New York, New York 10003

212-999-6113

www.a2im.org

CC:

John Styll, Far Further Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN Office of Government Relations

#### Hal Ponder

Director

910 17th Street NW, Suite 1070 Washington, DC 20006 (T) 202.463.0772 • (F) 202.463.0758 (E) hponder@afm.org

April 12, 2012



AFL-CIO/CLC Affiliated

#### To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application For a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

The American Federation of Musicians in the United States and Canada (AFM) would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

We are the largest organization in the world representing the interests of professional musicians. Whether negotiating fair agreements, protecting ownership of recorded music, securing benefits such as health care and pension, or lobbying our legislators, the AFM is committed to raising industry standards and placing the professional musician in the foreground of the cultural landscape.

Our members have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web, often to their detriment. A music-focused gTLD is an opportunity for AFM and the musicians we represent, in terms of enhanced visibility, increased cultural diversity and of an environment that is supportive of copyright and related rights.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

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Based on the above, the AFM supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owners' rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact me at hponder@afm.org.

Sincerely,

Hal Ponder Director of Government Relations



JOAN M. MCGIVERN, ESQ. General Counsel & Senior Vice President

March 29, 2012

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

Formed in 1914, ASCAP is the first and largest performing rights organization (PRO) in the United States. It is an unincorporated member-owned association of composers, songwriters, lyricists, and publishers of copyrighted music. ASCAP's over 427,000 members grant to ASCAP a non-exclusive right to license non-dramatic public performances of their copyrighted musical works. ASCAP licensees include local television and radio stations, broadcast and cable/satellite networks, cable system operators and direct broadcast satellite services, Internet and wireless service providers and websites, and thousands of other businesses throughout the United States that perform music publicly. After deducting its operating expenses, ASCAP distributes all license fees it collects to its members as royalties.

ASCAP members include the owners of the smallest of American businesses, namely songwriters and composers whose livelihoods depend on public performance royalties and who have been deeply affected by the digital revolution and the growth of the Internet. The Internet has transformed how music is created and consumed, presenting both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital channels for music as well as significant challenges in ensuring that ASCAP members are fairly compensated for the public performance of their musical works. Therefore, ASCAP on behalf of its members has a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that: (1) respects intellectual property rights; (2) supports fair compensation to the creators and copyright owners of musical works; and (3) provides a fair and transparent mechanism by which domain names are first available to those entitled to them.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, ASCAP, along with several other music related associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, ASCAP supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community. We believe its application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate a gTLD in a manner that respects and protects songwriters, composers, lyricists and publishers of music and promotes the legitimate enjoyment of music by consumers.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

CC:

John Styll, Far Further Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN



Bogota, Enero 24 de 2013

Sr. Iván Sánchez
Experto Comisionado
Comisión de Regulación de Comunicaciones
Colombia
Email: <u>ivan.sanchez@crcom.gov.co</u>

Mr. William German Torres Lopez
Asesor, Ministro de Tecnologias de la Informacion y Telecomunicaciones. MinTIC
Colombia
Email: william.torres@mintic.gov.co

#### Respetados Señores

Estamos escribiendo esta carta como miembros del sector musical en Colombia, y particularmente de la Asociación Colombiana de Editoras de Musica ACODEM, Entidad sin ánimo de Lucro, cuyo objeto es, entre otros, hacer respetar en Colombia los derechos de autor que asisten a sus Editoras Asociadas, a saber, PEER MUSIC DE COLOMBIA S.A., SONY ATV MUSIC PUBLISHING, UNIVERSAL MUSIC PUBLISHING COLOMBIA, G&C PULISHERS LTDA, FONDO MUSICAL LTDA, DISCOS FUENTES, EDIMUSICA S.A. PRODEMUS COLOMBIA SAS, EDICIONES MUSICALES MVO LTDA, EDITORA COLOMBIANA DE DISCOS, DISCOS DAGO, REDITEM, PILES LTINOAMERICA SAS, EDITORA MANO DE OBRA LTDA, DISCOS EL DORADO LTDA, LITHOMERCANTIL, BALBOA VANDER DE COLOMBIA S.A., COMPANIA COLOMBIANA DE DISCOS-CODISCOS, INDUSTRIAS FONOGRAFICAS EL DORADO LTDA.

Tenemos entendido que varias entidades han aplicado ante la ICANN para desarrollar el proyecto gTLD ".music". Nosotros creemos que este proyecto debe ser desarrollado por una entidad aspirante que tenga el apoyo global de la comunidad musical, y no se le debe dejar simplemente en manos del mejor postor. Es por esto que hemos escrito esta carta, para dar nuestro apoyo a la aplicación de Far Further/.music, para que sea esta entidad quien desarrolle el proyecto.

Far Further/.music ha trabajado varios años con varios miembros del sector músical a nivel global para desarrollar políticas que protejan los derechos de autor.

Far further también tiene el apoyo de mas de 40 organizaciones reconocidas a nivel global que representan a importantes autores, cantantes, editoras, etc alrededor del mundo)

Sabemos que el proyecto de gTLD va a generar nuevas oportunidades para distribuir obras, pero también tiene el potencial de traer serios riesgos y consecuencias para los creadores de música.



Los gobiernos alrededor del mundo han reconocido la existencia de una comunidad musical y han promulgado tratados y leyes para proteger los derechos de autor y garantizar que los artistas, compositores y músicos sean justamente compensados por el uso e interpretación de sus obras. A pesar de estos esfuerzos ha sido supremamente difícil cumplir con este fin en la era del internet.

Esperamos que Colombia tome partido en beneficio de la música de su país con respecto a temas musicales TLDs.

De acuerdo con el principio de servir al interes publico, ICANN va elegir al aspirante que mejor represente los intereses de su respectiva comunidad. Solicitamos gentilmente a ustedes como miembros del Comité Asesor gubernamental de Colombia, que aconsejen a la junta directiva de ICANN en el sentido de dar preferencia a la comunidad musical, con un representante que otorgue seguridad juridica y efectiva gobernabilidad de los derechos que representan los intereses de la comunidad creativa de la cual hacemos parte.

Saludos

SONIA AMAYA R Directora General

CC. Junta Directiva Acodem

Cra. 15A No. 121-12, Of.: 401 Tel.: (571) 619 5931 Fax: 619 5942 Bogotà, Colombia e-mail: dgeneral@acodem.org

www.acodem.org

Subject: ICANN - Far Further's application for .music

Date: March 8, 2013 12:32:02 PM EST

To: steve.crocker@icann.org

Cc: Gustavo Palacio < gustavo.palacio@apdifcolombia.com >



Steve Crocker

c/o ICANN

12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300

Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536

**USA** 

steve.crocker@icann.org

Dear Dr. Crocker:

We are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain

APDIF Colombia, is a non-profit association that includes the main phonographic producers in the country and strive to support the production and create awareness about the cultural value of music.

With this in mind, it is of utmost importance that the .music Top-Level Domain be operated in the best interests of the music community. We believe that the .music gTLD should

be granted to Far Further's .music LLC, which already has the support of the global music community, as evidenced by the unparalleled endorsement from the recognized and established national and international, community-based music organizations.

We want to do our part to ensure that the .music TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not simply auctioned off to the highest bidder. The principals behind Far Further have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, and will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects authors and owners' rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music for everyone. We have carefully reviewed their programs and we are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Therefore, APDIF Colombia supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate the .music gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community.

Sincerely,

Gustavo Adolfo Palacio
Director Ejecutivo
APDIF Colombia
Carrera 14 No. 94 A - 10, Oficina 402
Bogotá D.C. - Colombia
Telf. +57.1.6227226 - 6227363
Mob. +57.3102318871
www.apdifcolombia.com
gustavo.palacio@apdifcolombia.com



Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music- Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

The Association of Independent Music (AIM) would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music-focused gTLD under the string ".music"

AIM is a trade body established in 1999 to provide a collective voice for the UK's independent music industry. AIM represents over 800 member companies, from the largest and most respected labels in the World, to small start-ups and individual artists releasing their own music for the first time. AIM promotes this exciting and diverse sector globally and provides a range of services to members, enabling member companies to grow, grasp new opportunities and break into new markets.

The UK's independent music sector produces some of the most exciting and popular music in the World, and makes a huge contribution to the country's economy. AIM's 800+ members span every musical genre and every corner of the UK. They are a vibrant, entrepreneurial and diverse bunch that has one thing in common: the music comes first.

AIM oversees a sector whose artists have claimed five of the last seven Mercury Music Prizes and regularly accounts for 30% of all UK artist album awards (silver, gold, platinum). AIM's Board is elected democratically by members and regularly rotated, to ensure there is always a fresh and knowledgeable group of experienced industry professionals driving AIM forward.

We are pleased to note that Board members come from large and small companies, many different parts of the UK and all musical genres.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music- themed qTLD reached out to various music-related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement.

Separate due diligence and analysis was carried out on the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, AIM supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music-themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community.

Should you have any questions about this letter or our position, please feel free to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Alison Wenham Chair and CEO



3 May 2012

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter is in support of the Far Further's application to operate a music themed gTLD ('.music').

Australasian Performing Right Association (APRA) is a performing right collection society established in 1926 to administer the public performance and communication rights (often referred to collectively as performing rights) of its songwriter, composer and music publisher members. APRA represents over 69,000 music creators in Australia and New Zealand alone. In addition to representing the interests of its Australasian members, APRA represents the vast majority of the world's music creators through its reciprocal agreements with similar performing right societies throughout the world.

In addition, APRA manages the reproduction rights business of its sister collecting society, AMCOS (Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners' Society). AMCOS represents virtually all music publishers in Australia and New Zealand and, through reciprocal arrangements, the vast majority of the world's composers, writers and music publishers. On behalf of its members, AMCOS grants licences for the reproduction of musical works in certain circumstances. This involves collecting royalties from digital service providers, independent record companies, film-makers, educational institutions and others who record or reproduce music in some form.

Widespread online copyright infringement has had a severe impact the Australian music industry. We agree it is the industry's interest to have the '.music' gTLD allocated to an organisation that will operate in a manner that will proactively assist in attempts to curtail the flood of unlicensed musical content on the internet.

Given the level of positive engagement Far Further has undertaken internationally with our colleagues in the broader music industry, APRA/AMCOS is happy to endorse their application for this music themed gTLD.

BRETT COTTLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

From: Jeremy Fabinyi < jeremy.fabinyi@ampal.com.au > Subject: Re: ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee

Date: January 14, 2013 5:43:29 AM CST

**To:** "Peter.Nettlefold@dbcde.gov.au" <Peter.Nettlefold@dbcde.gov.au> **Cc:** Katharina Obermeier <nina.associate@icmp-ciem.org>, "Ms Catherine

Gerrard " <cgerrard@ampd.com.au>

Attention: Peter Nettlefold

Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

Manager – Internet Governance, IPND and Numbering Team

By Email: Peter.Nettlefold@dbcde.gov.au

Dear Mr. Nettlefold

We are writing in our capacity as a member of the music community in Australia. AMPAL is the trade association for music publishers in Australia and New Zealand.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Far Further/.music LLC has spent years working with key stakeholders from the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protection and membership requirements.

Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognised organisations that represent most professional songwriters, music publishers, artists, musicians and record labels across the world.

While ICANN's new gTLD programme will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognised the

existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to ensure that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work. Despite these efforts, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

We hope that Australia will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string. We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their need for safeguards and governance.

Best regards,

### Jeremy Fabinyi

General Manager AMPAL PO Box 3321, Bellevue Hill NSW 2023.

Tel: (61) (2) 93652062, Mobile 0416 894 757.

E-mail: jeremy.fabinyi@ampal.com.au

Web Site; www.ampal.com.au





Australian Recording Industry Association Ltd. ABN 72 002 692 944 ACN 002 692 944

Level 4, 11-17 Buckingham Street Surry Hills NSW 2010

PO Box Q20 Queen Victoria Building NSW 1230

Telephone: (02) 8569 1144 Facsimile: (02) 8569 1181 Website: www.aria.com.au

1st May 2012

To Whom It May Concern;

Re: Community Support For Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

The Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music-focused gTLD under the string ".music"

The Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) is a national industry association proactively representing the interests of its members, comprising of more than 100 record labels across Australia, ranging from small "boutique" labels, to medium size organisations and very large companies with international affiliates.

ARIA is administered by a Board of Directors comprising senior executives from record companies, both large and small.

ARIA's objective is to advance the interests of the Australian recording industry. ARIA achieves this by:

- acting as an advocate for the recorded music industry, both domestically and internationally
- supporting Australian music, and creating opportunities to help it be heard
- playing an active role in protecting copyright especially in relation to music piracy
- collecting statistical information from members and retailers and compiling numerous ARIA charts with data provided by over 1,100 retailers
- providing, in certain cases, a reproduction licensing function for various copyright users
- assisting those in the music industry through our support of Support Act Limited, the music industry's benevolent fund
- staging the highly prestigious annual ARIA Awards which recognises the achievements of artists in the Australian recorded music industry.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our international peak body (IFPI), along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for an operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in



writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, ARIA supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music-themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects the creator's and owner's rights in their music and promotes the legitimate distribution and consumption of music using executives that have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community.

Should you have any questions about this letter or our position, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**DAN ROSEN** 

Chief Executive Officer



March 30, 2012

Richard Conlon Senior Vice President Corporate Strategy, Communications & New Media

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string "music"

To Whom It May Concern:

BMI would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

Broadcast Music, Inc.® (BMI®), a global leader in music rights management, is an American performing rights organization that represents more than 500,000 songwriters, composers and music publishers in all genres of music and more than 7.5 million musical works. BMI has represented the most popular and beloved music from around the world for more than 70 years. The company provides licenses for businesses that perform music, and distributes the fees it generates as <u>royalties</u> to the musical creators and copyright owners it represents.

Our members' businesses and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has transformed how music is created and how recorded music is consumed. It presents both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online copyright infringement of copyrighted music. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music in a manner that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, BMI supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact Richard Conlon, Senior Vice President, Corporate Strategy Communications and New Media, 212-220-3010, rconlon@bmi.

