

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
OFFICE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY**

Telephone 4920000/4921000
Telegrams: "Teleposta", Nairobi
When replying please quote

Teleposta Towers
P.O. Box 30025
NAIROBI - KENYA

Ref: MIC/11/05

Date: 15th October, 2015

**Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
ICANN, New Gtld Application Program
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536
USA
newgtld@icann.org**

Attn: Geographic Names Panel (GNP)

**Dear, ICANN Board of Directors and New Generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs)
Geographic Names Panel (GNP) members,**

**RE: CLARIFICATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA'S POSITION ON THE
MATTER CONCERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE DOTAFRICA
(.AFRICA) TOP LEVEL DOMAIN**

Kenya is a signatory to the African Heads of States, through the Oliver Tambo Declaration of 5th November, 2009, that expressed the need to prioritize the delegation of a new continental geographic Top Level Domain Name, dotAfrica (.Africa).

Kenya is also a signatory to the African ICT Ministers that issued a directive to the African Union Commission (AUC), contained in the Third Ordinary Session Abuja Declaration 2010, to 'set up the structures and modalities for the implementation of the DotAfrica (.Africa) project'.

Kenya therefore fully supported and continue to support the African Union Commission's (AUC) implementation action plan and all activities it has undertaken and

continues to undertake on behalf of our continent to fulfill this mandate by African Heads of States and Ministers.

Please refer to the letter dated 12 April 2012, addressed to the former ICANN CEO Rod Beckstrom from our former Honorable Minister for Information and Communication Hon. Samuel Poghiso (copy attached). The letter noted the Heads of states Summit held in 2010, supported and urged the AUC to proceed with the process of registering the DotAfrica Top Level Domain and cautioned ICANN not to delegate the dot Africa name without the African Union determination. The support still stands.

Please also refer to Kenya's Early Warning notice issued through the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) against a competing private application submitted by DotConnectAfrica Trust (DCA) [application ID: 1-1165-42560]. We also refer to Kenya's support for GAC consensus advice contained in the 2013 Beijing Communiqué and to the rationale provided for that consensus advice contained in various other documents shared by the GAC even prior to the launch of the new gTLD process.

In view of the above, I wish to clarify that Kenya does not support the DCA application and, if any such support was initially provided, we have subsequently withdrawn it with the full knowledge of DCA.

My office stands ready to engage with the GNP to clarify and affirm this position if this is required.

Yours

Sincerely

Fred Matiang'i

Fred Matiang'i, PhD
CABINET SECRETARY

CC Dr. Elham A. Ibrahim (Mrs)
Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy
Africa Union Commission
Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

Ms. Sophie Bekele
Executive Director
The DotAfrica (.Africa) project
DotConnectAfrica.org
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Fax: (251-11) 662-59-09, Addis Ababa



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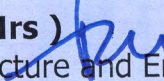
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