

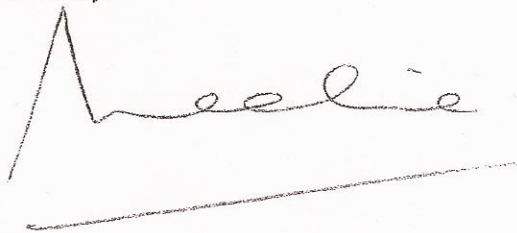
- The rationale provided by the ICANN as justification for not following GAC advice employs mostly procedural arguments that do not adequately reflect the significant political and cultural sensitivities created by this application and which underlie the GAC advice. Indeed, the rationale does not even provide a convincing argument that the applicant has demonstrated sufficient support from the adult entertainment community itself. This is perhaps not surprising given that many members of this community have been extremely vocal in their opposition to the proposed new TLD.

- There remains the outstanding concern that parents and those with responsibility for children will be given a false sense of security by the proposed filtering opportunities provided by the .XXX TLD, opportunities that it seems will have no discernable impact on the existing pornographic content currently available under other TLDs.

Most importantly, perhaps, are the wider consequences that we have all have to deal with as a result of this decision. We are both aware of the broader geo-political Internet governance debate that continues regarding the legitimacy of the ICANN model. I am concerned therefore that ICANN's decision to reject substantive GAC advice – of which there is also an apparent risk in relation to the new generic TLD process – may be detrimental to the multi-stakeholder, private sector-led model which many of us in the international community have been stoutly defending for years.

In conclusion, I would therefore consider it necessary for the GAC to reflect, at a senior level, on the broader implications of the Board's decision on .XXX, and to do so before the TLD is introduced into the global Internet. I assume that the United States government would appreciate the opportunity to hear the views of other countries on this important issue, and I very much hope therefore that I can count on your support for such an initiative,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Neelie". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background. Below the signature is a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line, likely a separator or a flourish.

P.S.

I am aware that we share
concerns of this issue.

A small, handwritten flourish or mark, possibly a stylized letter or a decorative element, located at the end of the P.S. note.