Sincerely,

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ce

John Styll, Far Further Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN



#### Secrétaire Général

27 March 2012

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

BIEM, the International Bureau of Mechanical Right Societies, would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

BIEM, created in 1929, is an international organisation gathering 52 Mechanical Rights Societies (Members) operating in 56 territories (a list of our Members is available at <a href="www.biem.org">www.biem.org</a>). Our Members are administering recording and mechanical rights of protected musical works, with a view to the efficient administration of those rights. They license the reproduction of songs (including musical, literary and dramatic works). Their members are composers, authors and publishers and their clients are record companies and other users of recorded music. They also license mechanical aspects of the downloading of music via the Internet.

BIEM negotiates a standard agreement with representatives of the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI) fixing the conditions for the use of the repertoire of its Members. BIEM's role is also to assist in technical collaboration between its member societies and to help in solving problems that arise between individual members.

Our members' businesses and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has transformed how music is created and how recorded music is consumed. It presents both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online copyright infringement of copyrighted music. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music in a manner that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

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apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, BIEM supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact Mr Ronald MOOIJ, BIEM Secretary General, 20/26 boulevard du Parc, 92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France- +33 1 55 62 08 40, Ronald.mooij@biem.org.

Sincerely,

Ronald MOOIJ

cc:

John Styll, Far Further Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN

BIEM No. 1228



# Chambre syndicale des Éditeurs de Musique de France

Laurent Ferrali

Chargé de mission Gouvernance de l'Internet et satellites

DGCIS -- Service des Technologies de l'Information

et de la communication

laurent.ferrali@finances.gouv.fr

Paris, le 23 janvier 2013

Objet : gTLD ".music"

Monsieur,

Nous vous écrivons en tant qu'acteurs de la filière musicale française. La Chambre syndicale des Éditeurs de Musique de France (la CEMF, créée il y a 140 ans) regroupe des éditeurs qui consacrent leurs activités à la musique classique et contemporaine ainsi qu'à la pédagogie musicale. Notre activité repose principalement sur l'exploitation de supports graphiques (partitions et matériels d'orchestre).

Nous avons appris que plusieurs structures sont candidates auprès de l'ICANN pour l'attribution du gTLD ".music" et nous espérons que ". music" sera attribué à un candidat unanimement soutenu par la filière musicale, et non pas indifféremment au plus offrant.

C'est pourquoi, nous souhaitons témoigner par la présente de notre soutien à la candidature de la société FarFurther/.music LLC, plébiscitée par notre communauté musicale.

FarFurther/.music LLC a travaillé des années avec des intervenants clés du secteur musical du monde entier pour élaborer des politiques de protection des droits.

FarFurther/.music LLC est également soutenu par plus de 40 organisations internationalement reconnues qui représentent les auteurs, éditeurs de musique, les artistes, les musiciens et les maisons de disques à travers le monde.

Le programme de nouveaux gTLD de l'ICANN va sans aucun doute créer de nouvelles opportunités pour la distribution d'œuvres de création, mais il pourrait également présenter des risques graves pour les créateurs.

1/2

PRÉSIDENT Pierre Lemoine VICE-PRÉSIDENTS François Leduc Claude Duvivier TRÉSORIER Eric Colombain SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRALE Nelly Quérol

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Commerciale: Pierre Lemoine
Juridique: Claude Duvivier
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Les gouvernements du monde entier ont toujours reconnu l'existence d'une communauté mondiale de la musique et ont adopté des traités et des législations pour protéger les œuvres musicales contre les violations du droit d'auteur et pour s'assurer que les artistes, les auteurs-compositeurs et les musiciens soient rémunérés équitablement pour l'utilisation et la représentation de leur travail.

Malgré ces efforts, il a été extrêmement difficile de garantir ces droits dans le secteur d'Internet et nous espérons que la France prendra position au nom de la filière musicale de notre pays en ce qui concerne les TLD.

Conformément à son principe de servir l'intérêt public, l'ICANN doit accorder le TLD au candidat qui représente le mieux les intérêts de la communauté concernée. Dans un contexte compétitif comme celui-ci, une candidature collective nous semble la plus pertinente.

Nous demandons au GAC d'émettre un avis aux administrateurs de l'ICANN afin de préférer les candidatures collectives fondées sur ce principe plutôt que de se baser uniquement sur un système de points qui pourrait aller à l'encontre des besoins de garanties et de gouvernance des acteurs d'une communauté logique et légitime.

Je vous prie de croire, Monsieur, en l'expression de mes sincères salutations.

Pierre Lemoine Président



CHURCH MUSIC PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION P. O. BOX 158992 NASHVILLE, TN 37215 (615) 791-0273 FAX (615) 790-8847 EMAIL cmpa@comcast.net

DIANE S. COBB, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY J. RUSH HICKS, JR., LEGAL COUNSEL

April 6, 2012

ICANN

Attn. Stephen Crocker 4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330 Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601 USA

Re-

Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application For a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

#### To Whom It May Concern:

The Church Music Publishers' Association would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

The Church Music Publishers' Association (CMPA) is an organization of religious music publishers founded in 1926 that works to support and promote worldwide copyright protection and education. Among CMPA's 55 member companies are nondenominational independent publishers, as well as the major denominational publishing companies for various churches. The wide range of sacred, gospel and contemporary Christian music products created and licensed by CMPA companies include hymnal and praise songs, and choral, instrumental, handbell, keyboard and children's music.

Our members' businesses and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has transformed how musical compositions and recorded music is created and consumed. It presents both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online copyright infringement of copyrighted music. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music community and economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music in a manner that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

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In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, CMPA supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owners' rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact me at eraymer@comcast.net.

Sincerely,

Elwyn Raymer President/CEO

CMPA Action Fund

cc:

John Styll, Far Further Rush Hicks, CMPA counsel

Steve Shorney, CMPA President

From: Heinz Stroh < heinz.stroh@musikverbaende.de >

Subject: Top-Level- Domain ".music"
Date: January 23, 2013 8:57:48 AM CST
To: "Hubert.Schoettner@bmwi.bund.de"
<Hubert.Schoettner@bmwi.bund.de>

Sehr geehrter Herr Schöttner,

der Deutsche Musikverleger-Verband ist die berufsständische Organisation der Musikverlage in Deutschland. Mit dieser Mail wenden wir uns als deutsches Mitglied der ICMP an Sie. ICMP (International Confederation of Music Publishers) ist die weltweite Organisation der Musikverlegerverbände.

Konkret geht es um die internationale Top-Level- Domain ".music". Wie uns mitgeteilt wurde, haben verschiedene Organisationen bei der ICANN diese Endung beantragt. Wir sind der Auffassung, dass die Endung ".music" für denjenigen zur Verfügung gestellt werden sollte, der weltweit die Musikbranche repräsentiert und nicht an ein Unternehmen, das den höchsten Betrag bietet. Deswegen möchten wir mit diesem Schreiben ausdrücklich die Firma Far Further/.music LLC unterstützen, die einen entsprechenden Antrag auf die Vergabe der Domain-Endung ".music" gestellt hat.

Far Further/.music LLC arbeitet seit vielen Jahren weltweit mit allen Rechteinhabern aus dem Bereich der Musik zusammen, um eine Strategie zu entwickeln, mit der die kreativen Leistungen der Musiker und Urheber geschützt werden sollen. Das Unternehmen wird von mehr als 40 international anerkannten Organisationen, die die Urheber, Künstler, Musiker, Musikverleger und Plattenfirmen weltweit vertreten, unterstützt.

Das Projekt der ICANN, neue Domain-Endungen zu vergeben, bietet sicherlich viele neue Möglichkeiten, urheberrechtlich geschützte Werke zu verbreiten, allerdings bestehen dabei jedoch auch für die Urheber und deren Partner große Risiken. International haben viele Regierungen auch durch Gesetzgebung und entsprechende Verträge anerkannt, wie wichtig es für einen globalen Musikmarkt ist, Urheberrechte zu schützen und dafür Sorge zu tragen, dass die Autoren und Musiker für die Nutzung ihrer Werke angemessen vergütet werden. Trotz dieser internationalen Bemühungen hat

sich jedoch gezeigt, dass es im Internet-Zeitalter in der Praxis sehr schwierig ist, die Urheberrechte durchzusetzen.

Wir hoffen, dass Sie als Vertreter Deutschlands die Musikbranche in dem Bestreben unterstützen, die Domain-Endung ".music" für die Musikbranche zu sichern.

Gerade vor dem Hintergrund, dass die ICANN ihre Tätigkeit im öffentlichen Interesse ausüben sollte, plädieren wir dafür, dass derjenige die entsprechenden Top-Level- Domains organisiert, der die Interessen der entsprechenden Branche vertritt. Wir würden uns deshalb sehr freuen, wenn Sie unser Anliegen in den Verhandlungen des Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) unterstützen und Ihren Einfluss entsprechend geltend machen könnten.

Sollten von Ihrer Seite aus noch Fragen bestehen, stehen wir Ihnen gern zur Verfügung.

Für eine Stellungnahme zu unserem Vorschlag bzw. unserer Bitte wären wir sehr dankbar.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Deutscher Musikverleger-Verband e.V. Geschäftsführung

Dr. Heinz Stroh

Friedrich-Wilhelm-Str. 31 53113 Bonn Tel. 0228/539700 Fax 0228/5397070

E-Mail: heinz.stroh@musikverbaende.de

www.dmv-online.com

## Deutsche Orchestervereinigung e.V.

Der Geschäftsführer



Deutsche Orchestervereinigung e. V. · PF 02 12 75 · 10124 Berlin

Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Technologie Herrn Hubert Schöttner Scharnhorststr. 34 – 37 10115 Berlin

AZ: Gen 300a/go

29. Januar 2013

Dear Mr. Schöttner,

we are writing as a concerned member of the music community in Germany.

The German Orchestra Union [Deutsche Orchestervereinigung (DOV)] is the professional association and union of members of professional orchestras, radio choirs and radio big bands in Germany. Nearly all of the musicians in some 150 professional ensembles are members of the DOV.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Prior to submitting its application, Far Further/.music LLC spent years working with the representative stakeholders from within the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protections and membership requirements that not only serve the common interest of the global music community and meet or exceed ICANN's guidelines, but also are balanced with the needs of the Internet user and music lover.

In addition to the support of the global noncommercial sector represented by the International Federation of Musicians and others, Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognized organizations that represent virtually every professional songwriter, music publisher, artist, musician and record label in the world. This is an unprecedented demonstration of unity and support from the global music community.

Music is a protected and regulated sector in most countries throughout the world, where the royalty rates are controlled by government statute. While ICANN's new gTLD program will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognized the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright

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infringement and to preserve music creators' livelihoods by insuring that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work.

Despite these internationally recognized laws and regulations, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

It would be our hope that Germany will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string.

We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to truly give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their critical need for safeguards and governance.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our thoughts with you.

Best Regards,

Gerald Mertens

ÇEO.



European Music Council, Haus der Kultur, Weberstr. 59a, D-53113 Bonn

To whom it may concern

#### **Letter of Support**

We are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

The European Music Council (EMC) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the development and promotion of all kinds of music in Europe. It is a network for representatives of both national music councils and European organisations involved in the fields of music education, creation, performance and heritage. It was founded in 1972 as the European regional group of the International Music Council (IMC). The EMC contributes to a better mutual understanding amongst people and their different cultures, and promotes the right for their musical

people and their different cultures, and promotes the right for their musical cultures to coexist. It acknowledges the significant role that music and culture play in the political and societal development of a peaceful and integrative Europe. Therefore it advocates on local, national and European levels for an appropriate framework, respecting equal rights and opportunities for music, music professionals and access to music. The European Music Council serves its members by advocating for the societal and political significance of musical diversity in Europe and, hence, plays a key role in supporting the European communities that want to celebrate their music.

The EMC is a membership organisation, acting as a stakeholder for the European music sector including all kinds of musical genres on different levels. The 81 member organisations are based in 29 European countries, as such, the EMC reaches out directly and indirectly to more than 40 million music lovers across Europe.

In line with the IMC's 5 Musical Rights, the EMC's strategies and actions honour human and cultural rights such as:

- the right for all children and adults to express themselves musically in full freedom;
- the right for all children and adults to learn musical languages and skills;
- the right for all children and adults to have access to musical involvement through participation, listening, creation and information;
- the right for musical artists to develop their artistry and communicate through all media, with appropriate facilities at their disposal;
- the right for musical artists to obtain fair recognition and remuneration for their work.

EMC - European Music Council

Haus der Kultur Weberstraße 59 a 53113 Bonn Germany

Tel +49 (0)228/966996-64 Fax +49 (0)228/966996-65

info@emc-imc.org www.emc-imc.org In line with these five music rights, it is of utmost importance that the music-themed generic top-level domains are operated in accordance with these rights. We would like to emphasise the importance that online content that is non-profit, community-based, and musically diverse has access to this domain. We understand that Far Further intends to apply for the .music TLD and we trust that Far Further will operate .music with the highest degree of integrity, while promoting and protecting the diversity of musical expressions worldwide. We have carefully reviewed their programs and we are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Simone Dudt,

Secretary General

European Music Council



Ressort 3 Medien – Kunst – Industrie Fachgruppe Musik Vereinte Dienstleistungsgewerkschaft

Bundesverwaltung

ver.di • Fachgruppe Musik • Postfach • 10112 Berlin Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Technologie Herrn Hubert Schöttner Deutscher Vertreter im Regierungsbeirat GAC bei der ICANN Scharnhorststraße 34-37 10115 Berlin

Paula-Thiede-Ufer 10 10179 Berlin **Dirk von Kügelgen** Fachgruppenleiter

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PC-Fax: +49.1805.8373431-2333

Mobil: +49.170.1668223

 $musik@verdi.de \mid dirk.vonkuegelgen@verdi.de$ 

http://musik.verdi.de

Datum 28. Januar 2013

Ihre Zeichen Unsere Zeichen

vKü

gTLD ».music.«

Sehr geehrter Herr Schöttner, Dear Mr. Schöttner,

We are writing as a concerned member of the music community in Germany. Our mission supports the development sustainable music sectors worldwide, to create awareness about the value of music, to make music matter in all social fabric.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ».music.« It is our position that ».music« should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Prior to submitting its application, Far Further/.music LLC spent years working with the representative stakeholders from within the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protections and membership requirements that not only serve the common interest of the global music community and meet or exceed ICANN's guidelines, but also are balanced with the needs of the Internet user and music lover.

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Music is a protected and regulated sector in most countries throughout the world, where the royalty rates are controlled by government statute. While ICANN's new gTLD program will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

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Ressort 3 Medien – Kunst – Industrie Fachgruppe Musik Vereinte Dienstleistungsgewerkschaft

Bundesverwaltung

Governments around the world have consistently recognized the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to preserve music creators' livelihoods by insuring that

artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work.

