

From: Dr. Ben Fuller [<mailto:ben@fuller.na>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 4:25 AM

To: Fadi Chehade

Cc: steve.crocker@icann.org; Cherine Chalaby; heather.dryden@ic.gc.ca; Christine Willett; ssene@ntia.doc.gov; ocl@gih.com; Mandy Carver; Sally Costerton; John Jeffrey; Chris LaHatte; contact@independent-objector-newgtlds.org; Tarek Kamel; Pierre Dandjinou; Eberhard W Lisse

Subject: .NA ccTLD response to [GTLD-WG] Fwd: An Official Complaint to Report a Possible Conspiracy of Traducement & Campaign of Objection against the .Africa new gTLD Application submitted by DotConnectAfrica Trust (Application ID: 1-1165-42560)

Dear Mr Chehade,

I write to you as Director of the Namibian Network Information Center (Pty) Limited, (NA-NiC), with regards to a letter on behalf of DotConnectAfrica Trust dated 2013-03-22. The letter has the subject line "Letter to ICANN to lodge complaint regarding possible conspiracy against DCA's .Africa new gTLD application" and is signed by Ms Sophia Bekele.

On page 7 of the letter Ms Bekele states, inter alia:

"For example, the Namibian ccTLD is run by a single individual, Dr. Eberhard Lisse, who has provided UniForum with an endorsement. Everyone would agree with DCA's position that such a specious 'endorsement' from a 'one-man show ccTLD operation' hardly qualifies as an official endorsement received from the Namibian Government."

For the record, the ccTLD Manager of .NA is and has been for many years, NA-NiC and not Dr Lisse. .NA administration is hardly a "one-man show." Ms Bekele knows this very well, as she served on a panel together with Dr Lisse at the recent AfrICANN MIGWorks meeting held recently in Addis Ababa where Na-NiC operations as well as Dr Lisse's role were discussed in depth.

Neither NA-NiC nor its Directors have endorsed *any* currently pending gTLD application. This position particularly applies to the two .AFRICA applications. The only correspondence in this regard of which we are aware is enclosed. The Namibian Government has expressed its support for the African Union position on the matter of the .AFRICA applications. This determination was made independently from NA-NiC.

Clearly the content of MS Bekele's statements about .NA are incorrect. The facts of the matter were available to the lady, yet she did not rely upon them. This is disconcerting particularly with regard to the array accusations made throughout the letter. In the spirit of full disclosure I am aware of Dr Lisse's discovery of Ms Bekele using at least one false identity on at least one mailing list (the AfrICANN mailing list) while trying to garner support for her .AFRICA gTLD Application. We discussed the matter internally, and supported Dr Lisse in his efforts to unmask this falsity and to explain to Ms Bekele that her doing so may be illegal in some jurisdictions. Perhaps there is a mix of agendas driving the above statements about .NA administration.

Na-NiC welcomes the results from the gTLD evaluation process. Should you have additional queries on this matter please feel free to contact me. We look forward to further constructive engagement with ICANN and other stakeholders.

Best,

Dr Ben Fuller
Director

Namibian Network Information Centre (Pty) Ltd

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16 November 2012

Our Ref: 8/6/8
Your Ref: CIE/LI20/321.12

Dr. Elham M. A. IBRAHIM (Mrs.)
Commissioner: Infrastructure and Energy
African Union
P. O. Box 3243
Addis Ababa
ETHIOPIA

Tel.: (251-11) 5525849 Fax: (251-11) 5525855

Dear Madam Ibrahim,

RE: NAMIBIA'S POSITION ON DOT AFRICA gTLD PROJECT

The Government of the Republic of Namibia applauds the AU initiative and urges the AU to proceed in earnest to have the .africa registry established to avoid a potential hijack of regional names on Africa for private use.

We furthermore express that the regional geographic TLD strings '.africa', '.afrique' and '.afrika' be set aside by ICANN for the regions' use under the auspices of the AU and that the new gTLD bid process should not result in the string(s) being inadvertently assigned without the AUC determination.

Accept, dear Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,


Hon. Joel N. Kasapanda, MP
MINISTER



All official correspondence must be addressed to the Permanent Secretary