

Re: Support for .MUSIC Community-based Application with Enhanced Safeguards

Dear ICANN and Economist Intelligence Unit (“EIU”):

Please accept this letter on behalf of our organization, which supports DotMusic’s community-based Application¹ for .MUSIC -- an Application supported by the largest global music community coalition ever assembled to support a music cause, representing over 95% of music consumed globally² -- to safeguard intellectual property and serve the legitimate interests of the entire global music community, including commercial, non-commercial and amateur constituents. Respecting and protecting music rights serves both the global music community and the public interest.

Our organization supports the positions expressed in the letter³ sent to ICANN (on March 5th, 2015) by Victoria Shekler from the RIAA and on behalf of a global music community coalition representing “over 80% of the world’s music,” and the letter⁴ sent to ICANN (on March 7th, 2015) by Rich Bengloff from the A2IM and on behalf of a majority of a global music community coalition representing a majority of the independent music community, to support the “community” application for .MUSIC and that “we expect...the community application process...to have meaning and for the community preference criteria (CPE)...to be interpreted thoughtfully, diligently, and in a responsible manner in light of the public interest and with consumer safety in mind ” and for ICANN “to expeditiously implement appropriate changes to address [concerns].” We also support the positions in the letter⁵ sent to ICANN (on April 14th, 2015) by Danielle Aguirre from the NMPA and on behalf of a music publisher and songwriter community coalition representing a majority of the global music publishing community, which expressed their “support [for] the .MUSIC community application because respecting and protecting music rights serves the global music community and the public interest.”

We agree that the .MUSIC string must serve the global music community and the global public interest by incorporating music-focused Enhanced Safeguards to serve the community under a .MUSIC community-based string governed by the global Music Community, as reaffirmed by DotMusic in its Application and its Public Interest Commitments.⁶ DotMusic’s Application has the necessary music-tailored Enhanced Safeguards and measures to counter copyright infringement and address abuse that is highly prevalent online. As reiterated by other relevant organizations, we also expect that the remaining .MUSIC community Application prevails CPE to appropriately serve the legitimate interests of the global music community and the public interest.

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¹ <https://gtldresult.icann.org/application-result/applicationstatus/applicationdetails/1392>, DotMusic Application ID 1-1115-14110

² <http://music.us/supporters/>

³ <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/riaa-to-icann-05mar15-en.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/bengloff-to-crocker-et-al-07mar15-en.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/aguirre-to-icann-board-eiu-14apr15-en.pdf>

⁶ <https://gtldresult.icann.org/application-result/applicationstatus/applicationdetails/downloadpicposting/1392?t:ac=1392>