Despite these internationally recognized laws and regulations, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

It would be our hope that Germany will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

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We hereby request the GAC to issue »advice« to the ICANN Board to truly give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their critical need for safeguards and governance.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our thoughts with you.

Best Regards,

mit freundlichen Grüßen

Dirk von Kügelgen Fachgruppenleiter



P.O. Box 171269 | Austin, Texas 78717 Phone 877.570.1651 info@guitarfoundation.org www.guitarfoundation.org

February 1, 2012

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Martha Masters (President) Brian Head (Artistic Director) Jeff Cogan (VP) Carol Sanders (Treasurer) Robert Lane (Secretary)

Executive Director: Galen Wixson

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of our members, we are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

Our organization, the Guitar Foundation of America, was founded in 1973 with the mission of "inspiring artistry, building community, and promoting the classical guitar internationally through excellence in performance, literature, education and research." We represent classical guitarists from not only the United States but internationally as well. Our membership stands at approximately 2,000 and includes professional performers, teachers, composers, students, and accomplished amateurs.

The protection of intellectual property rights is vitally important to our members. For that reason, we wish to be involved in the formation of a top-level .music domain so that our members are ensured that their own creative output is recognized by the legitimate music community. We understand that Far Further intends to apply for the .music TLD. The leadership team of Far Further is well-known in the music community, and so our confidence in their ability to administer the .music domain with integrity is high. We therefore grant our endorsement to Far Further/.music of their application to operate the .music domain.

Sincerely

Galen Wixson
Executive Director



March 6, 2014

#### To Whom It May Concern:

The Harry Fox Agency, Inc. (HFA) would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

HFA was established in 1927 by the National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA) to act as an information source, clearinghouse and monitoring service for licensing musical copyrights. HFA is now the nation's leading provider of rights management, licensing and royalty services for the music industry. HFA represents over 48,000 affiliated publishers for the use of music in both physical and digital distribution formats, and on their behalf, issues the largest number of mechanical licenses in the U.S.

The digital revolution and explosive growth of the Internet has had a profound impact on the music industry. It offers a vast opportunity for new and innovative methods of music consumption and delivery to emerge. However, as these methods proliferate so has the amount of unlicensed, downloadable music available to music consumers. Online copyright infringement is widespread and is a detriment to our publishers, as well as to the greater music community. In the last decade, as a result of this widespread infringement, music sales have declined year-over-year. This decline has a direct financial impact on our publishers and we therefore support the creation of a .music gTLD that will support the protection of artist's and owner's intellectual property rights.

Based on the recommendation of our parent organization, the NMPA, and of our knowledge of Far Further's leadership, HFA supports and endorses Far Further's application to operate a music themed gTLD ".music".

If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (212) 834-0115.

Very truly yours,

Christos P. Badavas



Brussels, 10th April 2012

To whom it may concern

Re: Music Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC)
Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

IMPALA, the Independent Music Companies Association, would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

IMPALA is a not-for-profit trade organisation representing the European independent music label community in the areas of advocacy, commerce opportunities and member services, more details of our activities can be found on <a href="www.impalamusic.org">www.impalamusic.org</a>. IMPALA was established in 2000 to ensure that independent music labels, all of whom are small and medium size enterprises (SME's) were properly represented in the music community so they would not have to endure the business barriers to entry that occurred in the old music in the emerging new digital economy.

IMPALA's membership is made up of more than 4,000 Independent music labels located across Europe that have banded together to form a central voice advocating for the health of the Independent music sector. Our membership includes independent music label leaders like Beggars Group, PIAS Entertainment Group, Epitaph Europe, Rough Trade Benelux, Naïve and !K7 but it should be noted that our membership is not just made up of these market leaders. IMPALA membership also includes music labels of varying sizes (in terms of staffing, number of releases and revenues), and varying genres. Many of our member labels are located across Europe, in addition to the traditional London, Paris and Berlin music bases. For example we have members like CLS Music in Hungary, Playground Music in Scandinavia, Musikvertrieb in Switzerland, Pitch Black Records in Cyprus, or Anaconda Records in Poland, as well as representative national associations in Norway (FONO), Finland (Indieco), Italy (PMI), Spain (UFI), Israel (PIL) and Denmark (DUP) among others.

All of our label members have one thing in common: they are small business people with a love for music who are trying to make a living and compensate their artists and generate and maintain jobs.

Our members, as small creators whose sector comprises over 20% of European recorded music sales, are having their livelihoods challenged by unauthorized unpaid content acquisition over the Internet. Independent music labels are not luddites and the Internet has been the great equalizer for us on our ability to market, promote, monetise and introduce new music. The Internet has opened up countless opportunities for us and we would not do anything to jeopardise this improved access. Additionally, our members have embraced new business models that allow for efficient distribution of music, such as the licensing of free-to-the user streaming services and webcasting, one price per month subscription services, bundled mobile services, etc. We honestly feel there is no other industry that has embraced new forms of economic and delivery models as completely as the music industry. Our members also, on their own terms, give away free content to reward existing fans and cultivate new fans of their label's artists. However against this backdrop widespread copyright infringement has been to

the detriment of our members specifically and to the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a focused interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that only allows authorised dissemination of music and provides for the financial and legal resources to run the music gTLD within fair enforcement provision guidelines that protect intellectual property creators.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organisation, along with many other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its proposed registrar requirements, its financial and technical capabilities to operate the gTLD operations and many other areas. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions.

Based on the above, the music creator community group involved decided to endorse the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music creator community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community and IMPALA is supporting the group's consensus decision as a member of the music creator community. We are hopeful that Far Further will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions please contact me at the below address.

Sincerely,

Helen Smith Executive Chair

IMPALA

70 Coudenberg 1000 Brussels

Belgium

+32 2 503 31 38

hsmith@impalamusic.org

Ade TK Smith

www.impalamusic.org

cc:

John Styll, Far Further Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN







V. J. Lazarus
President

11<sup>th</sup> April 2012

# To Whom It May Concern

Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

IMI would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

IMI - representing the recording industry in India with some 200 members. IMI is a not for profit members organisation registered in Kolkata. It operates a Secretariat currently based in Mumbai and has regional offices in Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Kerala, Hyderabad, and Chandigarh. IMI's mission is to promote the value of recorded music, safeguard the rights of record producers and expand the commercial uses of recorded music. Any company, firm or person producing sound recordings or music videos which are made available to the public in reasonable quantities is eligible for membership of IMI. IMI is responsible for co-ordinating national and international strategies in the key areas of the organisation's work - anti-piracy enforcement, lobbying of governments and representation in international organisations, legal strategies, litigation and public relations. It is also the recording industry's most authoritative source of market research and information, providing a comprehensive range of global industry statistics.

Our members' businesses and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has transformed how music is created and how recorded music is consumed. It presents both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online copyright infringement of copyrighted music. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music in a manner that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

IMI : INDIAN MUSIC INDUSTRY

PPL: PHONOGRAPHIC PERFORMANCE LIMITED

Crescent Towers, 7th Floor, B-68, Veera Estate, Andheri (west), Mumbai 400 053, India, Tel : 91 (22) 2673 6301/02/03 Fax : 91 (22) 2673 6304

IFP1

: INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE PHONOGRAPHIC INDUSTRY IFPI Secretariat, 54 Regent Street, London Wib 5re, United Kingdom.

DIRECT: E-mail: vijay.lazarus@indianmi.org Tel: 91 (22) 2673 6547 Fax: 91 (22) 2673 3872







V. J. Lazarus President

Based on the above and the endorsement by IFPI, IMI supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact Vijay Lazarus, President, IMI, Crescent Towers, 7th floor, B-68, Veera Estate, Off New Link Road, Andheri (W), Mumbai 4000 053, India

Yours sincerely,

Vijay Lazarus President - IMI

IMI : INDIAN MUSIC INDUSTRY

PPL: PHONOGRAPHIC PERFORMANCE LIMITED

Crescent Towers, 7th Floor, B-68, Veera Estate, Andheri (west), Mumbai 400 053. India. Tel : 91 (22) 2673 6301/02/03 Fax : 91 (22) 2673 6304

IFPI

: INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE PHONOGRAPHIC INDUSTRY

IFPI Secretariat, 54 Regent Street, London Wib 5re, United Kingdom.

DIRECT: E-mail: vijay.lazarus@indianmi.org Tel: 91 (22) 2673 6547 Fax: 91 (22) 2673 3872



# The Indian Performing Right Society Limited

Regd. Office: 208, Golden Chambers, 2nd Floor, New Andheri Link Road, Andheri (W), Mumbai - 400 053.

Tel: (022) 2673 3748 / 49 / 50 / 6618. Fax.: (022) 2673 6658. E-mail: admin@ipraltd.com • Visit us at: www.iprs.org

Ref.IPRS:SHE:RK:002:2012

9th April, 2012

#### To Whomsoever It May Concern

The Indian Performing Right Society Limited (IPRS) supports the proposal (which has been sent to us by Far Further/ .music LLC) for the creation of a generic Top Level Domain which is to be .music.

The Government of India has licensed IPRS (<a href="www.iprsltd.com">www.iprsltd.com</a>) as the sole Copyright Society to collect fees for performing rights in musical, literary and dramatic works throughout India, under the provisions of the Copyright Act 1957. We have reciprocal arrangements with over 100 other societies in as many countries. Our membership includes most of the leading composers, songwriters and music publishers in India: the full list is available on our website.

We have offices in Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai and representatives in all the major cities in the country, and machinery for regularly monitoring the public performance (live, recorded or broadcast) of our members' works and we have acquired long experience of the problems of collecting licence fees for our members. In India as elsewhere, the Internet compounds this problem hugely. In India, where broadband coverage though still limited is growing exponentially, we welcome all means of facilitating consumers of music to identify legitimate sources, and anything which simplifies consumer education and rights enforcement is very welcome to us.

It encourages us that Far Further/ .music/LLC's application for the .music gTLD has gathered so much global support. We join in supporting the proposal with the confident expectation that through their .music proposal Far Further/ .music LLC will (a) provide the music business with an identifiable, dedicated platform for music sourced from legitimate players; (b) will facilitate the enforcement of intellectual property rights by (in practice) creating a presumptive association between .music and legitimate sources of music; and (c) promoting music and music education in general.

Yours Sincerely,

For The Indian Performing Right Society Limited

Rakesh Nigam Chief Executive Officer

Administrative Office - North 8 317, Som Dat Chamber 1, 5.8hikaji Camb Place, New Delhi - 110 066, 7st. : (011) 2610 1556 - Telefax : 2610 1572 E-mail : delhioffice © joraba.com Administrative Office - East Room No 2 & S., Asian Hotel P-38, Princep Street, Kolkatta - 750 072 \* Tel.: (033) 4005 4450 Telefax: 4005 4453 \* E-mail: kolkattacffice/Biprsht.com Administrative Office - South Paran Paradise, Resi. Apts., D-1 Block B, End Floor. 109, G.N. Road, T. Nagar, Chennal - 600 017 - Taletax : (044) 2834 1056. E-mail : chennaloffice Bloratid.com Stan Zdonik Chairperson/Pusident Boston Bluegrass Union

> Jon Weisberger Vice-Chair

Ron Cox Avenue Bank At Large/Treasurer

Dan Keen Belmont University At Large/Secretary

Cindy Baseons Kree Drep In Bluegrass Broadcast Media

Alison Brown Compass Records Recording Distribution/Marketing

> Mike Buh Artists/Composers/Publishers

> > Donica Christensen Sugar Hill Records At Large

Janet Davis Janet Davis Masic Company Merchandisers/Lathiers

> Craig Ferguson Planet Bluegrass Event Production

Jeremy Garrett The Infamous Stringhoters Artists/Componers/Publishers

> Ctaig Havighurst String Theory Media Print/Media/Education

Carl Jackson Arcists/Compresers/Publishera

Rienk Janssen European Bhaggrass Music Association International

> Don Light Don Light Telent At Large

Todd Mayo Bluegrass Underground/Masic City Roots At Large

> Jim Roe Roe Entertainmene Agents/Managers/Publicists

> > Neil Rosenberg At Large

Dwight Worden San Diego Bluegross Society Associations

STAFF

Dan Haya
Executive Director
Nancy Cardwell
Spacial Projects
Jill Craberee
Convention/Member Services
Jens Norburg
Administrative Assistant

2 Music Circle South Suite 100 Nashville, TN 37203 USA 615-256-3222 phone 615-256-0450 fax ibma@ibma.org www.ibma.org March 26, 2012



Re: INTERNATIONAL BLUEGRASS MUSIC ASSOCIATION Support For The Application Of .Music LLC, A Subsidiary Of Far Further LLC for the gTLD .music

Dear ICANN

I'm writing on behalf of the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) in support of the application of the applying entity ".music LLC, a subsidiary of Far Further LLC" for the gTLD string ".music."

IBMA is a 501(C)(6) non-profit trade organization incorporated in Kentucky with headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee. IBMA has approximately 2000+ members in all 50 states and 30 countries. In addition, there are local and regional bluegrass music associations throughout North America and elsewhere in the world representing tens of thousands of bluegrass musicians and fans which are either organizational members of IBMA or which otherwise work cooperatively with IBMA in promoting bluegrass music internationally. The IBMA mission is:

IBMA: Working together for high standards of professionalism, a greater appreciation for our music, and the success of the worldwide bluegrass community.

IBMA's five-member executive committee has considered the application of .music LLC and , and voted to support it. This vote of support from the executive committee was transmitted to all 19 members of the IBMA Board giving them an opportunity to object. Following this process, the decision was confirmed to support the application. While some expressed uncertainty as to whether new gTLD's like .music are actually needed, on the understanding that the decision has already been made to create a gTLD for .music, IBMA's decision to support the application of .music LLC for that gTLD was unanimous.

If there is to be a new .music gTLD, IBMA supports that it be administered by a quality organization with broad based support from the worldwide music community across a variety of genres and .music LLC meets those requirements. IBMA is pleased to add its name to the long list of other music organizations in support of this application.

