



Ms Sophia Bekele,
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Copied to:
ICANN, Suite 330, 4676 Admiralty Way
Marina del Rey, CA 90292

Attention: New gTLD Evaluation Process

Dear Sophia Bekele

Subject: Letter for support for DotAfrica

With much pleasure, I am offering my unreserved support to DotConnectAfrica (DCA) in its application for <.africa> generic Top Level Domain in the current 2012 ICANN round of applications.

Having resided, worked and travelled extensively throughout Africa for the last 25 years, I know how important identity is to all Africans. The <.africa> initiative will bring this into the virtual world of the internet however it must be underpinned by a serious commitment in the real world.

Having been a strategic advisory board member at DotconnectAfrica, for the past 2 years, I believe DCA's application for the current ICANN gTLD application round is ably informed from the adverse and extensive research and understanding of the namespace vacuum for a continental domain and have been at the forefront in educating and calling on the continent to capture the rare opportunity. The rapidly growing internet community is enough proof that a domain is long overdue.

Clearly DotConnectAfrica has worked consistently over the last five years to promote and develop the concept of a <.africa> at various industry events and forums. These include significant events in Kenya, South Africa, San Francisco, Nigeria, Senegal, Libya, Munic and Singapore, Dakar and many other places that were not publicized. This indicates a true commitment to promoting the concept of .Africa.

I am also aware of the care taken to establish the corporate and technical partnerships required as well as financial strategies adapted to support this initiative.

I hereby offer my support towards DCA on the application round for the <.africa> gTLD.

Yours sincerely

Barry Ryan
CEO