

Issue Brief: WT5 –

CPWG Issue Presenter

Marita Moll

What's at issue?

In the AGB 2012, applicants for a city name can circumvent the requirement for a letter of support or non-objection by saying they are NOT intending to use the gTLD primarily for purposes associated with the city.

What's the proposed resolution?

Proposed new wording for AGB 2012 to prevent circumvention:

.An application for a city name will be subject to the geographic names requirements (i.e., will require documentation of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities) if:

2012 AGB: a) It is clear from **applicant statements** within the application that the **applicant** will use the TLD **primarily** for purposes associated with the city name

Revision: a) The **geo name panel determines** whether or not it is **foreseeable** that **registrants** will use the TLD **to a significant degree** for purposes associated with the city name

What's at stake for End Users

- .Many cities in many parts of the world are not focussed on buying their domain name the moment ICANN announces the next gTLD round.
- .Just like tickets for rock concerts, city names could be bought up by domain name scalpers and held until a time when the city realizes their name is in the hands of third parties. Then they will have to buy at an inflated price
- .Citizens of cities should have some protection against name scalping

How are parties aligned?

- .Contracted Parties – many opposed but some strong supporters
- .Business – probably opposed
- .NCSG – opposed
- .GAC – highly in favour
- .SSAC – ??

Proposed At-large Positioning

- .Position 1 – support the new wording as a group in WT5 comments and meetings
- .Position 2 – support with some adjustment
- .Position 3 – not enough support to go forward as a group

Discussion