You may contact IBMA for further information at our office in Nashville: 2 Music Circle South, Suite 100 / Nashville, TN 37203 USA. Phone: 615-256-3222 / Fax: 615-256-0450 / Toll Free: 1-888-438-4262 info@ibma.org. You can also read more about IBMA and our many programs on our web site at: <a href="http://www.ibma.org">http://www.ibma.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Stan Zdonik IBMA President



### COU12-0539

Neuilly sur Seine, 02/04/2012

By e-mail: pz@farfurther.com

is@farfurther.com

To Whom It May Concern

**Dear Sirs** 

Re: Application to operate a generic Top Level Domain ("gTLD")

CISAC, the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers, was founded in 1926. It is an international non-governmental, non-profit organisation with headquarters in Paris and with regional representation in Europe, Asia-Pacific and South America, as well as in Africa. CISAC has a membership of 232 author societies in 121 countries. In 2011, CISAC's members collected approximately 7.5 billion Euros in royalties. Indirectly representing more than 3 million creators (namely authors, composers and publishers), and embracing all of the creative repertoires, the CISAC world brings together audio-visual media, music, drama, literature as well as the graphic and visual arts. For further information please kindly refer to the CISAC website www.cisac.org.

CISAC works towards the increased recognition and protection of creators' rights. It supports any initiative which it believes will uphold the principles of copyright and will operate effectively to protect its members and the general community from copyright infringement. CISAC therefore has an interest, relating to the specific area of music themed gTLD's, in the creation of the .music gTLD. CISAC is of the view that the creation of such gTLD will assist in the establishment of an internet address which promotes music for the benefit of the global community and protects the intellectual property of rights holders.

Over several months, CISAC and other interested music industry associations ("Associations") were approached by applicants which were each seeking the support and endorsement of their applications to operate a gTLD under the domain ".music" ("Applicants). The Associations, realising the importance of their collective support for one applicant, conducted thorough research into the business and the intended operations of the Applicants. These investigations included the soliciting of information by the Associations on the plans, business models, finances and staffing levels of the Applicants. As a result of its research, CISAC is pleased, as one of the Associations, to support the application of Far Further to operate a generic top level domain under the domain ".music". It is hoped that such support will allow Far Further to achieve its stated aim of managing, and bringing together the global music community and the internet.

We hope that the contents of this letter provide you with sufficient background on CISAC's support for the application of Far Further. However, if there is any other information which would be of use to you when considering such application, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Olivier Hinnewinkel Director General



Brussels, March 28, 2012

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music-Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

### To Whom It May Concern:

ICMP would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music-focused gTLD under the string ".music".

ICMP is the world trade association representing the interests of the music publishing community internationally. The constituent members of ICMP are music publishers' associations from Europe, the Middle East, North and South America, Africa and Asia-Pacific. Included are the leading independent international, regional and national music publishers, mainly SMEs, throughout the world. A list of our members is available at <a href="www.icmp-ciem.org">www.icmp-ciem.org</a>. As the global trade association representing music publishers, and the community of composers and songwriters, one of our key missions is to protect and promote copyright.

Our members' businesses and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has transformed how music is created and consumed. It presents both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online copyright infringement of copyrighted sheet music and lyrics. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of music publishers, composers and songwriters specifically and to the music economy generally. We have, therefore, a vested interest in ensuring that any music-themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music and that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music-themed gTLD reached out to various music-related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organisation, along with several other music-related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music-themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, inter alia, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis was carried out on the respondents and their proposed plans.

P.O. Box 80 Sonnhalde 5 8602 Wangen/ZH Switzerland www.icmp-ciem.org



Based on the above, ICMP supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music-themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects authors and owners' rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter or our position, please feel free to contact me.

Yours faithfully,



**Ger Hatton DIRECTOR GENERAL** 

ICMP, the global voice of music publishing 37 Sq. de Meeus 1000 Brussels +32 2 7917568 ger.hatton@icmp-ciem.org

www.icmp-ciem.org

cc: John Styll, Far Further
Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN

P.O. Box 80 Sonnhalde 5 8602 Wangen/ZH Switzerland www.icmp-ciem.org



Steve Crocker
ICANN
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536
USA
steve.crocker@icann.org

Brussels, 9 January 2013

Dear Dr. Crocker,

I am writing to you in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

ICMP is the world trade association representing the interests of music publishers everywhere. The constituent members of ICMP are music publishers' associations from Europe, the Middle East, North and South America, Africa and Asia-Pacific. Included are the leading independent international, regional and national music publishers, mainly SMEs, throughout the world, as well as the multinational music publishing companies. Music publishers' role is to nurture and promote artists and help them find a commercial outlet for their work. As the global trade association representing the music publishing industry our key mission is to protect and promote copyright. It is of utmost importance therefore that the .music Top-Level Domain be operated in the best interests of the music community.

We believe that the .music gTLD should be granted to Far Further's .music LLC, which has the full support of the wider global music community, as evidenced by an unparalleled endorsement from the recognised and established national, international and community-based music organisations across the world. We want to ensure that the .music gTLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not simply auctioned off to the highest bidder.

The people behind Far Further have deep knowledge and experience of the music community, and will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects rightsholders' rights in copyrighted music while promoting the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music for everyone. We have carefully reviewed their programmes and we are confident of their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Therefore, ICMP, and its members throughout the world\*, supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate the .music gTLD for the music community, under the string ".music", for the benefit of us all.

Yours sincerely,



Ger Hatton
Director General

\*Australia AMPAL Austria MUO Belgium MusicPublishers.be Canada APEM/PMPA Canada CMPA Croatia MPA Czech Republic SČHN Denmark DMFF Finland FMPA France CEMF France CSDEM Germany DMV Greece MPA Hungary HMPA Ireland MPAI Italy FEM Japan MPAJ Korea KMPA Netherlands VMN Norway NMFF Poland PMPA Portugal AEOM Portugal VIMÚSICA Romania MPA Slovenia SiPA South Africa NORM Spain OPEM Sweden SMFF Switzerland MPA CH Turkey MEDDER UAE MEMPA UK MPA UK US MPA US US NMPA International BMG Rights Management International IMPA International Sony/ATV/EMI Music Publishing International Universal Music Publishing International Warner Chappell Music Publishing Argentina CAEM Brazil UBEM Bulgaria Animato Music Publishing Bulgaria Schubert Music Publishing Bulgaria Virginia Publishing Chile UMP Colombia ACODEM Cyprus MMG HQ India Deep Emotion Israel EMI Israel Media Men Group Latvia MicRec Latvia Musika Baltika Lebanon Rotana Mexico EMMAC Russia S.B.A. MP Itd Serbia RICom Turkey Muzikotek - representing over 8,000 publishers worldwide.



Mr Andrea Glorioso
Policy Officer
Directorate-General for Communication Networks, Content and Technology
European Commission
Berlaymont
B-1049 Brussels

Brussels, 10 January 2013

Dear Mr Glorioso,

We are writing to you in your capacity as a member of the Governmental Advisory Committee to ICANN regarding the process of awarding the gTLD ".music".

ICMP is the world trade association representing the interests of the music publishing community internationally. The constituent members of ICMP are music publishers' associations from Europe, the Middle East, North and South America, Africa and Asia-Pacific. Included are the leading independent international, regional and national music publishers, mainly SMEs, throughout the world, as well as multinational music publishing companies. As music publishers our role is to nurture and promote artists and to find a commercial outlet for their work. As the global trade association representing the music publishing industry one of our key missions is to protect and promote copyright.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application. Far Further/.music LLC has spent years working with key stakeholders from the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protection and membership requirements.

Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 of the internationally-recognised organisations that represent most of the professional songwriters, music publishers, artists, musicians and record labels across the world.

While ICANN's new gTLD programme will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators. Governments around the world have consistently recognised the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to ensure that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work. Despite these efforts, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

We hope that the EU will take a stand on behalf of the European music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string.

We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their need for safeguards and governance.

With kind regards,

-

Ger Hatton Director General www.fim-musicians.com



21 bis, rue Victor Massé F-75009 Paris Tel. +33 (0)145 263 123 Fax +33 (0)145 263 157 office@fim-musicians.com Paris, April 11, 2012

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The International Federation of Musicians (FIM) would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the strong .music.

FIM, founded in 1948, is the only international nongovernmental organisation for musicians' unions, guilds and professional associations. It is counting about 70 members in 65 countries.

For many years now, FIM has been recognised as an international NGO (non-governmental organisation) in the eyes of diverse intergovernmental organisations operating in its field of activity, in particular WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organisation), UNESCO, the ILO (International Labour Organisation), as well as the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of Europe.

FIM plays a crucial role in international negotiations dealing with performers' rights. It was one of the driving forces in the adoption in 1961 of the Rome Convention – first international treaty to grant intellectual property rights to performers – and participated actively in the negotiations of the WPPT (WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty) adopted in December 1996.

It took part in the negotiation of several European Directives in the field of IP, as well as in the revision of certain national legislations. It drew up the founding principles of collective management of performers' rights and initiated, alongside unions, the setting-up of numerous collecting societies managing performers' rights.

FIM is involved as an expert in certain works carried out by the International Labour Office, in particular on the protection of casual and free-lance workers. It contributed to the drawing-up of the UNESCO *Recommendation on the status of the artist* (1980, Belgrade).

FIM's main objective is to protect and further the economic, social and artistic interests of musicians represented by its member unions. This includes

- Encouraging and assisting in the organisation of musicians in all countries,
- Uniting musicians' unions throughout the world,
- Promoting national and international protective legislations in the interests of musicians,
- Protecting members of the music profession against the illicit use of their performances, recorded or otherwise
- Entering into agreements with other international organizations in the interests of member unions and of the profession,
- Use all efforts to make music a heritage common to all people, taking into account the preservation of national and regional identities to foster inter-cultural dialogue.

A music-focused gTLD is an opportunity for FIM, its members and the musicians they represent, in terms of enhanced visibility, increased cultural diversity and of an environment that is supportive of copyright and related rights. We trust that Far Further, with its experience and knowledge of the music community, will be able to operate the gTLD with the desired efficiency, in full respect of the musicians' rights and interests.

Yours sincerely.

Benoît Machuel General Secretary

# Frances Moore Chief Executive Officer



10th April 2012

To Whom It May Concern

Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

IFPI would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

IFPI - representing the recording industry worldwide with some 1400 members in 66 countries and affiliated industry associations in 45 countries. IFPI is a not for profit members organisation registered in Switzerland. It operates a Secretariat currently based in London and has regional offices in Brussels, Hong Kong and Miami. IFPI's mission is to promote the value of recorded music, safeguard the rights of record producers and expand the commercial uses of recorded music. Any company, firm or person producing sound recordings or music videos which are made available to the public in reasonable quantities is eligible for membership of IFPI. IFPI is responsible for co-ordinating international strategies in the key areas of the organisation's work - anti-piracy enforcement, lobbying of governments and representation in international organisations, legal strategies, litigation and public relations. It is also the recording industry's most authoritative source of market research and information, providing a comprehensive range of global industry statistics.

IFPI's regional offices for Asia, Europe and Latin America are responsible for implementing IFPI's strategies at regional level, co-ordinating the work of national groups and setting lobbying priorities tailored to the political environment in their regions. IFPI's office in Brussels is the recording industry's representation to the European Union. It interacts directly with the EU institutions and coordinates the industry's representation throughout Europe. IFPI's Regional Office for Asia is located in Hong Kong, with additional offices in China and Singapore. It co-ordinates the region's lobbying activities and legal strategies. IFPI Latin America, has an executive office in Miami and co-ordinates the region's lobbying, anti-piracy and communication activities.

IFPI Secretariat 10 Piccadilly London WIJ 0DD United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 7878 7919 Fax: +44 (0)20 7878 7960 e-mail: frances.moore@ifpl.org www.ifpl.org Our members' businesses and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has transformed how music is created and how recorded music is consumed. It presents both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online copyright infringement of copyrighted music. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music in a manner that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, IFPI supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact Frances Moore, CEO, IFPI, 10 Piccadilly, London, W1J 0DD, 020 7878 7900.

Yours sincerely,

Frances Moore

IFPI Chief Executive Officer
Representing the Recording Industry Worldwide

representing the recording meaning managery re-

cc: John Styll President Far Further 179 Belle Forest Circle, Suite 104 Nashville, TN. 37221 USA Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN ICANN 4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330 Marina del Rey, California 90292-6601 USA



6 March 2013

Steve Crocker c/o ICANN 12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536 USA steve.crocker@icann.org

BY EMAIL & BY POST

Dear Dr. Crocker,

We are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

IFPI (International Federation of the Phonographic Industry) represents the recording industry worldwide, with a membership comprising some 1400 record companies in 66 countries and affiliated industry associations in 56 countries. IFPI Asian Regional Office is responsible for implementing IFPI's strategies at regional level, co-ordinating the work of national groups and setting lobbying priorities tailored to the political environment in Asia.

With this in mind, it is of utmost importance that the .music Top-Level Domain be operated in the best interests of the music community. We believe that the .music gTLD should be granted to Far Further's .music LLC, which already has the support of the global music community, as evidenced by the unparalleled endorsement from the recognized and established national and international, community-based music organizations.

We want to do our part to ensure that the .music TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not simply auctioned off to the highest bidder. The principals behind Far Further have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, and will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects authors and owners' rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music for everyone. We have carefully reviewed their programs and we are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Therefore, IFPI Asian Regional Office supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate the .music gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community.

Sincerely,

Kwee Tiang Ang Regional Director IFPI Asian Regional Office 22nd Floor Shanghai Industrial Investment Bldg 48-62 Hennessy Road Wanchai Hong Kong

Tel : (852) 2866 6862 Fax: (852) 2865 6326 Website: www.ifpi.org

Maison de l'UNESCO, 1 rue Miollis 75732 Paris cedex 15, France Tel: +33 1 45 68 48 50 Fax: +33 1 45 68 48 66 Email: info@imc-cim.org Website: www.imc-cim.org

CIM/51.529

February 27, 2012

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

Our organisation, the International Music Council (IMC) is the world's largest network of organisations, institutions and individuals working in the field of music. Our network includes some 1000 organisations in 150 countries, reaching out to 200 million people eager to develop and share knowledge and experience on diverse aspects of musical life. Over the 60 years of its existence, IMC developed into a global expert organization, a forum for exchange and reflection, and an observatory in the field of music.

IMC's mission is to develop sustainable music sectors worldwide, to create awareness about the value of music, to make music matter in all social fabric.

