

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 19, 2015

Mr. Fadi Chehadé
Chief Executive Officer
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and
Numbers (ICANN)
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536

Dr. Steven Crocker
Board of Directors Chair
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and
Numbers (ICANN)
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536

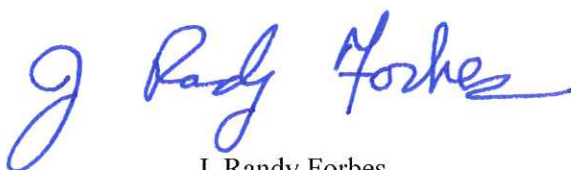
Dear Mr. Chehadé and Dr. Crocker,

As co-chairs of the Congressional Trademark Caucus, we write to encourage you to actively seek resolution of the .AMAZON generic top level domains (gTLDs). We understand that Amazon has recently reiterated to ICANN its interest in finding a mutually acceptable solution for the .AMAZON gTLDs. At this critical stage in which the United States Government prepares to transition stewardship of the IANA functions, we believe it is incumbent upon ICANN to resolve this issue, demonstrating that all stakeholders and trademark owners can be treated fairly, according to ICANN's multistakeholder-developed rules and existing international law.

Amazon's 2012 applications for the .AMAZON gTLDs conformed fully to the requirements of ICANN's Applicant Guidebook, received full marks in ICANN's application evaluation, and were consistent with its globally protected "Amazon" trademark. Nevertheless, ICANN refused to allow the .AMAZON applications to proceed after the Governmental Advisory Committee objected -- outside of ICANN's application objection process -- because of sovereignty concerns raised by Brazil and Peru. In fact, neither Brazil nor Peru has any legally recognized rights -- let alone intellectual property rights -- in the term "Amazon" and there is no basis in international law for either country to assert rights in the term "Amazon." Based on the rules set by the ICANN community and supported by international law generally as well as international trademark law specifically, ICANN's rejection of the .AMAZON applications appears to have no legal basis and potentially creates a troubling precedent of governments disregarding established principles of international law, including international trademark law.

We strongly support attempts to find a mutually acceptable solution for .AMAZON and we urge ICANN to convene the interested parties. By resolving this outstanding issue, ICANN can demonstrate to Congress that it is accountable to the global community, independent of governmental interference, and respectful of international trademark law; such a demonstration is crucial before the IANA functions transition.

Sincerely,



J. Randy Forbes
Co-Chair
Congressional Trademark Caucus



Suzan DelBene
Co-Chair
Congressional Trademark Caucus