

United States Government (USG) Input to Early Warning Process for New Generic Top-Level Domain Names (gTLDs) Via the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

1. General Principles

- Applicants should follow through on commitments articulated in their applications. Any proposed post delegation changes should be discussed prior to implementation via an Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) community consultation process.
- It is recommended that registry operators of strings geared toward vulnerable communities (e.g., children), that suggest third-party verification (e.g., professional services, charitable giving, financial services, security) or that could be confused with official governmental postal services, put additional safeguards in place.
- It is recommended that registry operators of strings that may be used for environmental marketing purposes be aware of applicable consumer protection laws and regulations when such strings are used to describe environmental characteristics or imply environmental benefits associated with a product or service.
- Applications for strings that are financial services oriented should include a specific enough description of the intended use of the string to enable evaluators to determine whether the applications specify and satisfy the security and registration criteria as defined in Evaluation Question 30. Applications for strings that are commonly or naturally associated with financial services should also include a registrant eligibility policy consistent with the laws of all relevant jurisdictions (e.g., restricting associations with the word 'bank' to chartered banks to the extent required by law).

2. Early warning on .army, .navy, and .airforce

- Confusingly similar to names of specific government agencies

3. Early warning for the applications by Directi which incorrectly cite an invitation from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to a conference as an endorsement/recommendation.

- The notice is based on Directi's incorporation into its applications of an email from the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The referenced email was not sent as a recommendation for or in support of a new gTLD or an applicant. We request Directi to remove from its gTLD applications the FBI email in question or any reference to said email as part of the Directi gTLD applications.