

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT

FOR THE .MANGA gTLD COMMUNITY APPLICATION

From:

The Japan Cartoonists Association

公益社団法人 日本漫画家協会

Public Interest Incorporated Association

**In Support of Kodansha Ltd.'s Community Application

for the .manga generic Top-Level Domain**

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT FOR THE .MANGA gTLD COMMUNITY APPLICATION

Date: [Date] *June 12, 2026*

To:

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

Community Priority Evaluation Panel

12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300

Los Angeles, CA 90094, USA

From:

The Japan Cartoonists Association (公益社団法人 日本漫画家協会)

Public Interest Incorporated Association

3-1 Katamachi, Shinjuku-ku

Tokyo 160-0001, Japan

Subject: Endorsement of Kodansha Ltd.'s Community Application for the .manga generic Top-Level Domain

I. ORGANIZATIONAL IDENTITY AND AUTHORITY

The Japan Cartoonists Association (JCA) is a Public Interest Incorporated Association (公益社団法人) established in 1964, with over 4,000 professional manga creators (mangaka) as members. Our current Chairman is Mr. Tetsuya Chiba, and our President is Ms. Machiko Satonaka.

The Japan Cartoonists Association is the oldest and most representative professional organization of manga creators in Japan, having served the professional interests of mangaka for over 60 years. We are also one of the six founding members of ABJ (Authorized Books of Japan), and our Managing Director, Ms. Ban Ippongi, serves on ABJ's Board of Directors.

The Creator Perspective: Why JCA's Voice Is Essential

Manga creators — mangaka — are the foundation upon which the entire Japan Manga Industry Community is built. Without the creative work of mangaka, there would be no manga to publish, no IP to license, no content to distribute, and no ecosystem to protect. The Japan Cartoonists Association represents the interests of these creators — the individuals who conceive, write, and draw the manga works that define the industry.

JCA's endorsement provides the CPE evaluation with a critical dimension that publisher endorsements alone cannot: **the perspective of the creator community**. Publishers, distributors, and industry organizations serve essential functions in the manga ecosystem, but it is the mangaka who originate the creative works around which the entire ecosystem is organized. JCA's support demonstrates that the .manga gTLD application has the backing not only of the institutions that manage and distribute manga, but also of a substantial and representative segment of the creator community that produces it.

For over 60 years, the Association has represented the professional interests of manga creators — including intellectual property rights protection, fair compensation, working conditions, and the cultural recognition of manga as an art form. JCA's organizational mandate directly encompasses the concerns that the .manga gTLD addresses: protecting creators' IP in digital spaces, combating piracy that reduces creators' income, and ensuring that manga creators have a recognized and verified presence online.

II. EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT

The Japan Cartoonists Association hereby formally endorses the Community Application submitted by Kodansha Ltd. for the .manga generic Top-Level Domain.

As the representative organization of professional manga creators — the individuals whose creative labor produces the works that define the Japan Manga Industry Community — the Association supports the creation of a verified, trusted namespace that:

- Protects manga creators' intellectual property rights in the digital domain;
- Combats the piracy that directly reduces creators' income and threatens their livelihoods;
- Provides manga creators with an authenticated online identity (e.g., [pen-name].manga) that distinguishes their official presence from unauthorized uses of their names and works; and

- Ensures that the voices of manga creators are represented in the governance of the .manga domain through a dedicated seat on the Community Advisory Board.

JCA's endorsement demonstrates support from a substantial and representative segment of the creator community within the Japan Manga Industry Community.

III. UNDERSTANDING OF THE STRING

The Association understands that ".manga" is intended to serve the **Japan Manga Industry Community** — the organized network of entities engaged in the creation, rights management, authorized publication, and authorized distribution of Japanese manga, structured as a two-tier community (Core and Extended) bound by contractual interdependence.

Manga creators are at the heart of this community's Core tier. The contractual interdependence that defines the community begins with the publishing contract between mangaka and publisher — the foundational relationship from which all other contractual links in the ecosystem (licensing agreements, distribution contracts, ABJ Mark certification) ultimately derive.

The word "manga" (漫画) directly names the art form that our members create. It has been the standard term for Japanese comics in both Japanese and international usage for decades. Major English-language dictionaries (Oxford, Merriam-Webster, Cambridge, Collins) uniformly define "manga" as Japanese comics, and global retail platforms maintain "Manga" as a category distinct from "Comics" or other traditions. From the creator perspective, "manga" is not an abstract industry label — it is the word that identifies what our 4,000+ members do as their life's work and professional calling.

