

**To the courteous attention of Mr Jean-Jacques Sahel, Vice President, GSE, Europe
And Mr Andrea Beccalli, Stakeholder Engagement Manager – Europe**

In copy:

Dr Steve Crocker, Chair of the ICANN Board
Mr Cherine Chalaby, Chair of the new gTLD Program Committee Board
Mr Fadi Chehadé, CEO of ICANN
Mr Akram Atallah, COO of ICANN

Brussels, 5 May 2014

Object: “.wine” & “.vin” - GI wine sector roadmap to strike a deal before the end of the 60 day period as provided for by the NGPC resolution of 4 April 2014

Dear Sirs,

We are contacting you on behalf of the European appellation wine industry, in particular the European Federation of Origin Wines (EFOW) www.efow.eu.

We would like to inform you that we are actively following up on the NGPC resolution of 04/04/2014 which invites *“the relevant impacted parties to negotiate, which they are encouraged to do”*.

Considering the fact that legal certainty is a key issue for the wine sector, in particular with regard to the protection of Geographical Indications (GIs), we would like to bring to your attention the actions engaged by the GI wine sector so far in order to reach a suitable agreement for all parties before the end of the 60 day period.

Actions undertaken:

- 18 April: EFOW re-launched the negotiations by inviting all three applicants to join in a High Level Meeting in Brussels on 15-16 May under the auspices of the European Commission. We are in close contacts with the signatories of the Declaration to Protect Wine Place & Origin www.protectplace.com and other non EU wine regions, such as Napa Valley, Long Island and Santa Barbara have agreed to join the negotiations.
- 18 April: EFOW invited Mr Nigel Hickson and all interested ICANN parties to join the High Level Meeting in Brussels on 15-16 May.
- 18 April: Afilias answered that they were not available on those dates but were open to reschedule the meeting.
- 21 April: Donuts answered that they were not available on those dates but were open to reschedule the meeting.
- 29 April: Donuts sent EFOW an email to make sure we had received their previous email.
- 29 April: EFOW and other GI wine regions, notably Napa Valley, Long Island and Santa Barbara wrote to all applicants to pursue the negotiations in a pragmatic way. All three candidate companies were asked to give their availabilities in order to set up, with the technical support of the European Commission, Video Conferences and pursue the negotiations.
- 30 April: Famous Four Media answered that they are awaiting further guidance from ICANN regarding what is expected from them before taking any commitment.

- 30 April: Donuts has given its availability for the week of 19 May. EFOW responded that it will coordinate with other GI wine regions, notably Napa Valley, Long Island and Santa Barbara to propose a meeting.
- 1 May: Afiliis answered that they were available on May 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 22, 27, 28 and 29.
- 2 May: EFOW responded that it will coordinate with other GI wine regions, notably Napa Valley, Long Island and Santa Barbara to propose a meeting.

We believe that there is room for a mutually satisfactory agreement which would set out adequate safeguards.

Based on the above, we would like to invite you and other interested ICANN parties to assist to these multi-stakeholders negotiations in order to ensure a high level of transparency and accountability. As soon as dates are fixed we will communicate them to you.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,



Riccardo RICCI CURBASTRO
President of EFOW