IMC promotes access to music for all and works towards the advancement of five music rights which it proclaimed in 2001:

- the right for all children and adults
  - to express themselves musically in all freedom,
  - to learn musical languages and skills,
  - to have access to musical involvement through participation, listening, creation, and information;
- the right for musical artists
  - to develop their artistry and communicate through all media, with proper facilities at their disposal, and
  - to obtain just recognition and remuneration for their work.

Keeping these five music rights in mind, we want to do our part to ensure that any music-themed generic top-level domains are operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community. We understand that Far Further intends to apply for the .music TLD. The principals behind Far Further have been part of the music community for decades and we trust that they will operate .music with the highest degree of integrity, while promoting and protecting the diversity of musical expressions worldwide. We have carefully reviewed their programs and we are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Sincerely,

Silja Fischer

Secretary General



MMGHQ Limited
Parthenonos Street 6,
Smaragda Court
Office No 201
10298425V
3031 Limassol
Cyprus

**VAT Number:** 

10<sup>th</sup> January 2013

Agathoclis Stylianou Director CyDNS

Email: <a href="mailto:agatho@ucy.ac.cy">agatho@ucy.ac.cy</a>

Dear Ms Stylianou

We are writing in our capacity as a member of the music community in Cyprus. MMGHQ is a newly formed music publishing business based in Cyprus. We have plans to expand on the business in Cyprus and to operate in a number of other countries in the region using Cyprus as our fiscal and legal base.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Far Further/.music LLC has spent years working with key stakeholders from the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protection and membership requirements.

Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognised organisations that represent most professional songwriters, music publishers, artists, musicians and record labels across the world.

While ICANN's new gTLD programme will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognised the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to ensure that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work. Despite these efforts, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

We hope that Cyprus will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string. We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their need for safeguards and governance.

Best regards,

Crispin Evans
Chief Executive
c.c Costas Pandelides
Ran Geffen-Lifshitz

Katarina Obermeier

January 16, 2012

# To Whom It May Concern:

For the past 54 years, the National Association of Recording Merchandisers (NARM) has been the trade association for the business of music, providing a central platform for the discussion of industry-wide concerns and spearheading the implementation of programs and services to advance the business. Our newest initiative, digitalmusic.org, has been established as the hub for all of our digital efforts. Our General Membership consists of music commerce companies, including brick-and-mortar, online and mobile music delivery companies, as well as streaming, application and related service providers. Our Associate Membership consists of content companies, including distributors, record labels, multimedia suppliers, and technology companies, as well as suppliers of related products and services. Individual professionals and educators in the field of music are also members.

Our members' businesses have been devastated for more than a decade by the proliferation of intellectually property theft via web sites and other digital means for obtaining music illegally. There is no question that digital technology has been good for the music business in many ways, but it has also developed into a means for people around the world to unlawfully obtain music for free – to the detriment of our members specifically, and the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any ".music" top-level domain is operated by an entity that not only has the organizational, technical and financial capability to do so, but also a commitment to understanding and respecting the needs and interests of the legitimate music community.

Based on our knowledge of the executives who are guiding Far Further, and after reviewing their plans and programs with them, NARM/digitalmusic.org would like to go on record with its support of their application to operate the ".music" domain.

Sincerely,

Jim Donio, President



85 Mował Avenue Toronto, ON M6K 3E3 T: (416) 967-7272

April 18, 2012

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music-Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

Music Canada would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music-focused gTLD under the string ".music"

Music Canada is a non-profit trade organization that represents the major music companies in Canada, namely EMI Music Canada, Sony Music Entertainment Canada, Universal Music Canada and Warner Music Canada. Music Canada also provides certain membership benefits to some of the leading independent record labels and distributors, and operates Canada's Gold Platinum Awards program. Its members are engaged in all aspects of the recording industry, including the manufacture, production, promotion and distribution of music.

Our members are deeply interested in the means by which the Internet grows and develops. Since its inception, the Internet has been both a marketing and distribution tool, and an enabler of online copyright infringement of copyrighted music. As a result, we wish to ensure that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages legitimate distribution and consumption of music, while discouraging infringement.

In the months prior to the application deadline, several entities with an interest in operating a music-themed gTLD reached out to music-related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. A coalition of trade associations conducted due diligence and analysis on the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on that analysis, it is our belief that Far Further will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects the rights of creators and owners of music. We believe that Far Further will, through its gTLD, encourage the legitimate distribution and consumption of music and discourage infringement. Therefore, Music Canada supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music-themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community.

Should you have any questions about this letter or our position, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Graham Henderson

President



April 4<sup>th</sup> 2012

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music-Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

The Music Managers Forum UK would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music-focused gTLD under the string ".music"

Since its inception in 1992 the MMF has worked hard to educate, inform and represent UK managers (and their artists) as well as offering a network through which managers can share experiences, opportunities and information.

The MMF is the largest representative body of Artist Management in the world. We have over 400 members in the UK, representing over 1,000 of the most successful acts on the planet. Our emphasis is on implementing positive actions to assist our members with a keen eye on the 'next generation' of entrepreneurs and innovators.

We provide a collective voice and focus on providing real, meaningful value for our members and their artists – helping unlock investment, open up new markets, encouraging a fair and transparent business environment and driving a 'global agenda' in this digital age.

The MMF supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music-themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community.

Should you have any questions about this letter or our position, please feel free to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Jon Webster

CEO, MMF

26 Berners St

London W1T 3LR e: webbo@themmf.net t: +44 207 306 4885



April 4, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

The Music Managers Forum, formed in 1993, provides a platform to connect, enhance, and reinforce the expertise and professionalism of music managers. Our goal is to further the interests of managers and their artists in all fields of the music industry, including live performance, recording and music publishing matters.

Music Managers Forum PiO.Box 419 New York N.Y. 10156

We believe that our artists deserve to be fairly compensated for their efforts and have concerns that, in the wrong hands, a music-themed top-level domain could cause harm to our community.

We have reviewed the plans for the .music TLD that Far Further/.music LLC has provided to us and are satisfied that our interests are best served by this particular group. Therefore we are providing this Letter of Support for Far Further/.music LLC's application for .music.

Beignan

Sincerely,

Barry Bergman,

President



Ref: Letter of support:

Date: 22.2.12

Dear Paul,

With reference to your recent request for support towards the TLD domain .music, the Music Producers Guild (UK/EU) would like to offer support in writing towards the `Far further' campaign goal to seek a secure a legal domain for music assets and content.

We sincerely hope the creation of the .music gTLD will generate a legitimate and secure identifying Internet address for the music industry that supports the promotion of music, the full protection of intellectual property rights, and the advancement of global music IP education.

Illegal downloading simply means no chart returns and possibly no future music industry investments for jobs and opportunities for young people and their new bands.

It also means the world wide industry has been robbed of any immediate opportunity to offer cheaper downloads based on wider legal access still sadly competing with unregulated and blatant counterfeit/fraud music sites. We sincerely hope .music gTLD creation will help the fight against online piracy and wish to support your moves towards those aims.

**With Sincere Regards** 

Mark Rose (Vice Chair) Steve Levine (Chair)

**Richard Lightman (Vice Chair)** 

Music Producers Guild PO Box London W10 6XL England UK. 24.1.13

Steve Crocker c/o ICANN 12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536 USA steve.crocker@icann.org

#### Dear Dr. Crocker:

We are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

The Music Producers Guild, conceived and supported by producers and engineers is also the founding sister organisation of the P&E Wing USA who are both passionate about all aspects of creating and recording music, they provide a professional community for us to share our collective experiences and collaborate and lobby for professional interests.

Our Membership consists of all working producers, engineers, mixers, remixers, programmers, sound designers, mastering engineers, students and enthusiasts working in the field and sectors of professional audio and content delivery and all aspects of the creation of music and audio. We also celebrate with our annual Producer awards which also receive the BRIT Best Producer Award each February.

With this in mind, it is of utmost importance that the .music Top-Level Domain be operated in the best interests of the music community. We believe that the .music gTLD should be granted to Far Further's .music LLC, which already has the support of the global music community, as evidenced by the unparalleled endorsement from the recognized and established national and international, community-based music organizations.

We want to do our part to ensure that the .music TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not simply auctioned off to the highest bidder. The principals behind Far Further have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, and will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects authors and owners' rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music for everyone. We have carefully reviewed their programs and we are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Therefore, The Music Producers Guild supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate the .music gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community.

Sincerely,

[Mark Rose] [Vice Chairman]

Richard Lightman Vice Chairman

Steve Levine Chairman

The Music Producers Guild Po Box 38134 London W10 6XL 24.1.13

Mark Carvell
Head, International Communications Policy, Information Economy
EU & International Competitiveness Unit
Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)

Dear Mark,

We are writing as a concerned member of the music community in the UK/EU. We are sending you this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

The Music Producers Guild, conceived and supported by producers and engineers is also the founding sister organisation of the P&E Wing USA who are both passionate about all aspects of creating and recording music, they provide a professional community for us to share our collective experiences and collaborate and lobby for professional interests.

Our Membership consists of all working producers, engineers, mixers, remixers, programmers, sound designers, mastering engineers, students and enthusiasts working in the field and sectors of professional audio and content delivery and all aspects of the creation of music and audio. We also celebrate with our annual Producer awards which also receive the BRIT Best Producer Award each February.

With this in mind, it is of utmost importance that the .music Top-Level Domain be operated in the best interests of the music community. We believe that the .music gTLD should be granted to Far Further's .music LLC, which already has the support of the global music community, as evidenced by the unparalleled endorsement from the recognized and established national and international, community-based music organizations.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Prior to submitting its application, Far Further/.music LLC spent years working with the representative stakeholders from within the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protections and membership requirements that not only serve the common interest of the global music community and meet or exceed ICANN's guidelines, but also are balanced with the needs of the Internet user and music lover.

In addition to the support of the global non-commercial sector represented by the International Music Council and others, Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognized organizations that represent virtually every professional songwriter, music publisher, artist, musician and record label in the world. This is an unprecedented demonstration of unity and support from the global music community.

Music is a protected and regulated sector in most countries throughout the world, where the royalty rates are controlled by government statute. While ICANN's new gTLD program will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for producers and creators alike – the digital music & content creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognised the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to preserve music creators' livelihoods by insuring that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work.

Despite these internationally recognised laws and regulations, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age. It would be our hope that the UK will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string.

We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to truly give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their critical need for safeguards and governance.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our thoughts with you.

Best wishes,

[Mark Rose]
[Vice Chairman]

Richard Lightman Vice Chairman

Steve Levine Chairman



FAO: Mark Carvell
Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)
4th Floor,
2-4 Cockspur Street,
London
SW1Y 5DH

Wednesday 9 January 2013

Dear Mr Carvell,

Ref: Application to ICANN for the gTLD ".music"

We are writing in our capacity as a member of the music community in the UK. The Music Publishers Association ("MPA") is the trade association for music publishers in the UK, with over 270 members, representing nearly 4,000 catalogues covering every genre of music. Our members include all three of the UK's "major" music publishers, independent pop publishers, classical publishers, production music publishers and also printed music publishers. We estimate that our members represent around 95% of publishing activity in the UK.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Far Further/.music LLC has spent years working with key stakeholders from the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protection and membership requirements.

Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognised organisations that represent most professional songwriters, music publishers, artists, musicians and record labels across the world.

While ICANN's new gTLD programme will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognised the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to ensure that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work. Despite these efforts, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

We hope that the UK Government will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.





In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string. We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their need for safeguards and governance.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Navin Chief Executive, MPA

cc. Katharina Obermeier Associate Regulatory Affairs, ICMP



#### MUSIC PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION of the United States

243 5th Avenue, Suite 236 • New York, New York 10016 admin@mpa.org • www.mpa.org

March 11, 2012

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC)
Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

The Music Publishers Association of the United States would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

Founded in 1895, the Music Publishers Association is the oldest music trade organization in the United States, fostering communication among publishers, dealers, music educators, and all ultimate users of music.

This non-profit association addresses itself to issues pertaining to every area of music publishing with an emphasis on the issues relevant to the publishers of print music for concert and educational purposes.

The MPA serves the industry through its presence at and cooperation with other organizations such as, the American Choral Directors Association, the American Music Center, the American Music Conference, the American Symphony Orchestra League, the Church Music Publishers Association, the International Confederation of Music Publishers, the International Federation of Serious Music Publishers, the Music Library Association, the Major Orchestra Librarians' Association, the National Association for Music Education, the National Orchestra Association, the Music Teachers National Association, and the Retail Print Music Dealers Association.

In addition, MPA members belong to and work cooperatively with the National Music Publisher's Association, the Harry Fox Agency and, the performance rights organizations: ASCAP, BMI, and SESAC.

Our members have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has presented both an opportunity and a threat. In the sense that it has facilitated rampant theft of copyrighted music, it has been very harmful to our community. Therefore, with the advent of new music-themed TLDs we are very interested making sure that any such new TLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music but also respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

PRESIDENT Lauren Keiser, Lauren Keiser Music Pub. lauren@laurenkeisermusic.com

> SECRETARY Kathleen Marsh, MusicNotes.com kmarsh@musicnotes.com

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John Shorney
Todd Vunderink



#### MUSIC PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION of the United States

243 5th Avenue, Suite 236 • New York, New York 10016 admin@mpa.org • www.mpa.org

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, The Music Publishers Association supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music". We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact me at lauren@laurenkeisermusic.com.

IMN

Sincerely

President

The Music Publishers Association of the United States

PRESIDENT Lauren Keiser, Lauren Keiser Music Pub. lauren@laurenkeisermusic.com

> SECRETARY Kathleen Marsh, MusicNotes.com kmarsh@musicnotes.com

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Musicians Federation of India (Musicians Union) Redwood ,A-103- ,Evershine ,Green ,New Link Road ,Oshiara,Andheri (W) Mumbai – 400053-INDIA

Dr,Ajay Kumar
Joint Secretry
Dep-of Electronics and Information's,
Technology

Dr- Govind
Advisior
Minister of – Communication
Gov- of India

## Dear Sirs:

We are writing as a concerned member of the music community in India.

The mission of the Musicians Federation of India (Musicians Union), is to secure to the members fair conditions of life and service try to redress their grievance try to prevent any reduction of wages and if possible obtained an advance better wages and other service conditions when ever circumstances allow Endeavour provide against sickness, unemployment infirmity, old age and death.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Prior to submitting its application, Far Further/.music LLC spent years working with the representative stakeholders from within the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protections and membership requirements that not only serve the common interest of the global music community and meet or exceed ICANN's guidelines, but also are balanced with the needs of the Internet user and music lover.

