

PROPOSAL FOR PROTECTION OF INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AND RED CROSS/RED CRESCENT NAMES AT THE TOP LEVEL

In the current version of the *Applicant Guidebook*, Section 2.2.1.2.3 extends limited protections to identical matches of certain IOC and RCRC terms at the top-level. However, this Section does not provide for protections of the IOC or RCRC in all foreign languages, nor does it invoke “String Similarity Review”, for strings that may be *confusingly similar* at the top level, such as “.olympics, .olympix, .redcross, .redkresent, etc.). In addition, the current Applicant Guidebook would not only prevent third parties from applying for the IOC or RCRC terms, but it would also not allow the IOC or RCRC to obtain these strings should they desire to do so.

The Drafting Team proposes the following solution:

Recommendation 1: Treat the terms set forth in Section 2.2.1.2.3 as “Modified Reserved Names,” meaning:

- a) *The Modified Reserved Names are available as gTLD strings to the International Olympic Committee (hereafter the “IOC”), International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (hereafter “RCRC”) and their respective components, as applicable.*
- b) *Applied-for gTLD strings, other than those applied for by the IOC or RCRC, are reviewed during the String Similarity review to determine whether they are similar to these Modified Reserved Names. An application for a gTLD string that is identified as confusingly similar to a Modified Reserved Name will not pass this initial review.*
- c) *If an application fails to pass initial string similarity review:*
 - i. *And the applied-for TLD identically matches any of the Modified Reserved Names (e.g., ".Olympic" or ".RedCross"), it cannot be registered by anyone other than the IOC or the RCRC, as applicable.*
 - ii. *If the applied-for TLD is not identical to any of the Modified Reserved Names, but fails initial string similarity review with one of Modified Reserved Names, the applicant may attempt to override the string similarity failure by:*
 1. *Seeking a letter of non-objection from the IOC or the RCRC, as applicable; or*
 2. *If it cannot obtain a letter of non-objection, the applicant must:*
 - a. *claim to have a legitimate interest in the string, and demonstrate the basis for this claim; and*

gTLD program, these protections may be reviewed by the ICANN community should it desire to do so.