

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	Deutsche Vermögensberatung Aktiengesellschaft DVAG
Application ID	1-904-3145
Applied for TLD (string)	vermögensberatung

Response:

To ICANN Board for consideration.

We understand your request to receive additional feedback from applicants in regards to the recommendation made by the GAC as stated in the "Beijing Communiqué".

Please feel free to share this feedback below with the GAC.

We recognize the GAC concerns particularly in regard to implementing safeguard mechanisms as described in the applications for instance in question 28, 29 and 30a/b into the gTLD agreement (contract between ICANN and us individual applicants/registry operators.)

As a large and recognized brand within our industry, we expect to be held responsible to operate our TLDs in a manner that is in compliance with local and international legislation. We have emphasized the need for a safe zone, where the internet users, when accessing websites under any of our gTLDs will be certain that they have reached an authorized website, promoting our industry specific and industry regulated services.

As the applicant for two gTLDs mentioned in the GAC Communiqué:

.VERMÖGENSBERATER and .VERMÖGENSBERATUNG

we are open to include our proposed safeguard and abuse prevention mechanisms as described in our responses to Q28, Q29, and Q30 and 30b (including increased security requirements to be implemented in the registry-registrar agreement, such as pin-based login, monitoring of content on websites, requirements to registrants to act in accordance with local legislations within our industry). We further support any new mechanisms and policies that will strengthen the WHOIS Accuracy and are willing to implement that into our Public Interest Commitment (spec 11) as part of the new gTLD agreements we are to enter with ICANN.

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As we have already in detail described to ICANN our additional safeguards as part of the responses to the Application, including

- an extensive IT Risk Assessment Plan,
- manual verification processes of users,
- use restrictions and consequences, if the use of the domains are not in compliance with our policies

we do not wish to describe these mechanisms in details in this context, as we understand that this response will be made publically available.

In general we support that additional safeguards are implemented for "sensitive" strings in a manner balancing the achieved security effects with the nature of the domain name industry (registry, registrar, registrants) in such a way that an increased level of security can be achieved without placing an undue burden on registry operators, registrars, and registrants to a degree that they may find these specific new gTLDs unattractive, and instead turn to other less safe TLDs. It is our opinion that this would be a shame and be counterproductive to the stated goals of the new gTLD program. Should the ICANN board or the GAC for that matter have a need for additional details on our enhanced safeguards, we are willing to share that with the GAC/ICANN Board. However, we hope that we do not have to disclose these safeguards to the public, as they are of course confidential by nature.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to highlight our view on how to operate sensitive strings.