IV. PROCESS AND RATIONALE FOR THIS ENDORSEMENT

This endorsement was adopted through the following formal process:

1. On March 30, 2026, representative of Kodansha presented the .manga gTLD initiative to the Association's Secretariat. The presentation covered the community definition (two-tier structure), registration policies, governance structure, and specific provisions addressing manga creator interests:
 - Manga creators will be eligible to register .manga domains using their professional pen names (e.g., [pen-name].manga), providing an authenticated, verified online identity
 - The Manga Authentication Profile (MAP), an operational initiative building on ABJ's certification framework, will help consumers identify legitimate manga content, protecting creators' revenue streams
 - A dedicated seat on the Community Advisory Board will be reserved for manga creator representation, ensuring creators' voices in governance decisions
 - The .manga domain's eligibility-restricted registration will prevent unauthorized parties from registering domains using creators' names or work titles

2. On April 24, 2026, The Association's Board of Directors deliberated on the proposal, considering both the benefits to manga creators and the governance safeguards ensuring that .manga will serve the entire community equitably. The Board specifically considered:
 - The impact of piracy on creator income (ABJ's 2025 study documented 8.5 trillion yen in annual losses, with creators bearing a disproportionate share of the harm)
 - The value of authenticated pen-name domains for creators who are known publicly by pen names rather than legal names
 - The adequacy of creator representation in the proposed governance structure
 - The consistency of the application with JCA's organizational mission of protecting creator rights
3. The Board of Directors voted to endorse this application in accordance with JCA's Articles of Incorporation, and was approved unanimously. The summary of the .manga gTLD initiative and the decision by the Board of Directors to endorse the application will be published in the newsletter and communicated to JCA members.

The Association's rationale for this endorsement:

(a) CREATOR PROTECTION — COMBATING PIRACY THAT DIRECTLY HARMS MANGAKA: Manga piracy directly reduces creators' income. ABJ's 2025 comprehensive study documented 8.5 trillion yen in estimated annual piracy losses. For individual mangaka — many of whom depend on royalties from serialized works as their primary livelihood — the economic impact of piracy is existential. The .manga gTLD will create a verified namespace that helps consumers distinguish legitimate content from pirated material, directly supporting creators' economic rights.

(b) CREATOR IDENTITY — AUTHENTICATED PEN-NAME DOMAINS: Manga creators are widely known by their professional pen names (ペンネーム). In the current domain landscape, there is no mechanism to verify that a domain associated with a manga creator's pen name is actually operated by or authorized by that creator. The .manga gTLD's eligibility-restricted registration will enable creators to secure authenticated domains under their pen names (e.g., [pen-name].manga), providing a verified digital identity that is currently unavailable to them. This addresses a specific and practical need within the creator community.

(c) INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE — DEDICATED CREATOR REPRESENTATION: The reserved seat for manga creator representation on the Community Advisory Board ensures that creators' interests are institutionally represented in the governance of the .manga domain. This governance safeguard was an important factor in JCA's decision to endorse the application.

(d) CULTURAL HERITAGE — PROTECTING MANGA AS A JAPANESE ART FORM: Manga is a Japanese cultural heritage that our Association has worked to promote and protect for over 60 years. The .manga gTLD will serve as a digital space dedicated to this cultural tradition, ensuring that the term "manga" in the domain name system is associated with authentic, authorized content from the community that creates it.

V. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION SCOPE

The Japan Cartoonists Association represents over 4,000 professional manga creators, constituting the largest and most historically significant organized body of mangaka in Japan. JCA's endorsement demonstrates support from a substantial and representative segment of the creator community — the "Manga Creators (Mangaka)" category of the Japan Manga Industry Community's Core tier.

The creator community represented by JCA is bound to the broader manga ecosystem through the contractual interdependence that defines the community: publishing contracts between mangaka and publishers, which are the foundational links in the chain of contractual relationships (licensing, distribution, certification) that constitute the organized manga industry.

The Association is not aware of any opposition to this application from professional manga creators or from any organization representing manga creators.

VI. AUTHENTICATION

This letter is issued under the authority of President of the Japan Cartoonists Association and bears the organization's official seal.