In addition to the support of the global noncommercial sector represented by the International Federation of Musicians and others, Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognized organizations that represent virtually every professional songwriter, music publisher, artist, musician and record label in the world. This is an unprecedented demonstration of unity and support from the global music community.

Music is a protected and regulated sector in most countries throughout the world, where the royalty rates are controlled by government statute. While ICANN's new gTLD program will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognized the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to preserve music creators' livelihoods by insuring that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work.

Despite these internationally recognized laws and regulations, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

It would be our hope that India will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string.

We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to truly give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on apoint system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their critical need for safeguards and governance.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our thoughts with you.

Best Regards,

Kishor Jawade

General Secretary

Musicians Federation of India (Musicians Union)

#### Musicians' Union

MUHQ 60-62 Clapham Road London SW9 oJJ

T 02075825566 F 02075829805 E info@theMU.org

W theMU.org
Mark Carvell
Head, International Communications Policy, Information Economy
EU & International Competitiveness Unit
Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)
4th Floor, 2-4 Cockspur Street
London
SW1Y 5DH

28 January 2013

Dear Mr Carvell

#### .music

We are writing as a concerned member of the music community in the UK.

The Musicians' Union is a globally-respected organisation which represents over 30,000 musicians working in all sectors of the music business.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Prior to submitting its application, Far Further/.music LLC spent years working with the representative stakeholders from within the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protections and membership requirements that not only serve the common interest of the global music community and meet or exceed ICANN's guidelines, but also are balanced with the needs of the Internet user and music lover.

In addition to the support of the global noncommercial sector represented by the International Federation of Musicians and others, Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognized organisations that represent virtually every professional songwriter, music publisher, artist, musician and record label in the world. This is an unprecedented demonstration of unity and support from the global music community.

Music is a protected and regulated sector in most countries throughout the world, where the royalty rates are controlled by government statute. While ICANN's new gTLD program will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognised the





existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to preserve music creators' livelihoods by ensuring that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work.

Despite these internationally recognised laws and regulations, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

It would be our hope that the UK will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string.

We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to truly give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their critical need for safeguards and governance.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our thoughts with you.

Yours sincerely

Horace Trubridge Assistant General Secretary

# MUSIKVERLEGER UNION ÖSTERREICH Baumannstraße 8 - 10 , 1030 Wien Briefanschrift: Postfach 3, A-1015 Wien Telefon: +43-1-337 23-0 - Telefax: +43-1-337 23-400 E-Mail: hangel@universaledition.com

Bundesministerium für Verkehr, Innovation und Technologie Mr. Christian Singer Head of Unit for International Telecommunications Affairs Radetzkystraße 2 A-1030 Wien

Vienna, 11 January, 2013

Dear Mr. Singer,

We are writing in our capacity as a member of the music community in Austria.

This is an excerpt of our statutes:

"Der Verein "Musikverleger Union Österreich" (M.U.Ö.), hat seinen Sitz in Wien und erstreckt seine Tätigkeit auf das gesamte Bundesgebiet und die Zusammenarbeit mit Verbänden und Vereinen gleicher Interessen im Ausland.

Der Zweck des Vereines ist die Förderung des Musikschaffens im allgemeinen, die Wahrnehmung, Beratung und Information hinsichtlich der ideellen und wirtschaftlichen Interessen seiner Mitglieder. Der Verein verfolgt seine Zwecke, indem er

- mit zuständigen Behörden und privaten Stellen Kontakt hält und Vorschläge zur F\u00f6rderung des Musikschaffens und der Interessen seiner Mitglieder unterbreitet,
- mit Organisationen zusammenarbeitet, die gleiche oder ähnliche Zwecke wie er selbst verfolgen".

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Far Further/.music LLC has spent years working with key stakeholders from the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protection and membership requirements.

Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognised organisations that represent most professional songwriters, music publishers, artists, musicians and record labels across the world.

While ICANN's new gTLD programme will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognised the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to ensure that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work. Despite these efforts, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

We hope that Austria will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string. We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their need for safeguards and governance.

Best regards,

Mag. Astrid Koblanck

Musikverleger Union Österreich



April 5, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of our members, I am sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

Our organization, National Association for Music Education, among the world's largest arts education organizations, marked its centennial in 2007 as the only association that addresses all aspects of music education. Through membership of more than 75,000 active, retired, and preservice music teachers, and with 60,000 honor students and supporters, NAfME serves millions of students nationwide through activities at all teaching levels, from preschool to graduate school. NAfME's mission is to advance music education by encouraging the study and making of music by all. Since 1907, NAfME has worked to ensure that every student has access to a well-balanced, comprehensive, and high-quality program of music instruction taught by qualified teachers. NAfME activities and resources have been largely responsible for the establishment of music education as a profession, for the promotion and guidance of music study as an integral part of the school curriculum, and for the development of the National Standards for Arts Education.

It is vitally important that the .music domain is synonymous with integrity. The principals behind Far Further have been part of the music community for decades and we trust that they will operate .music in the best interests of the legitimate music community. We have carefully reviewed their programs and are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Butera

Executive Director and CEO



April 2, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

We are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

Our organization, NAMM, the National Association of Music Merchants, a not-for-profit association that unifies, leads and strengthens the \$17 billion global music products industry. Founded in 1901, NAMM represents a growing, thriving worldwide community of thousands of deeply passionate, talented companies that make, buy and sell the instruments that allow millions of people to make music. With more than 9,000 Members in the United States and 100+ other countries, NAMM is ultimately dedicated to expanding the market and giving people of all ages the opportunity to experience the proven benefits of making music.

It is vitally important that the .music domain is synonymous with integrity. The principals behind Far Further have been part of the music community for decades and we trust that they will operate .music in the best interests of the legitimate music community. We met with them and have carefully reviewed their programs and are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Sincerely,

Shawn Lowery

Director of IT and Communications



Academy of Country Music
American Academy of Teachers of Singing
American Composers Forum
American Federation of Musicians
American Guild of Musical Artists
American Guild of Organists
American Harp Society
American Husic Center
American Orff-Schulwerk Association
Artists Against Hunger & Poverty
ASCAP
BMI

Chopin Foundation of the United States Conductors' Guild

Country Music Association
Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity
Early Music America
Interlochen Center for the Arts
International Alliance for Women in Music
International Federation of Festival

Organizations International Music Products Association (NAMM)

Mu Phi Epsilon International Music Fraternity
Music & Entertainment Industry Educators
Association

Music Critics Association of North America MENC: The National Association for Music Education

Music Performance Fund
Music Publishers Association of the United
States

Music Teachers National Association National Academy of Popular Music National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences National Association of Negro Musicians National Association of Recording Merchandisers

National Association of Teachers of Singing National Federation of Music Clubs National Flute Association National Guild of Community Schools of the

National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts National Guild of Piano Teachers/

National Guild or Plain Teachers/ American College of Musicians National Music Publishers' Association National Opera Association Recording Industry Association of America SESAC

Sigma Alpha Iota The Songwriters Guild of America

**Board of Directors** 

Chairman: Michael Butera President: Gary Ingle First Vice President: Carolyn Nelson Second Vice President: Paul Williams Third Vice President: Del R. Bryant Treasurer: Linda Lorence Secretary: Charles J. Sanders

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#### **Council of Past Presidents**

Leonard Feist Victor Fuentealba Eza Laderman Gunther Schuller Catherine French Dean Stein

Accountants: Prager & Fenton Director: David Sanders

February 10, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

The members of the National Music Council, who together represent some one million individuals, send this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

The National Music Council of the United States was founded in 1940 and chartered by the 84th Congress in 1956 to act as a clearinghouse for the joint opinion and decision of its members and to work to strengthen the importance of music in the nation's life and culture. The Music Council represents the United States to the International Music Council of UNESCO. The Council's initial membership of 13 has grown to almost 50 national music organizations, encompassing every important form of professional and commercial musical activity and education.

The protection of intellectual property rights is vitally important to our members. For that reason, we want to do our part to ensure that any music-themed generic top-level domains are operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community. We understand that Far Further intends to apply for the .music TLD. The principals behind Far Further have been part of the music community for decades and we trust that they will operate .music with the highest degree of integrity. They are known by many of our members and we have carefully reviewed their programs. We are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Sanders Director



975 F Street, NW Suite 375 Washington, DC 20004 Tel: 202-393-6675 601 West 26<sup>th</sup> Street 5<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10001 Tel: 212-370-5330

Jay Rosenthal
Senior Vice President & General Counsel

March 30, 2012

ICANN Attn: Stephen Crocker 4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330 Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601 USA

> Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

The National Music Publishers' Association would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

Founded in 1917, the National Music Publishers' Association (NMPA) is the trade association representing American music publishers and their songwriting partners. The NMPA's mandate is to protect and advance the interests of music publishers and songwriters in matters relating to the domestic and global protection of music copyrights.

Our members' businesses and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has transformed how musical compositions and recorded music is created and consumed. It presents both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online copyright infringement of copyrighted music. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music community and economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music in a manner that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that

process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, NMPA supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact Jay Rosenthal, Esq., Sr. VP & General Counsel, National Music Publishers' Association (jrosenthal@nmpa.org).

Sincerely.

Jay Rosenthal, Esq.

ce: John Styll, Far Further

Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN

# National Songwriters Association

California Songwriters Association

Nashville Songwriters Association International

Texas Songwriters Association

April 9, 2012

**ICANN** 

Attn: Stephen Crocker

4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330

Marina del Ray, CA 90292-6601

To Whom It May Concern:

The National Songwriters Association is writing in support of Far Further's (or its subsidiary .musicLLC) Application for a Music Focused gLTD under the string ".music".

The National Songwriters Association includes the California, Nashville and Texas Songwriter Associations. Founded in 1967, the NSA is the largest not-for-profit trade association for songwriters. We have more than 140 chapters and focus on advocacy for American songwriters and composers.

#### **Mission Statement**

The National Songwriters Association (NSA) consists of a body of creative minds, including songwriters from all genres of music, professional and amateur, who are committed to protecting the rights and future of the profession of songwriting, and to educate, elevate, and celebrate the songwriter and to act as a unifying force within the music community and the community at large.

Page 2

Over the past several years the ranks of professional songwriters and composers in the United States has shrunk dramatically in large part due to illegal downloading of copyrighted music.

Copyright infringement has decimated songwriter royalties and is an ongoing threat to

compensated creativity worldwide.

Along with other music-industry trade associations, the NSA participated in an extensive request for information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a

music themed gLTD.

The National Songwriters Association trusts that Far Further, based on its core principals, will guide and operate the Music Focused gLTD under the string "music," in a way that values and

protects copyrighted materials. Therefore, the NSA supports the application of Far Further (or

its subsidiary .musicLLC) Application for a Music Focused gLTD under the string ".music".

Thank you for your attention to this matter. For questions of more information please contact:

Steve Bogard at (615) 256-3354, or <a href="mailto:sbogard@mac.com">sbogard@mac.com</a>

Sincerely,

Steve Bogard, President

**National Songwriters Association** 

NSA is a Not-For-Profit Member Trade Association For Songwriters

1710 Roy Acuff Place, Nashville, TN 37203

telephone (615)256-3354/fax (615)-256-0034/

website: www.californiasongwriters.com

www.nashvillesongwriters.com

OPEM Organización Profesional de Editores de Música Calle Rafael Calvo, 18 - 3<sup>3</sup> Planta 28010 **Madrid** España

#### S.G. DE SERVICIOS DE LA SOCIEDAD DE LA INFORMACIÓN

Att. D., Gema María Campillos González D. Jorge Palacio Morán C/ Capitán Haya, número 41

En Madrid, a 18 de Enero de 2013

#### Muy Sres. míos:

Les escribimos como miembros de la comunidad musical en España. OPEM [Organización Profesional de Editores de Música] actúa en nombre y representación de EMI Music Publishing Spain SA, Warner Chappell Music Spain SA, Universal Music Publishing SL, Sony ATV Music Publishing Holdings (Spain) Lle S en C. Peermusic Española S.A.U. Unión Musical Ediciones SL y IMG Rights Administration Spain SL.; todas ellas editoriales musicales que ostentan (como editores originales subeditores y/o administradores] los derechos de explotación de gran parte dei repertorio musical mundial existente.

Estamos al tanto de que numerosas entidades han solicitado a ICANN el dominio de nivel superior genérico (gTLD) "music" y es nuestra voluntad que "music" se le adjudique a un candidato que cuenta con el apoyo global de la comunidad musical, y no indiscriminadamente a la mejor oferta. Por ello, escribimos esta carta en apoyo de la solicitud de Far Further / music LLC.

Further / music LLC ha empleado numerosos años trabajando con tas partes clave de la comunidad musical en todo el mundo para desarrollar políticas de protección de derechos y de las necesidades de todos sus miembros.

Asimismo, Far Further/music LLC tiene el respaldo de más de cuarenta organizaciones internacionaimente reconocidas que representan a la mayoría de los autores y compositores profesionales, editoriales, artistas, músicos y discognáficas.

Mientras el nuevo programa de dominios de nivel superior genérico de ICANN, creará sin ninguna duda nuevas oportunidades para distribuir trabajos creativos, también podría plantear serios riesgos para los creadores.

Los gobiernos a lo largo del mundo han reconocido la existencia de una comunidad musical global y han promulgado tratados y legislación que protegen las obras musicales contra posibles vulneraciones de derechos, así como para asegurar que los artistas, autores y compositores y músicos son justamente compensados por el uso y el desempeño de su trabajo. A pesar de estos esfuerzos, ha sido extremadamente dificil mantener la protección de estos derechos en la era de internet.

Esperamos que España tome partido en representación de la comunidad musical de nuestro país con respecto a los dominios de temática musical.

De acuerdo con su principio de servir al interés público, creemos que ICANN debería conceder el dominio de nivel superior genérico ai solicitante que mejor representa tos intereses de la respectiva

comunidad. Nos gustaría animarles a apoyar la idea de que, en general, existiendo un grupo de solicitudes que contienen idénticas o similares secuencias para un dominio de nivel superior genérico, la solicitud de una comunidad sería la candidata natural para obtener la secuencia.

Por medio de la presente, solicitamos al GAC que recomiende de consejo de ICANN a dar preferencia a las comunidades, basándose en el mencionado principio antes que confiando únicamente en un sistema de puntos que pueda negar a los lógicos y legítimos interesados su necesidad de salvaguardia y gobierno.

