9 November 2015

**Response to ICANN Board letter concerning new gTLD Program Committee Resolutions Concerning Exclusive Registry Access for gTLD Strings Representing Generic Terms**

From: GNSO Council

To: Steve Crocker

Chairman, ICANN Board

Dear Steve,

Thank you for your response to our letter of 22 September 2015 concerning exclusive registry access for gTLD strings representing generic terms.

Following our review of your response during the GNSO Council meeting on 21 October, several Council members pointed out the importance of the development and implementation of a global public interest framework bounded by ICANN's mission as part of ICANN’s Strategic Plan in relation to the efforts that are underway with regards to the new gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process as demonstrated by the linkage with the topic of exclusive registry access for gTLD strings representing generic terms. As such, the Council would like to request further information concerning the Board’s expectation of the timing and next steps for this effort. Furthermore, the Council would be interested to learn how the Board has interpreted and considered the public interest in relation to its responsibilities under the ICANN Bylaws as it may help inform subsequent discussions.

For your information, the GNSO Council did receive a briefing on the staff efforts concerning the development and implementation of a global public interest framework bounded by ICANN’s mission from Nora Abbusita, Vice President of ICANN's Development and Public Responsibility Programs, during its meeting on 24 September. As indicated during that meeting, the GNSO Council is looking forward to receiving further information about the research that has been undertaken to date with regards to this topic.

Volker Greimann & David Cake

*GNSO Council, Interim Co-Chairs*