On behalf of the GNSO Council, we wish to inform you that on 23 January 2020, the GNSO Council adopted the Addendum to the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs Policy Development Process (PDP) Charter in order to integrate Recommendation 5 from the IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Final Report as a new and parallel Work Track into the ongoing RPMs PDP. Due to general capacity concerns within the GNSO and for other interested parties, as well as challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, the GNSO Council believed it prudent to delay this call for volunteers until a more appropriate time. If you wish for your group to participate in the IGO Work Track, we ask that you commence the selection and appointment process for members and alternates from your respective group as soon as practicable, to enable the team to begin its work in an expeditious manner. Under the Charter, your group may appoint a certain maximum number of members, as indicated below.

Please note the composition of the IGO Work Track as approved by the GNSO Council in the Charter:

- Members appointed by GNSO Stakeholder Groups and GNSO Constituencies, as follows:
 - The Registries Stakeholder Group may appoint up to 2 Members;
 - o The Registrars Stakeholder Group may appoint up to 2 Members;
 - o The Commercial Stakeholder Group may appoint up to 3 Members; and
 - o The Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group may appoint up to 3 Members.
- Up to 2 Members from each interested SO other than the GNSO, and AC.
- Up to 2 Members representing IGOs.

As you consider possible appointments from amongst your members, please take into account the expected membership criteria:

All Members of the IGO Work Track must:

- Be responsible to their appointing organization, seeking input as necessary and keeping the appointing organization informed of progress;
- Agree to respect the GNSO PDP and other applicable GNSO rules of procedure;
- Be willing to work, in good faith, toward consensus;
- Commit to Terms of Participation, to be set by the GNSO Council prior to the first meeting of the IGO Work Track:
- Provide an updated Statement of Interest in accordance with Section 5 of the GNSO Operating Procedures; and
- Be available to actively contribute to the discussion and activities of the Work Track on an ongoing basis.

All Members of the IGO Work Track should:

• Possess a working understanding of international intellectual property law, public international law, international arbitration or alternative dispute resolution.

In addition, please note that:

- (1) groups should endeavor to appoint representatives with the relevant knowledge/expertise as detailed; and
- (2) where a group is not able to appoint representatives with the relevant knowledge/expertise, it should seek to contribute towards the balanced participation that is being sought, by appointing representatives with specific skill sets that otherwise facilitates an effective policy outcome (e.g. professional experience in an IGO/international NGO environment, relevant practical experience with

complex legal and policy issues, demonstrated expertise in consensus-building and/or professional facilitation experience, etc.)

Please also take into account the following points of information:

- IGO Work Track **Members**: Members are expected to adhere to the <u>Statement of Participation</u> as well as participate in any IGO Work Track consensus calls, as applicable. A consensus call, as outlined in section 3.6 of the GNSO Working Group Guidelines, is used to formally assess the level of support for recommendations by the IGO Work Track. It is a requirement of the charter that members represent the formal position of their appointing organization, not individual views or positions.
- IGO Work Track **Alternates**: An alternate will only participate if a Member is not available. Alternates will be responsible for keeping up with all relevant IGO Work Track deliberations to ensure they remain informed and can contribute as and when required (when called upon by their appointing organization, as a Member is unavailable). As noted below, the ability to listen in real-time is expected to be made available to facilitate this process.
- Observers: Anyone may join as an Observer. However, Observers will only be subscribed to the
 Work Track mailing list on a read-only basis and will not be able to participate in Work Track
 discussions, whether at meetings or on the mailing list.

To effectively manage the workload in a reasonable timeframe, all IGO Work Track **Members** (as defined above) are required to commit from the outset of the work effort to the <u>Statement of Participation</u>. In addition, all Team Members and Alternates must complete and maintain an up-to-date Statement of Interest on the GNSO wiki.

In order to ensure a timely start of the IGO Work Track, you are requested to confirm your appointed Members and Alternates at the latest by **7 December 2020** in order to be able to schedule the first meeting of the IGO Work Track in a timely manner. To confirm your membership, please inform the GNSO Secretariat at gnso-secs@icann.org.

On behalf of the GNSO Council