Atentamente,

D. Rafael Artero Montalván Presidente OPEM

/



### PHONOGRAPHIC PERFORMANCE LTD.

Crescent Towers, 7th Floor, Bi68, Veera Estate, Off New Link Road, Andhen (West), Bombay 400 053 Tel.: 2673 6301 / 2 / 3 • Fax: 2673 6304

12.4.2012

#### To whom It May Concern

Sub: Community support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music focused gTLD under the string <u>".music"</u>

- We, Phonographic Performance Ltd ("PPL") hereby express our support for Far Further's (or its-subsidiary music LLC) Application for a Music focused gTLD under the string "music".
- 2. PPL is the officially registered and recognised "copyright society" in India which administers the sound recordings of its member music companies. It is the only copyright society enjoying statutory recognition by the Government of India, in respect of sound recordings. At present, the number of member music labels is more than 275, including 3 subsidiaries of International major music labels. Membership is voluntary. The rights and/or royalty revenue streams so administered include broadcasting, internet, public performance and mobile telephony.
- PPL is actively engaged in legitimate protection and legal enforcement of copyrights of its members.
- 4. Though PPL's membership includes national Independent labels, majority of members are small music companies specializing in local or regional genres. The livelihood, business models and profitability of our members is significantly impacted by the Internet. While Internet presents certain growth opportunities, at the same time it is a significant threat in view of wide-spread on-line infringement of copyrights of our members, which is of grave concern. Accordingly, we are concerned that a music-focused gTLD operates in manner encouraging legitimate distribution and discouraging piracy.
- Based on the above, PPL supports and endorses Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC)
   Application for a Music focused gTLD under the string ".music", for the holistic benefit of
   the music community.
- 6. Should you have further questions, the undersigned may please be contacted.

Sincerely,

For Phonographic Performance Ltd

Surgsh Srinivasan

Chief Operating Officer







3 July 2012

To Whom It May Concern

#### Support for the application of .musicLLC to operate the .music gTLD string

PPL licenses recorded music played in public or broadcast in the United Kingdom and then distributes the licence fees to its performer and rights holder members. Established in 1934, PPL exists to ensure that those who invest their time, talent and money to make recorded music are fairly paid for their work. The UK is the second largest performance rights market in the world and PPL collected revenues of £153.5m in 2011.

With over 8,500 members who are record companies or other recorded music rights holders and 51,500 performer members, PPL, a not for profit organisation, has a large and diverse membership. Members include major record labels and globally successful performers, as well as many independent labels, sole traders and session musicians ranging from orchestral players to percussionists and singers – all of whom are entitled to be fairly paid for the use of their recordings and performances. Between them, PPL's members control the rights in the overwhelming majority of recorded music.

PPL has considered the proposals put forward by .music LLC, a division of Far Further LLC in their application to operate the .music gTLD string, particularly taking into consideration:

- The proposed measures for the governance and oversight of the operation of the music gTLD string by an industry appointed board;
- The eligibility criteria that will apply to applicants for a .music domain name;
- The measures that .music LLC intend to operate to protect intellectual property; and
- The record and repute of the people working for or with, or supporting .music LLC

On the basis of these considerations PPL wishes to express their support for the application of .music LLC, a division of Far Further LLC to operate the .music gTLD string.

Yours Sincerely

Peter Leathem

Chief Executive Officer

From: "jbissonnette@pmpa.ca" <jbissonnette@pmpa.ca>
Subject: gTLD ".music" - creative rights protection

Date: January 9, 2013 12:15:18 PM CST

To: "Kathy.Fisher@ic.gc.ca" <Kathy.Fisher@ic.gc.ca>

Cc: MURPHY David <dm@davidmurphy.ca>, Katharina Obermeier

<nina.associate@icmp-ciem.org>

**PMPA** 

#### Professional Music Publishers' Association

2177 Masson Street, local 411 Montréal (Québec) H2H 1B1 Canada

Kathy Fisher
Director
International Telecommunications Policy & Coordination Industry Canada
Ottawa, ON

Montreal, January 9<sup>th</sup> 2013

Dear Mrs. Fisher

We are writing in our capacity as a member of the music community in Canada. The Professional Music Publishers' Association (PMPA) brings together music publishing professionals in order to study, develop and defend their interests and promote national and international recognition of the trade.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Far Further/.music LLC has spent years working with key stakeholders from the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protection and membership requirements.

Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognised organisations that represent most professional songwriters, music publishers, artists, musicians and record labels across the world.

While ICANN's new gTLD programme will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognised the existence of a global

music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to ensure that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work. Despite these efforts, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

We hope that Canada will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string. We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their need for safeguards and governance.

Best regards,

Joëlle Bissonnette

Coordinator – Communications and Representations



Telephone: 514.525.0460

Fax: 514-525-8990 jbissonnette@pmpa.ca

www.pmpa.ca

Paul Zamek SVP Far Further 179 Belle Forest Circle Suite 104 Nashville TN, USA, 37221



11th April 2012

Re: application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

Dear Paul,

I am writing in reference to Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) recent request for our support in its application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

PRS for Music is a music licensing society which represents the rights of 85,000 songwriters, composers and music publishers in the UK. We have a specific interest in the principle of signalling to consumers where they can find legal websites so they can enjoy music in a manner that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

PRS for Music is a member of representative bodies, BIEM and CISAC, both of which have already listed their support for Far Further's application to operate a music focused gTLD. We also work closely with ICMP, which represents the interests of the music publishing community globally.

On behalf of their member organisations the aforementioned bodies have been through the due diligence process necessary to support the endorsement of an entity deemed suitable to operate a music focused gTLD. Based on their analysis and support, PRS for Music endorses the application by Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

Should further information be required, I advise that contact should be made with PRS for Music's Regulatory and Corporate Affairs team, which is headed by Frances Lowe. Her contact details are listed as follows:

Frances Lowe, Head of Regulatory and Corporate Affairs

PRS for Music

Email: Frances.Lowe@prsformusic.com

Tel: +44 (0)207 306 4234

Yours sincerely,

Guy Fletcher

Chairman, PRS for Music





March 27, 2012

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC)
Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

The Recording Industry Association of America would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), formed in the 1950s, is the trade organization that supports and promotes the creative and financial vitality of the major music companies in the United States. Its members are the music labels that comprise the most vibrant record industry in the world. RIAA®members create, manufacture and/or distribute approximately 85% of all legitimate recorded music produced and sold in the United States. A list of our members is available at <a href="www.riaa.com">www.riaa.com</a>. In support of this mission, the RIAA works to protect the intellectual property and First Amendment rights of artists and music labels; conduct consumer, industry and technical research; and monitor and review state and federal laws, regulations and policies. The RIAA® also certifies Gold®, Platinum®, Multi-Platinum™ and Diamond sales awards as well as Los Premios De Oro y Platino™, an award celebrating Latin music sales.

Our members' businesses and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has transformed how music is created and how recorded music is consumed. It presents both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online copyright infringement of copyrighted music. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that promotes legitimate distribution and consumption of music and discourages infringement.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities expressed interest in operating a music themed gTLD, and reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations that represent a cross-section of the global music community (the "coalition"), participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, the coalition requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the coalition about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, our organization supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects the creator's and owner's rights in their music and promotes the legitimate distribution and consumption of music using executives that have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact my colleague, Victoria Sheckler, Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, Recording Industry Association of America, 1025 F. St, NW, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, DC, 20004, 202-775-0101, vsheckler@riaa.com.

Sincerely,

Cary Sherman Chairman and CEO

Recording Industry Association of America

CC:

John Styll, Far Further Stephen D. Crocker, ICANN



Kapetan Mišina 16, Beograd, tel:+381 11 2624 749, fax:+381 11 3283 148

Matični br.: 20554100 - PIB:106200500 - Račun: 265-1060310000268-27 Raiffeisen Bank a.d.

Slobodan Marković Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Society Special Advisor to the Minister

18.01.2013.

Dear Mr. Slobodan Marković,

We are writing in our capacity as a member of the music community in Serbia. Ricom Publishing d.o.o. is a publishing company which represents authors of Universal Music Publishing International for Serbia together with the most famous Serbian and ex Yugoslav authors.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Far Further/.music LLC has spent years working with key stakeholders from the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protection and membership requirements.

Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognised organisations that represent most professional songwriters, music publishers, artists, musicians and record labels across the world.

While ICANN's new gTLD programme will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognised the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to ensure that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work. Despite these efforts, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

We hope that Serbia will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string. We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their need for safeguards and governance.

Best regards,

Rodoljub Stojanović, direktor





PATRICK COLLINS
PRESIDENT
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

March 29, 2012

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

SESAC would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

Established in 1930, SESAC is a service organization created to serve both the creators of music and music users through music licensing and timely, efficient royalty collection and distribution. The second oldest and fastest growing performing rights organization in the U.S., SESAC is known for its diversified repertory that includes genres ranging from Adult Contemporary, Urban, Jazz, Rock, Americana, Contemporary Christian, Latin, Country, Gospel, Dance, Classical and New Age. SESAC is also rapidly becoming the performing rights organization of choice among many of Hollywood's most sought-after film and television composers. Headquartered in Nashville, the company also has offices in New York, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Miami and London. (www.sesac.com).

Our members' businesses and livelihoods have been deeply affected by the growth of the Internet and the World Wide Web. It has transformed how music is created and how recorded music is consumed. It presents both growth opportunities in the form of varied digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online copyright infringement of copyrighted music. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music in a manner that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations and companies to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of

associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, SESAC supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact Justin Levenson, Manager, Licensing Operations, SESAC, 55 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203, 615-320-0055, ilevenson@sesac.com.

Sincerely,

**SESAC** 

Pat Collins

lhm

cc: John Styll, Far Further

Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN



#### Sociedad de Productores Fonográficos y Videográficos de Chile

Santiago, march 7th 2013

Steve Crocker C/O ICANN 12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536 USA steve.crocker@icann.org

Dear Dr. Crocker:

We are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

Sociedad de Productores Fonográficos y Videográficos de Chile, PROFOVI. Our mission supports the development sustainable music sectors worldwide, to create awareness about the value of music, to make music matter in all social aspects.

With this in mind, it is of utmost importance that the .music Top-Level Domain be operated in the best interests of the music community. We believe that the .music gTLD should be granted to Far Further's .music LLC, which already has the support of the global music community, as evidenced by the unparalleled endorsement from the recognized and established national and international, community-based music organizations.

We want to do our part to ensure that the .music TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not simply auctioned off to the highest bidder. The principals behind Far Further have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, and will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects authors and owners' rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music for everyone. We have carefully reviewed their programs and we are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Therefore, PROFOVI supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate the .music gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community.

Sincerely,

Francisco Nieto G. Director General



Steve Crocker c/o ICANN 12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536 USA steve.crocker@icann.org

25.01.2013

Dear Dr. Crocker:

We are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music Top-Level Domain.

Allow me first to introduce our company: SABAM was founded in 1922 by authors and for authors. As a private company, SABAM is the Belgian Collective Management Society administrating the rights coming to the authors composers and publishers in Belgium.

Being the largest cultural company in Belgium, it represents 36,000 authors and more than 4 million creations. SABAM represents the Belgian as well as the international musical repertoire, through reciprocal agreement concluded with similar Collective Management Societies abroad.

With this in mind, it is of utmost importance that the .music Top-Level Domain be operated in the best interests of the music community. We believe that the .music gTLD should be granted to Far Further's .music LLC, which already has the support of the global music community, as evidenced by the unparalleled endorsement from the recognized and established national and international, community-based music organizations.

We want to do our part to ensure that the .music TLD is operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community and not simply auctioned off to the highest bidder. The principals behind Far Further have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, and will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects authors and owners' rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music for everyone. We have carefully reviewed their programs and we are confident in their experience and expertise regarding all aspects of operating this particular domain.

Therefore, SABAM supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate the .music gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community.

Sincerely,

Christophe Depreter

Hapita

CEO



April 4th, 2012

#### To whom it may concern

We are sending this letter in support of Far Further/.music LLC's application for the .music top level domain.

Our organization, Sacem (Société des auteurs et compositeurs de musique), is a French collective rights society for music, representing over 137 000 members (songwriters, composers and publishers) and 40 million international music works in France. Sacem was founded in 1860, and is the oldest collective rights society in the world.

Our main role is to license our member's repertoire, in order to collect and redistribute the rights generated, thus insuring a just remuneration for the use of their works. We also support musical creation by distributing cultural funds, coming mainly from the private copying system.

The protection of intellectual property rights is vitally important to our members. Thus, we want to do our part to ensure that any music-themed generic top-level domains are operated in the best interests of the legitimate music community.

We understand that Far Further intends to apply for the .music TLD. The principals behind Far Further are part of the music community, and have been for years. We trust that they will operate .music legitimately, while promoting and protecting the interests of right holders and musical diversity worldwide. We have reviewed their programs and are confident in their experience regarding the operation of this particular domain.

Sincerely,

Bernard Miyet

CEO of Sacem



Eric Baptiste Chief Executive Officer • Chef de la Direction

April 20, 2012

#### To Whom It May Concern:

Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music-Re: Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

The Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada (SOCAN) would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music-focused gTLD under the string ".music"

SOCAN is a not-for-profit member-based organization that represents the Canadian performing rights of over three million Canadian and international music creators and publishers. We play a leading role in supporting the long-term success of our more than 100,000 Canadian members, as well as the Canadian music industry. We collect licence fees from over 45,000 businesses across Canada and distribute royalties to our members and other music rights organizations around the world. We also distribute royalties to our members for the use of their music internationally in collaboration with other peer societies.

SOCAN was formed in 1990, but our predecessors have been around in some form or another in Canada since 1925. SOCAN was created as a result of the merger of two former Canadian performing rights societies: The Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada (CAPAC) and the Performing Rights Organization of Canada (PROCAN). In 1925, the Performing Rights Society (PRS) of the United Kingdom formed the Canadian Performing Rights Society (CPRS). Over the years, CAPAC worked to protect the rights of our members, especially in the face of opposition from the well-established radio and television industries. In 1990, CAPAC and PROCAN merged to form SOCAN.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music- themed gTLD reached out to various music-related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement.

Separate due diligence and analysis was carried out on the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the above, SOCAN supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music-themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community.