The Japan Cartoonists Association

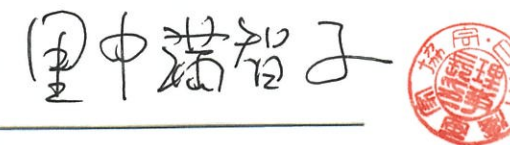
YANASE Usagi Bldg.

3-1 Katamachi, Shinjuku-ku

Tokyo 160-0001, Japan

<https://www.nihonmangakakyokai.or.jp/>

Respectfully submitted,



Machiko Satonaka (里中満智子)

President

The Japan Cartoonists Association



SHUEISHA Inc.

2-5-10 HITOTSUBASHI, CHIYODA-KU, TOKYO, 101-8050 JAPAN
TEL: 813-3230-6016 FAX: 813-3265-2162

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT FOR THE .MANGA gTLD COMMUNITY APPLICATION

Date: June 18, 2026

To:

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

Community Priority Evaluation Panel

12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300

Los Angeles, CA 90094, USA

From:

Shueisha Inc. (株式会社集英社)

2-5-10 Hitotsubashi, Chiyoda-ku,

Tokyo 101-8050, Japan

Subject: Endorsement of Kodansha Ltd.'s Community Application for the .manga gTLD

I. ORGANIZATIONAL IDENTITY

Shueisha Inc. is one of the world's preeminent manga publishers, established in 1926 and headquartered in Tokyo, Japan. Shueisha publishes Weekly Shonen Jump — the most widely read and commercially influential manga magazine in history — which has launched more globally recognized manga franchises than any other publication in the world. Shueisha also operates MANGA Plus by SHUEISHA, the industry's flagship free official manga distribution platform, which serves readers in over 200 countries and territories in multiple languages, providing simultaneous chapter releases with Japan.

Shueisha occupies an unparalleled position in the global manga ecosystem. The company's intellectual properties include the single best-selling comic book series in history (ONE PIECE, 520 million+ copies — Guinness World Record), as well as multiple titles that rank among the top 20 best-selling manga series of all time. Shueisha's works have been translated into dozens of languages, adapted into globally broadcast anime, blockbuster films, and AAA video games, and have shaped the cultural landscape of entertainment worldwide. No discussion of manga as a global cultural phenomenon is possible without reference to Shueisha's contributions.

SHUEISHA

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Shueisha is a founding member and current Board member of ABJ (Authorized Books of Japan), with Mr. Takaaki Imai, Director of Shueisha, serving on ABJ's Board of Directors. Shueisha is also the co-parent company (together with Shogakukan) of VIZ Media, LLC — the largest manga publisher in North America.

Shueisha's Representative Manga Works — Among the Most Recognized Entertainment Brands on Earth:

- **ONE PIECE** (520 million+ copies) — The best-selling manga series by a single author in history — certified by Guinness World Records. Created by Eiichiro Oda and serialized in Weekly Shonen Jump since 1997, ONE PIECE has been published in 61 countries and territories. The Netflix live-action adaptation (2023) became the #1 show globally on the platform.
- **DRAGON BALL** (260 million+ copies) — Created by the legendary Akira Toriyama, widely credited as the single most influential manga in history for establishing manga and anime as mainstream global entertainment. The franchise has generated an estimated USD 30+ billion in total revenue.
- **NARUTO** (250 million+ copies) — Masashi Kishimoto's ninja epic that became a defining cultural touchstone of the 2000s generation worldwide, broadcast in over 80 countries.
- **SLAM DUNK** (170 million+ copies) — Takehiko Inoue's basketball masterpiece. The 2022 film "THE FIRST SLAM DUNK" grossed over USD 270 million worldwide.
- **Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba** (150 million+ copies) — The 2020 film "Mugen Train" grossed over USD 500 million worldwide, becoming the highest-grossing Japanese film in history.
- **Jujutsu Kaisen** (90 million+ copies) — Gege Akutami's dark fantasy representing the current vanguard of manga's global expansion.
- **JoJo's Bizarre Adventure** (120 million+ copies) — Hirohiko Araki's genre-defying epic whose visual aesthetics have influenced fashion houses (Gucci collaboration, Louvre exhibition).
- **BLEACH** (130 million+ copies) — Part of the "Big Three" of Weekly Shonen Jump alongside ONE PIECE and NARUTO.
- **My Hero Academia** (65 million+ copies) — Kohei Horikoshi's superhero manga that bridged Japanese manga and Western superhero culture.
- **SPY×FAMILY** (35 million+ copies) — Tatsuya Endo's genre-blending family comedy that attracted audiences far beyond traditional manga readership.
- **Chainsaw Man** (26 million+ copies) — Tatsuki Fujimoto's avant-garde action manga representing the cutting edge of manga storytelling.
- **Haikyu!!** (60 million+ copies) — Haruichi Furudate's volleyball manga credited with inspiring a surge in volleyball participation internationally.
- **Oshi no Ko** (20 million+ copies) — Anime opening theme "IDOL" by YOASOBI became the fastest song in history to reach 400 million views on YouTube.
- **Kingdom** (100 million+ copies) — Yasuhisa Hara's historical epic, one of the best-selling manga series of the 21st century.



