



February 9, 2012

ICANN Board Reaffirms Commitment to Open Second Application Window for Generic Top-Level Domain Program

Marina del Rey, California... ICANN's Board of Directors has passed a resolution reaffirming the organization's commitment to open a second round of applications for the New generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) Program as expeditiously as possible.

"The important thing here is that the Board has erased any doubt that there will be a second application window for new generic Top-Level Domains," said Steve Crocker, ICANN Board Chair. "It's not yet possible to set a definitive date for the next application period, but that will be determined after the current window closes."

The current window for new gTLD applicants opened on 12 January and will close on 12 April. After the window closes, ICANN will then begin processing and evaluating the applications. The amount of time needed to complete the stage will depend on the total number of applications received.

ICANN has committed to assess trademark protections and other technical issues before proceeding with a subsequent round of gTLD applications. The Board resolution directs ICANN to create and publish a work plan describing the assessments needed before the second application round may open. That plan would then go before for the ICANN community for refinement.

###

- To learn more about the New gTLD program, go here: <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/about/program/materials>

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Brad White
Director of Global Media Affairs
Washington, D.C.
Tel. +1 (202) 570 7118
brad.white@icann.org

Andrew Robertson
Edelman Public Relations
London, U.K.
Tel. + 44 (7811) 341 945
andrew.Robertson@edelman.com

About ICANN: *ICANN's mission is to ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. For more information please visit: www.icann.org.*