Should you have any questions about this letter or our position, please feel free to contact me.

Yours truly.

EB:m



#### www.songwritersguild.com (800) 524-6742

March 10, 2012

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for

a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

The Songwriters Guild of America would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music".

The Songwriters Guild of America (SGA) is an organization founded in 1931, to help "advance, promote, and benefit" the profession of songwriters. It was founded as the "Songwriters Protective Association" by Billy Rose, George M. Meyer and Edgar Leslie. They issued the first standard songwriters contract, in 1932 and most writers consider it the 'standard' agreement in the industry. The organization was later known as the American Guild of Authors and Composers, AGAC. In 1976, the organization, along with the NMPA was one of the driving forces behind the creation of the Copyright Act of 1976. In the 1980s, it became the Songwriters Guild of America. In the 1990's it joined forces with the National Academy of Songwriters. [1]

The Songwriters Guild features online and offline classes in songwriting and the music business. Other features include contract review for members, in-depth song evaluations, royalty collection services and music industry resources.

Songwriters in the new millennium are faced with unprecedented opportunities and challenges in the world of online digital music delivery. While the internet has opened the door to world-wide distribution of songs to every songwriter with and internet connection it has also created, through illegal downloading and streaming of unlicensed music, the largest theft of intellectual property in the history of mankind. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of our members specifically and to the music economy generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music themed or focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music in a manner that respects intellectual property rights and discourages infringement.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music themed gTLD, reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with several other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, the respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally as well as its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements, and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans, and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.



#### www.songwritersguild.com (800) 524-6742

Based on the above, The Songwriters Guild of America supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owner's rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact Sam Fein at 5120 Virginia Way, Suite C22 Brentwood, TN 37027 Phone: (615) 742-9945.

Sincerely,

Rick Carnes
President
The Songwriters Guild of America

#### soundexchange

1121 FOURTEENTH STREET NW, SUITE 700 WASHINGTON DC 20005 P: 202.640.5858 F: 202.640.5859 WWW.SOUNDEXCHANGE.COM



April 9, 2012

Re: Support for Far Further's (or .music LLC) Application for a Music Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

SoundExchange would like to express our support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music focused gTLD under the string ".music."

SoundExchange is the non-profit performance rights organization that collects statutory royalties when sound recordings are played on certain digital services, such as satellite radio, Internet radio, cable TV channels, or streamed as background music in some restaurants or stores. SoundExchange is the only entity in the U.S. authorized to collect and distribute these non-interactive digital performance royalties for featured recording artists and master rights owners.

SoundExchange represents an unparalleled breadth of interests in the recorded music industry. Our consituents include both signed and unsigned recording artists – everyone from multi-platinum stars to local garage bands – along with small, medium and large record companies. We currently maintain more than 48,000 payable performer accounts and over 20,000 rights owner accounts. As an organization that both enables digital services to do what they do best, but also ensures the creative community is paid for their work, we are proud to be reinvesting in the next generation of great music.

Our recording artists and record labels benefit from the value of their intellectual property and the royalties they receive from digital streaming. As such we will also fight to ensure they are paid for their contributions to the industry. Digital technology has clearly created a new and growing revenue source for the music business, but it has also developed into a means for people around the world to unlawfully obtain music for free – bringing down the value of music. This is much to the detriment of those that have put their heart and soul, including countless hours into their work.

It is our firm belief that the any ".music" top-level domain is operated by an entity that not only has a solid organizational structure in place, but is also committed to the needs and interests of the legitimate music community. We believe Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) is that organization. Based on our knowledge of the organization, SoundExchange supports their application of the ".music" domain.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Huppe

President

SoundExchange



Juuso Moisander Kaupallinen neuvos Ulkoasiainministeriö PL 413 00023 VALTIONEUVOSTO

Helsinki 10. tammikuuta 2013

#### ".music"-PÄÄTTEINEN TOP LEVEL DOMAIN

Suomen Musiikkikustantajat ry on vuonna 1976 perustettu järjestö, johon kuuluu 40 kotimaista musiikinkustannusalan yritystä tai yhteisöä. Jäsenet edustavat kattavasti kaikkia musiikin alueita kevyestä vakavaan.

Musiikinkustantajien toiminta perustuu yhteistyöhön musiikin tekijöiden eli säveltäjien ja sanoittajien kanssa. Tuemme heidän työtään ja harjoitamme liiketoimintaa edistämällä suomalaisten teosten luvallista käyttöä sekä kotimaassa että kansainvälisesti. Olemme yksi musiikkivientiämme edistävän Music Finland ry:n perustajajäsenistä sekä Suomen edustaja alan kansainvälisessä järjestössä ICMP:ssä (International Confederation of Music Publishers).

Tietojemme mukaan useat tahot ovat hakeneet ICANNilta music-päätteen käyttöoikeutta. Katsomme, että tämän päätteen käyttöoikeus tulisi myöntää hakijalle, jolla on takanaan kansainvälisen musiikkiyhteisön tuki ja joka niin kansainvälisellä kuin eri kansallisilla tasoilla todella edustaa musiikkia. Päätöstä tunnuksen myöntämisestä ei siten pidä tehdä tarjousten rahallisen suuruuden perusteella. Siksi toivomme, että kyseinen tunnus myönnettäisiin Far Further/.music LLC:n hakemukselle, jolla on takanaan musiikkialan toimijoiden laaja kansainvälinen tuki.

Far Further/.music LLC on tehnyt vuosien ajan maailmanlaajuista yhteistyötä musiikkialan toimijoiden kanssa luovan alan hyväksi ja alaan liittyvien oikeuksien suojaamiseksi. Far Further/.music LLC:n taustalla ja tukena on yli 40 kansainvälistä järjestöä, jotka edustavat kattavasti ammattimaisia musiikin tekijöitä (säveltäjiä ja sanoittajia), musiikinkustantajia, muusikkoja ja esittäviä taiteilijoita sekä levy-yhtiöitä.

Vaikka ICANNin uusi gTLD-ohjelma tarjoaakin monia uusia jakelu- ja muita mahdollisuuksia teoksille, se voi tuoda näiden teosten tekijöille myös riskejä.

Valtiot kaikkialla maailmassa ovat tunnustaneet luovan alan kulttuurisen ja taloudellisen merkityksen ja ovat sekä kansainvälisten sopimusten että lainsäädännön avulla pyrkineet suojaamaan musiikkiteoksia tekijänoikeuden loukkauksilta sekä varmistamaan, että tekijät ja taiteilijat saavat oikeudenmukaisen korvauksen teostensa käytöstä. Oikeuksien turvaaminen on näistä pyrkimyksistä huolimatta osoittautunut Internet-aikakaudella erittäin vaikeaksi.

Pyydämme, että Suomi tukisi oman maamme musiikkialaa tässä Top Level Domain -asiassa. ICANNin tulisi omien periaatteittensa mukaisesti myöntää domainit hakijalle, joka uskottavimmin ja kattavimmin edustaa omaa alaansa. Toivomme, että Governmental Advisory Committeen (GAC) suosittelee ICANNin hallitukselle tämän periaatteen mukaista päätöstä.

Ystävällisin terveisin

SUOMEN MUSIIKKIKUSTANTAJAT RY

Tekka Vijita

Pekka Sipilä toiminnanjohtaja



ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

529 s4th Street N.W., Suite 840 Washington, D.C. 20045 1-202.662.3265 f-202.662.3342 www.grammy.com/advocacy

March 29, 2012

Re: Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for

a Music-Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

#### To Whom It May Concern:

The Recording Academy, a membership organization of musicians, producers, engineers and recording professionals, would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary music LLC) application to operate a music-focused gTLD under the string ".music".

Established in 1957, The Recording Academy is dedicated to improving the cultural condition and quality of life for music and its makers. Internationally known for the GRAMMY Awards — the preeminent peer-recognized award for musical excellence and the most credible brand in music — The Recording Academy is responsible for groundbreaking professional development, cultural enrichment, advocacy, education and human services programs. The Academy continues to focus on its mission of recognizing musical excellence, advocating for the well-being of music makers and ensuring music remains an indelible part of our culture.

The growth of the Internet has deeply affected the livelihoods of our members. It has transformed how music is created and how recorded music is consumed. It presents growth opportunities in the form of new digital distribution channels for music as well as significant threats in the form of rampant online theft of copyrighted music. This widespread infringement has been to the detriment of both our members specifically and the broader music industry generally. Therefore, we have a vested interest in ensuring that any music-themed or music-focused gTLD operates in a manner that encourages the broad distribution and enjoyment of music, respects intellectual property rights and discourages copyright infringement.

In the months prior to the application window, several entities with an interest in operating a music-themed gTLD reached out to various music related trade associations to seek their support and endorsement. In light of that interest, our organization, along with other music related trade associations representing a cross-section of the global music community, participated in an extensive request for information in 2011 to solicit information from potential applicants about their plans to apply for and operate a music-themed gTLD. As part of that process, this group of associations requested information concerning, among other things, each respondent's plans to operate the gTLD generally, its proposed intellectual property protection measures for the gTLD, its governance model, its executives and staffing estimates, its whois commitments, its proposed registrar requirements and its financial and technical capability to operate its proposed gTLD

operations. Several entities responded to this request in writing, made presentations to the group about their proposed plans and responded to follow-up questions. Separate due diligence and analysis were also performed concerning the respondents and their proposed plans.

Based on the process outlined above, The Recording Academy supports and endorses the application by Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC) to operate a music themed gTLD for the music community under the string ".music" for the benefit of the music community. We believe the application will show that Far Further (or its subsidiary .music LLC), led by executives who have deep knowledge of, and experience in, the music community, will operate the gTLD in a manner that respects and protects artists' and owners' rights in copyrighted music and promotes the legitimate distribution and enjoyment of music.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please contact Daryl P. Friedman, Chief Advocacy & Industry Relations Officer, The Recording Academy, 529 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 840, Washington, D.C., 20045, 202-662-1285.

Sincerely.

Daryl P. Friedman

Chief Advocacy & Industry Relations Officer

cc:

John Styll, Far Further

Dr. Stephen Crocker, ICANN



## **Uganda Musicians' Union**

28th January 2013

P. O. Box 10914 Kampala – Uganda

Amber House 1st Floor Suite E103

Tel/Fax: +256 414 254 170, Mob +256 772 998 811

**E-mail**: <u>musicunionug@yahoo.com</u> <u>www.ugandamusiciansunion.org</u>

Simon Bugaba Assistant Director/Licensing and Standards Uganda Communications Commission

Email: stripleb@ucc.co.ug

Dear Sir:

We are writing as a concerned member of the music community in Uganda.

Uganda Musicians' Union (UMU) established in 1998, is a registered National Collective Musicians Umbrella Union under the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development – Department of Culture; promoting issues of social protection, equity, human rights, copyright management, decent working conditions and employment for performing and non-performing musicians in Uganda.

UMU with a current membership of 864 musicians is an affiliate member to the International Federation of Musicians - FIM based in Paris and to FIM/African Committee (FAC) since 2001.

We understand that there are several entities that have applied to ICANN for the gTLD ".music." It is our position that ".music" should be awarded to an applicant that has the global support of the music community, and not indiscriminately auctioned off to the highest bidder. Therefore, we are writing in support of Far Further/.music LLC's community-based application.

Prior to submitting its application, Far Further/.music LLC spent years working with the representative stakeholders from within the worldwide music community to develop policies for creative rights protections and membership requirements that not only serve the common interest of the global music community and meet or exceed ICANN's guidelines, but also are balanced with the needs of the Internet user and music lover

In addition to the support of the global noncommercial sector represented by the International Federation of Musicians and others, Far Further/.music LLC also has the endorsement of more than 40 internationally-recognized organizations that represent virtually every professional songwriter, music publisher, artist, musician and record label in the world. This is an unprecedented demonstration of unity and support from the global music community.

Music is a protected and regulated sector in most countries throughout the world, where the royalty rates are controlled by government statute. While ICANN's new gTLD program will no doubt create many new opportunities for distributing creative works, it has the potential to also pose serious risks for creators.

Governments around the world have consistently recognized the existence of a global music community and enacted treaties and legislation to protect musical works from copyright infringement and to preserve music creators' livelihoods by insuring that artists, songwriters and musicians are fairly compensated for the use and performance of their work.

Despite these internationally recognized laws and regulations, it has been extremely difficult to have these rights properly secured in the Internet age.

It would be our hope that Uganda will take a stand on behalf of our country's music community with respect to music-themed TLDs.

In accordance with its principle of serving the public interest, ICANN should award TLDs to the applicant that best represents the interests of its respective community. We want to encourage you to support the notion that, in general, a community application in a contention set is the "natural" applicant for a string.

We hereby request the GAC to issue "advice" to the ICANN Board to truly give communities preference based on this principle rather than relying solely on a point system construct that may deny logical and rightful community stakeholders their critical need for safeguards and governance.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our thoughts with you.

Best Regards,

Dick Matovu General Secretary Uganda Musicians Union (UMU) P.O. Box 10914 Kampala - Uganda Tel. +256 772 998 811/ +256 754 998 811

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22.5.14.

Re: Community Support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) Application for a Music-Focused gTLD under the string ".music"

To Whom It May Concern:

The Worldwide Independent Network (WIN) would like to express its support for Far Further's (or its subsidiary .music LLC) application to operate a music-focused TLD under the string ".music"

The Worldwide Independent Music Industry Network (WIN) is a global forum for the professional independent music industry. It was launched in 2006 in response to business, creative and market access issues faced by the independent sector everywhere. For independent music companies and their national trade associations worldwide, WIN is a collective voice. It also acts as an advocate, instigator and facilitator for its membership.

The membership of WIN is made up of 21 independent music trade associations around the world. The WIN Council consists of 20 directors of influential independent music companies in all key markets around the world who guide WIN's overall direction. WIN's entire membership stretches across every continent, with trade associations in all the well-developed legitimate music markets taking a particularly active role.

The proliferation of the digital landscape in relation to the WIN trade association member labels commercial activities is a key area on the WIN agenda. The protection of intellectual property rights is therefore vitally important to WIN and the global independent sector. As such we have a vested interest in ensuring that the entity operating the ".music" TLD appreciates the interests and concerns of our music community.

We would like to demonstrate our support of Far Further's application to operate the ".music" TLD and offer this letter as a demonstration of this.

Should you have any questions about this letter or our position, please feel free to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

Alison Wenham Chair and CEO