

.ECO Community TLD | Intergovernmental Letters

Organization	Description	Founded	International Scope
United Nations Environment Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations system’s designated entity for addressing environmental issues at the global and regional level • Mandate is to coordinate the development of environmental policy consensus by keeping the global environment under review and bringing emerging issues to the attention of governments and the international community for action • Mandate and objectives of UNEP emanate from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972; • Agenda 21, adopted at the UN Conference on Environment and Development (the Earth Summit) in 1992; • the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of UNEP, adopted by the UNEP Governing Council in 1997; • the Malmö Ministerial Declaration and the UN Millennium Declaration, adopted in 2000; and • recommendations related to international environmental governance approved by the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and the 2005 World Summit 	1972	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNEP Governing Council reports to the UN General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council. Its 58 members are elected by the General Assembly for four-year terms, taking into account the principle of equitable regional representation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 seats for African States • 13 seats for Asian States • 6 seats for Eastern European States • 10 seats for Latin American and Caribbean States • 13 seats for Western European and other States
UN Global Compact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World's largest corporate citizenship and sustainability initiative • Involves all relevant social actors: companies, whose actions it seeks to influence; governments, labour, civil society organizations, and the United Nations, the world's only truly global political forum, as an authoritative convener and facilitator 	2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 8,000 participants, including over 6000 businesses in 135 countries around the world • Network-based initiative with the Global Compact Office and seven UN agencies at its core



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Reference: EO/MC/aa

Date: 13 April 2012

Dear Dr. Mattar,

Re: The .ECO Top-Level Domain (TLD)

As you know, UNEP has been following the environmental community's application for a new ".eco" top level domain for some time. Since my letter of 7 July 2010, the Head of UNEP's Internet Unit has participated as an observer in the work of the .ECO Community Council.

The environmental community – a community with millions of members worldwide – has been recognized by the United Nations since the 1972 Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, and subsequently through the existence of UNEP and its stakeholders.

People around the world associate "eco" with respect for the environment. Recognizing the potential for its misuse, I appreciate the work of the community to develop rules to ensure responsible and transparent use of the "eco" label.

I also appreciate your efforts on behalf of the global environmental community to ensure that the Dot ECO Global Community Organization is composed of diverse, widely recognized, environmental institutions that will collectively serve as the representative community organization for the .ECO TLD.

I look forward to further reports about your efforts to achieve the community designation for .ECO.

Yours sincerely,

Achim Steiner
Executive Director

Dr. Helio Mattar
Co-Chair, Dot ECO Global Community Organization
President, Akatu Institute For Conscious Consumption
Sao Paulo, Brazil

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Our Reference: DCPI/0834/2010

Date: 7 July 2010

Dear Mr. Atkin,

Thank you for your letter on the Dot Eco Stakeholder Council informing us about the launch of a new ".eco" domain ending.

I share your concerns on the possible risks of misuse and green-washing of such domain endings that should represent only environmentally friendly entities. It is critical that the rules for operating ".eco" domains are regularized in an accountable and transparent manner and that due process is developed to regulate such procedure.

UNEP would like to engage in this process with the Dot Eco Stakeholder Council. I, therefore, request that you keep us abreast of developments, share with us necessary information on a regular basis. Kindly note that the UNEP focal point for this exercise is Mr. Satinder Bindra, Director, Communication and Public Information (DCPI) at email: satinder.bindra@unep.org.

I would appreciate additional information on the Dot Eco Stakeholder Council and Experts Working Group including date, venue, agenda, participation and expected outcomes.

Yours sincerely,

Achim Steiner
Executive Director

Mr. Martin Atkin
Chair,
The Dot Eco Stake Holder Council
Director of Media
WWF International

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23 April 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the “.eco” initiative and application, which I welcome for its innovative use of a principles-based, multi-stakeholder, collective action approach to pursue key public interest goals of great importance also to the UN. If sustainable development is to be a reality and not just a dream, we need more creative approaches to raising awareness and incentivizing action by all stakeholders.

The United Nations Global Compact is a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and to action in support of UN goals. The Global Compact’s overall mission is more sustainable and inclusive global markets. It utilizes a global/local, public/private multi-stakeholder approach that sees voluntary efforts as an important complement, but not substitute for government responsibility and action.

I have reviewed the Dot Eco Consensus dated 16 September 2010, which is associated with the “.eco” initiative and application, and am pleased to see that the values of transparency, accountability, inclusiveness and continuous improvement are given prominence. These values are very much in line with the UN Global Compact’s own approach to corporate sustainability.

I am impressed by the nature and extent of the support that the “.eco” initiative has already been able to generate for the idea of securing the .eco top level domain as a public resource, and am happy to lend our own support to this effort through this letter.

Yours sincerely,

Georg Kell
Executive Director
UN Global Compact Office