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Collectively, Shueisha's representative manga works account for cumulative circulation exceeding 3 billion copies worldwide — an unmatched concentration of globally recognized manga intellectual property in a single publisher.

International operations: VIZ Media, LLC (joint venture with Shogakukan) — the largest manga publisher in North America; MANGA Plus by SHUEISHA — free official distribution platform serving 200+ countries and territories.

II. EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT

Shueisha Inc. hereby formally and unconditionally endorses the Community Application submitted by Kodansha Ltd. for the .manga generic Top-Level Domain.

Shueisha supports this application because:

- (a) The .manga gTLD will create a verified, trusted namespace that clearly distinguishes official manga content from piracy — a critical need for the entire manga industry, and particularly urgent given the scale of Shueisha's globally recognized IP portfolio;
- (b) The proposed eligibility-based registration policies ensure that .manga domains are available to all legitimate community members, not exclusively to the applicant;
- (c) The Community Advisory Board structure, which includes representation from all five major publishers and other stakeholder categories, ensures transparent and inclusive governance; and
- (d) The .manga gTLD directly addresses the estimated 8.5 trillion yen in annual losses caused by manga piracy worldwide — losses that disproportionately affect the creators and publishers of the most popular series.

III. UNDERSTANDING OF THE STRING

Shueisha understands that ".manga" refers to the **Japan Manga Industry Community** — the organized network of entities engaged in the creation, rights management, authorized publication, and authorized distribution of Japanese manga, structured as a two-tier community (Core and Extended) bound by contractual interdependence.

Shueisha recognizes that the word "manga" is strongly associated with this community, as confirmed by major English-language dictionaries (Oxford, Merriam-Webster, Cambridge, Collins) that uniformly define "manga" as Japanese comic books, and as evidenced by global retail classifications (Amazon, Barnes & Noble, FNAC) that maintain "Manga" as a category distinct from "Comics" or "Graphic Novels."

Shueisha's own MANGA Plus platform — the name of which explicitly uses the word "manga" — serves as direct evidence that the manga industry itself uses this term as the primary identifier for the Japan-origin commercial manga ecosystem in international markets. The platform's reach across



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200+ countries confirms the global recognition of "manga" as a term denoting this specific ecosystem.

IV. PROCESS AND RATIONALE

This endorsement was approved through the following formal process:

1. Shueisha's management received a detailed briefing from Kodansha Ltd. regarding the .manga gTLD Community Application, including the two-tier community definition, registration policies, governance structure, and the Manga Authentication Profile (MAP) as an operational initiative.
2. Shueisha's Board of Directors evaluated the application against Shueisha's strategic interests in a dedicated session, considering:
 - Protection of Shueisha's manga intellectual property — representing over 3 billion cumulative copies in circulation, the largest concentration of globally recognized manga IP held by any single publisher
 - Strengthening the industry's ecosystem integrity infrastructure
 - Ensuring equitable access to .manga domains for all legitimate community members
 - The proposed Community Advisory Board's governance safeguards, ensuring multi-stakeholder oversight

Shueisha's rationale for this endorsement:

(a) AS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF ABJ AND THE PUBLISHER OF THE WORLD'S BEST-SELLING

MANGA: Shueisha has been at the forefront of efforts to authenticate legitimate manga distribution channels. As the publisher of ONE PIECE — the Guinness World Record holder for the most copies published for the same comic book series by a single author — Shueisha has the most to lose from piracy and the most to gain from a verified .manga namespace. The .manga gTLD represents a natural and necessary extension of the industry's authentication efforts into the domain name system.

(b) AS THE OPERATOR OF MANGA PLUS — THE INDUSTRY'S GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION PLATFORM:

Shueisha operates MANGA Plus by SHUEISHA, serving over 200 countries and territories with simultaneous chapter releases in multiple languages. This platform represents the manga industry's most ambitious effort to combat piracy through legitimate access. The .manga gTLD will complement MANGA Plus by creating an easily identifiable official space for manga content online.

(c) AS THE HOME OF THE FRANCHISES THAT DEFINED MANGA'S GLOBAL BREAKTHROUGH: ONE

PIECE, DRAGON BALL, and NARUTO — the "Big Three" of manga's international expansion — are all Shueisha properties. These three series alone account for over 1 billion copies in circulation and have been instrumental in establishing "manga" as a globally recognized word and cultural category. The .manga gTLD will protect and promote this cultural legacy in the digital domain.



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(d) AS EVIDENCE OF MANGA'S CONTINUED GLOBAL VITALITY: Shueisha's recent successes — Demon Slayer's USD 500 million film, Jujutsu Kaisen's global social media dominance, Oshi no Ko's record-breaking theme song, SPY×FAMILY's mainstream crossover appeal — demonstrate that manga is not a legacy industry but a vibrant, growing global cultural force. The .manga gTLD will serve this dynamic, expanding community for decades to come.

V. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION SCOPE

Shueisha's endorsement represents the support of the largest manga publisher in terms of global IP reach and cumulative circulation. As a founding member of ABJ and co-parent of VIZ Media (North America's largest manga publisher), Shueisha occupies a central position in the Japan Manga Industry Community. Shueisha's support, together with that of the other four major publishers, represents a substantial and representative segment of the organized manga publishing industry.

Shueisha is not aware of any opposition to this application from within the manga publishing industry.

Respectfully submitted,

[Name] HIDEAKI HAYASHI

[Title] President

Shueisha Inc.

2-5-10 Hitotsubashi, Chiyoda-ku,

Tokyo 101-8050, Japan



SHOGAKUKAN INC.

3-1 HITOTSUBASHI 2-CHOME CHIYODA-KU TOKYO 101-8001

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT

FOR THE .MANGA gTLD COMMUNITY APPLICATION

From:

Shogakukan Inc.

In Support of Kodansha Ltd.'s Community Application for the .manga generic Top-Level Domain

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT FOR THE .MANGA gTLD COMMUNITY

APPLICATION

Date: July 15, 2026

To:

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

Community Priority Evaluation Panel

12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300

Los Angeles, CA 90094, USA

From:

Shogakukan Inc.

2-3-1 Hitotsubashi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-8001, Japan

Subject: Endorsement of Kodansha Ltd.'s Community Application for the .manga gTLD

I. ORGANIZATIONAL IDENTITY

Shogakukan Inc. is one of Japan's most venerable publishing houses. Established in 1922 — more than a century ago — and headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, Shogakukan is renowned for publishing manga across every demographic, from children's titles to sophisticated works for adult readers, demonstrating the extraordinary breadth and depth of the manga art form. Shogakukan is also a co-parent company of VIZ Media — the largest manga publisher in North America — together with Shueisha and



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Shogakukan-Shueisha Productions.

Shogakukan's publishing history, spanning more than a century, offers a unique perspective on the evolution of the manga ecosystem. From the post-war emergence of modern manga to the magazine-to-tankobon serialization pipeline that remains the industry's structural backbone, Shogakukan has been both a witness to and a participant in every era of the industry's development. This institutional continuity — from analog publishing through digital transformation — uniquely positions Shogakukan to attest to the organized and enduring nature of the Japan Manga Industry Community.

Shogakukan Inc. is a founding member and current board member of ABJ (Authorized Books of Japan), with Mr. Yasuyuki Sagami, Executive Managing Director of Shogakukan, serving on ABJ's Board of Directors.

Overseas operations: VIZ Media (a joint venture with Shueisha and Shogakukan-Shueisha Productions) — the largest manga publisher in North America.

II. EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT

Shogakukan Inc. hereby formally endorses the Community Application submitted by Kodansha Ltd. for the .manga generic Top-Level Domain.

Shogakukan supports this application because:

- (a) The .manga gTLD will create a verified, trusted namespace that protects the cultural heritage embodied in the manga works Shogakukan has published for over a century — works such as Doraemon and Detective Conan that represent irreplaceable elements of Japanese cultural identity;
- (b) The proposed eligibility-based registration policies ensure that .manga domains are available to all legitimate members of the community;
- (c) The Community Advisory Board structure ensures transparent and inclusive governance with multi-stakeholder representation; and
- (d) The .manga gTLD directly addresses the piracy threat that undermines the economic sustainability of manga publishing — the very foundation on which the manga ecosystem that Shogakukan has helped sustain for over a century depends.

III. UNDERSTANDING OF THE STRING

Shogakukan understands that ".manga" refers to the Japan Manga Industry Community — the organized network of entities engaged in the creation, rights management, authorized publication, and authorized distribution of Japanese manga, structured as a



SHOGAKUKAN INC.

3-1 HITOTSUBASHI 2-CHOME CHIYODA-KU TOKYO 101-8001

two-tier community (Core and Extended) bound by contractual interdependence. From Shogakukan's century-long perspective, the term "manga" has evolved from a Japanese word for drawn narratives into an internationally established identifier for the entire Japan-origin commercial manga ecosystem. This evolution — from a product term to an ecosystem identifier — mirrors the development of the organized community that this application serves.

IV. PROCESS AND RATIONALE

1. Shogakukan's management received a detailed briefing from Kodansha Ltd. on the .manga gTLD Community Application, covering the two-tier community definition, registration policies, governance structure, and the Manga Authentication Profile (MAP) as an operational initiative.
2. Shogakukan's Board of Directors evaluated the application in the context of the company's strategic priorities, including:
 - Protecting the manga intellectual property Shogakukan has built over more than a century of publication;
 - Strengthening the ecosystem-integrity infrastructure that sustains the magazine-to-tankobon serialization pipeline — the structural backbone of the manga industry that Shogakukan has helped maintain since its founding;
 - Ensuring equitable access to .manga domains for all legitimate community members; and
 - The governance safeguards provided by the proposed Community Advisory Board.

Shogakukan's rationale for this endorsement:

(a) **AS A FOUNDING MEMBER OF ABJ AND A CENTURY-OLD PILLAR OF THE MANGA COMMUNITY:** Shogakukan has long been at the forefront of efforts to authenticate legitimate manga distribution. With Executive Managing Director Yasuyuki Sagami serving on ABJ's Board, Shogakukan is deeply integrated into the community's organizational infrastructure. Its century-long commitment to manga publishing — from its founding in 1922 through the era of digital transformation — demonstrates the enduring, organized nature of the community that the .manga gTLD will serve.

(b) **AS A CO-PARENT OF VIZ MEDIA, NORTH AMERICA'S LARGEST MANGA PUBLISHER:** Together with Shueisha and Shogakukan-Shueisha Productions, Shogakukan operates VIZ Media, the largest manga publisher in the North American



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market. Piracy in that market directly affects Shogakukan's international revenue and the livelihoods of the creators whose works it publishes. The .manga gTLD will provide a verified channel for legitimate content worldwide.

(c) AS A PUBLISHER SPANNING ALL DEMOGRAPHICS: Shogakukan's manga portfolio reaches every readership — from children to boys and girls to adults — demonstrating the full breadth of the manga ecosystem. This range illustrates that the Japan Manga Industry Community encompasses the entire spectrum of manga creation and readership, and the .manga gTLD will serve this diverse community comprehensively.

V. COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION SCOPE

Shogakukan's endorsement represents the support of one of the manga industry's most historically significant publishers — a company that has participated in and shaped the manga ecosystem for over a century. As a founding member of ABJ and a co-parent of VIZ Media, Shogakukan occupies a central position in both the domestic and international manga community. Together with the other four major publishers, Shogakukan's endorsement represents a substantial and representative segment of the organized manga publishing industry.

Shogakukan is not aware of any opposition to this application from within the manga publishing industry.

VI. AUTHENTICATION

This letter is issued under the authority of the [Title] of Shogakukan Inc. and bears the company's official seal.

Respectfully submitted,

佐上靖之



Yasuyuki Sagami

Senior Managing Director

Shogakukan Inc.