



*From the desk of the
Director-General
投資推廣署署長用箋*

Our Ref : IHK/IT/K/7

2 March 2004

ICANN Board Members

Dear Sir/Madam,

Letter of Support for DotAsia Organisation ICANN TLD Bid

We understand that the DotAsia Organisation intends to submit a bid to ICANN to establish an Asia Pacific-based Top-Level Domain (TLD) in Hong Kong and this letter is to support the bid. While the creation of this body will not constitute an overseas investment and therefore does not fall directly within Invest Hong Kong's immediate responsibilities, we are happy to support the organisation's efforts because of the strength of their case.

Hong Kong is a natural home for a TLD registry in Asia. Our Government is committed, through its Digital 21 Strategy, to creating a business environment most conducive for the IT community to succeed and as a result, we are one of Asia's leading internet, communications and e-commerce hubs. We are also home to Asia's only arbitration centre for domain name dispute resolution. The siting of a TLD registry here would be an affirmation of the strides Hong Kong has made to support the Internet industry.

We understand that if successful, the DotAsia Organisation wishes to:

- Operate a viable not-for-profit initiative to be a technically advanced, world-class TLD registry for the Asia Pacific community;
- Establish an Internet namespace with global recognition and regional significance for the betterment of the Asia Pacific Internet experience; and

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- Reinvest surplus proceeds into socio-technological advancement initiatives relevant to the Asia Pacific Internet community.

This appears to be a very admirable way to run the business, and we hope it will convince you to award rights to setting up a TLD here.

Yours faithfully



(M J T Rowse)

Director-General of Investment Promotion