The GNSO Council would like to thank the Board and the GAC for the hard work that has been done during the recent and ongoing consultations. The GNSO Council appreciates these efforts to bring to a close the implementation of the Policy Development Process that it approved by supermajority vote in 2007.

The GNSO Council is ready to help the Board and the GAC work on the issues that are currently before them and to provide any detail or context that may be needed during your discussions.

We would like to emphasise the importance of the bottom-up multi-stakeholder approach and recognise that any result should also take into consideration input by the GAC.

Regardless of the outcome of this week's Board-GAC consultations, however, the Applicant Guidebook reflects consensus and compromise amongst the ICANN community with respect to recommendations that emerged from the GNSO's policy development process, and in its final form should also reflect the success of the bottom-up, multi-stakeholder governance model.

The Board/GAC consultations will result in new elements with regards to the new gTLD program. We ask that any resulting modifications to the guidebook be carried out in a timely manner so that a final version of that guidebook be published as soon as possible.