



23 December 2012

Heather Dryden
Chair, ICANN GAC

Dear Heather,

I am writing to update you on GNSO Council actions since receipt of your letter of 28 November 2012.

We have commenced work on a considered response, including through discussion on our e-mail list and, in person at our first scheduled Council meeting (20 December 2012) since your letter arrived. In any event, we are committed to providing you with our full response early in the New Year.

On a related note, I am able to inform you that at our 20 December 2012 meeting, the Council passed a motion to provide protection at the second level for certain International Olympic Committee / Red Cross Red Crescent (IOC / RCRC) names in the first round of new gTLDs, pending the outcome of a formal PDP on the matter. The GNSO Council will now proceed, through the normal route, to recommend to the Board that it adopt the IOC/RC Drafting Team's recommendations providing for reservation of the exact match IOC/RC names at the second level, prior to the delegation of the first round of new gTLDs.

I will write to you again in January with a comprehensive response to your letter of 28 November 2012. In the meantime, please be assured of the GNSO Council's best intentions as well as our appreciation of the critical role played by the GAC within the ICANN multi-stakeholder model. Moreover, if there is anything that the leadership team of the GNSO Council can do to improve communication with the GAC as well as enhance mutual understanding of our respective work and effective working together, we are more than willing to do so.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Robinson
Chair, ICANN GNSO Council