



July 1, 2013

**The Honorable Senator John 'Jay' Rockefeller IV
Chairman of the United States Senate Committee on
Commerce, Science and Transportation**

113th United States Congress
531 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510
USA

Dear Senator Rockefeller,

Subject: New gTLD Program of ICANN – a follow-up on our previous letter and Recommendation for Direct Congressional Oversight and Appointment of an Independent Counsel as Congressional new gTLD Ombudsman

We begin by noting your recent letter addressed to Dr. Stephen D. Crocker, Chairman of the ICANN Board of Directors, which amongst other things reiterated your support for ICANN's pivotal role in the multi-stakeholder model of Global Internet Governance. DCA Trust has been a committed supporter of the multi-stakeholder Internet Governance process. For example, you may recall our June 2012 open letter addressed to you to express support in defense of the status quo on [Global Internet Governance Model and Reaffirmation of the Multi-stakeholder Process](#). Indeed, your letter has reassured many that the new gTLD Program of ICANN is being over-sighted by higher authorities within the United States Government.

We therefore would like to express our most profound appreciation for your impeccable leadership in this and related matters. We wish to also congratulate you for the top-level steering role that you continue to play in the ICANN new gTLD Program as Chairman of the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation and your concentrated attention in ensuring that the Internet Expansion Program should serve the public interests of consumers and companies who use the Global Internet.

We have also written to your office in February 2013 to explain the need for direct Congressional Oversight of the new gTLD Program, along with some recommendations for the appointment of an Independent Counsel as Congressional new gTLD Ombudsman who would investigate and report to Congress on matters of illegality and any irregularities in the new gTLD Program of ICANN. [A copy of our letter may be found here.](#)



Accordingly, we wish that urgent attention be given to addressing the recommendation(s) contained in our previous communication to your office since the decision milestones are now being encountered in the structured new gTLD Program Process of ICANN. We therefore would like an early opportunity to follow-up on this issue with a view to making some further progress towards an official acceptance of the recommendation as conveyed, and the feasible modalities for its implementation.

Thank you Senator Rockefeller for your attention as we continue to count on your highly esteemed leadership and the kindest consideration of your good offices at all times.

Most respectfully yours,

Sbekele

Ms. Sophia Bekele, B.S., M.B.A., C.I.S.A, C.C.S, CGEIT

For: DotConnectAfrica Trust (An Applicant for the .Africa gTLD) Application ID: 1-1165-42560