

GAC Advice Response Form for Applicants



The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) has issued advice to the ICANN Board of Directors regarding New gTLD applications. Please see Section IV, Annex I, and Annex II of the [GAC Beijing Communiqué](#) for the full list of advice on individual strings, categories of strings, and strings that may warrant further GAC consideration.

Respondents should use this form to ensure their responses are appropriately tracked and routed to the ICANN Board for their consideration. Complete this form and submit it as an attachment to the ICANN Customer Service Center via your [CSC Portal](#) with the Subject, “[Application ID] Response to GAC Advice” (for example “1-111-11111 Response to GAC Advice”). All GAC Advice Responses must be received no later than 23:59:59 UTC on 10-May-2013.

Respondent:

Applicant Name	Washington Team Tennis LLC
Application ID	1-2036-18560
Applied for TLD (string)	.tennis

Response:

Dear ICANN Board:

This letter is submitted on behalf of Washington Team Tennis LLC, an applicant for the .tennis gTLD, in response to the GAC Communiqué issued in Beijing, China on April 11, 2013 covering gTLDs representing generic terms that intend to operate with Restrictive Registration Policies. We agree that the generic terms listed in Category 2 of the Communiqué’s Annex should be “open” to serve the broadest public interest goal possible. Indeed, tennis is a sport played and enjoyed by millions of people around the world, and the worldwide public interest of the global tennis community cannot be properly served by any applicant proposing “exclusive” or otherwise restrictive access policies to a gTLD incorporating such a generic term as “tennis.”

Our application for the .tennis gTLD does not contain any restrictions on access nor any policies making access “closed” to any particular groups, regions or otherwise. To the contrary, our application describes a business strategy of marketing .tennis to the broadest audience possible and providing the broadest access possible to .tennis with the goal of promoting the sport of tennis on a global basis and encouraging any person, whether a teaching pro, club owner, equipment retailer or tennis fan anywhere in the world to use .tennis.

In sum, any application that purports to restrict access to .tennis or otherwise impose “closed” access to .tennis based on geography, affiliations or any other criteria is more consistent with promoting the goals of a private organization rather than serving the public interest. And, more importantly, it would be patently unfair to allow any applicant that proposed restrictive access policies in their application in regard to such a generic term as “tennis” to be allowed to revise their application in response to any GAC Early Warnings or the GAC Communiqué issued in Beijing on April 11, 2013 to correct this fundamental deficiency in their application.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Ein
On behalf of Washington Team Tennis LLC