



Letter of Support for DotAsia ICANN TLD Bid

11.12.2004

To the Members of the Board of ICANN,

We are writing to express our support for the DotAsia Organisation to establish and operate a Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific community based sponsored generic TLD.

We understand that the DotAsia Organisation has submitted a bid to ICANN to establish a Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific based Top-Level Domain (TLD), and we undertake to fully support application of the the Organisation in this bid.

We also understand that if the Organisation won this bid, the Organisation wishes to:

- Operate a viable not-for-profit initiative to be a technically advanced, world-class TLD registry for the Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific community;
- Establish an Internet namespace expressing our Asian identity, with global recognition and regional significance for the betterment of the Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific Internet experience,
- Reinvest surplus proceeds into socio-technological advancement initiatives relevant to the Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific Internet community.

We believe that this .Asian initiative, as proposed by the DotAsia Organisation, is an appropriate and viable structure that is representative of the Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific community and will serve for the betterment of the Internet experience for the Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific community. Furthermore:

1. The proposed ccTLD-driven structure will work favourably for the .ASIA Registry operationally as well as strategically in the geo-economic regions in Asia-Pacific
2. The augmented governance structure with advisors from Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific Internet and IT groups ensure broad representation and relevance from the community served
3. Unlike the ".EU" initiative which is driven by the European Commission, the .ASIA Registry will leverage the already demonstrated success of Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific Internet groups (e.g. APNIC, APTLD, APIA, etc.) to be established as a community-based initiative, exemplifying the collaborative nature of the Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific community.
4. There is a definite role for a regional TLD to play, for example, there are international based magazines, regional based magazines and local magazines. For the same logic there is a place for international based TLDs, regional based TLDs and local TLDs. More importantly, the Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific Internet community is especially mature and ready to embrace this initiative.
5. The proof-of-concept multilingual TLD option is very appropriate for the diverse and multicultural environment of Asia. The proof-of-concept approach will also allow ICANN to further its study not only on new gTLDs but also the introduction of IDNs.

We therefore ask you to look favourably upon the DotAsia Organisation proposal and to commission for the .ASIA TLD to launch and operate the .ASIA TLD for the betterment of the Internet experience in Pan-Asia and Asia-Pacific in the contribution to the global Internet community.

Sincerely,

Ms. HOUTH Ratanak
Director
Open Forum of Cambodia
Represented in NCDNHC, later NCUC of ICANN