Application ID: 1-868-35885
Entity/Applicant Name: Afilias Limited
String: SHIKSHA
Early Warning Issue Date: 20 November 2012

Early Warning Description – This will be posted publicly:

“Shiksha” is a Hindi translation of the word education. The applicant intends to address the education market in India, where specific norms exist. ICANN should ensure that the applicant intends to conform to the norms of use of the word Shiksha in India, and have adequate steps in place to combat abusive registrations.

Reason/Rationale for the Warning – This will be posted publicly:

The word Shiksha meaning education in Hindi should be associated only with learning. The Govt. of India wants to ensure that the word is used in the meaning and context of the Hindi word, and that adequate measures exist to combat abusive registrations. We believe the applicant should undertake to conform to the norms of use of the word Shiksha in India, and have adequate steps in place to combat abusive registrations.

If the applicant is able to refer to such steps in their response, and if the applicant undertakes to conform to the norms of use, our primary concerns would be addressed.
Possible Remediation steps for Applicant – This will be posted publicly:

1. Submit an undertaking that the applicant will conform to the norms of use of Shiksha in India
2. Demonstrate that adequate measures to combat abusive registrations are provided for the booking of Shiksha names
3. Show how the applicant will ensure that the meaning of Shiksha (i.e., education) will be preserved in the gTLD, and will not be used for non-education or learning-related purposes.

Further Notes from GAC Member(s) (Optional) – This will be posted publicly:

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

About GAC Early Warning

The GAC Early Warning is a notice only. It is not a formal objection, nor does it directly lead to a process that can result in rejection of the application. However, a GAC Early Warning should be taken seriously as it raises the likelihood that the application could be the subject of GAC Advice on New gTLDs or of a formal objection at a later stage in the process. Refer to section 1.1.2.4 of the Applicant Guidebook
Instructions if you receive the Early Warning

ICANN strongly encourages you work with relevant parties as soon as possible to address the concerns voiced in the GAC Early Warning.

Asking questions about your GAC Early Warning

If you have questions or need clarification about your GAC Early Warning, please contact gacearlywarning@gac.icann.org. As highlighted above, ICANN strongly encourages you to contact gacearlywarning@gac.icann.org as soon as practicable regarding the issues identified in the Early Warning.

Continuing with your application

If you choose to continue with the application, then the “Applicant’s Response” section below should be completed. In this section, you should notify the GAC of intended actions, including the expected completion date. This completed form should then be sent to gacearlywarning@gac.icann.org. If your remediation steps involve submitting requests for changes to your application, see the change request process at http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/customer-service/change-requests.

In the absence of a response, ICANN will continue to process the application as submitted.

Withdrawing your application

If you choose to withdraw your application within the 21-day window to be eligible for a refund of 80% of the evaluation fee (USD 148,000), please follow the withdrawal process published at http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/customer-service/withdrawal-refund. Note that an application can still be withdrawn after the 21-day time period; however, the available refund amount is reduced. See section 1.5 of the Applicant Guidebook.

For questions please contact: gacearlywarning@gac.icann.org

Applicant Response: