



5 August 2013

Heather Dryden  
Chair, ICANN GAC

Dear Heather,

**RE: Protecting identifiers of certain organizations in all gTLDs**

I am writing in order to further update the ICANN GAC to the on-going work of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Policy Development Process Working Group tasked with addressing the issue of protecting the identifiers of certain International Government Organizations ("IGOs") and International Non-Governmental Organizations ("INGOs") in all gTLDs.

As you and your colleagues on the ICANN GAC are aware, the GNSO Council initiated a PDP on the issue of the protection of IGO and INGO names and the work of the relevant WG is in progress. Indeed, we provided an update of the work of the working group to the GAC at our joint meeting in Durban and appreciated the opportunity to do so.

During the ICANN meeting in Durban there was a productive scheduled meeting of the IGO / INGO WG. I have since been approached by the chair of the WG for potential assistance in the form of personal input from interested members of the GAC. I am cognisant of the on-going work between the GNSO and the GAC, in collaboration with the BGRC WG, to develop more effective early engagement of the GAC in policy work and do not want to pre-empt that. However, I am also aware of the exceptionally high importance that the protection of the IGO and INGO names has in the view of the GAC and the urgency of the matter.

Therefore, in response to views expressed in the course of the deliberations of the IGO / INGO WG that some personal input from a few interested GAC participants and/or from you could potentially provide an opportunity for the WG to get clarification on GAC recommendations and thereby speed up WG deliberations, I am writing to request that you consider facilitating this. One form this interaction could take is for interested members of the GAC to participate in a single meeting of the WG in order to shed light on questions that have arisen recently. If you have any other suggestions about how to accomplish this, we welcome them.

Thank-you for you and your colleagues' consideration of this request for assistance and I look forward to hearing from you on this.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Robinson  
Chair, ICANN GNSO Council