13 May 2013

Dr. Steve Crocker, Chair, ICANN Board
Mr. Cherine Chalaby, Chair, ICANN Board gTLD Program Committee

Dear Steve, Dear Cherine,

As requested by the ICANN Board, the final version of the GNSO Consumer Metrics advice letter was sent to you on 11 JAN 2013. The GNSO Council also learned that the ALAC shared their version of the advice shortly after the Beijing meeting on 17 APR 2013. It is not confirmed, but the GNSO understands that advice to the ICANN Board from the GAC and ccNSO will not be forthcoming. We note however, that the GAC was supportive of the GNSO Working Group’s efforts.

In light of these above, the GNSO Council respectfully requests from the Board, an update with views on the advice received to date, possible next steps, and a brief timeline for implementation. It is the GNSO Council’s view that definitions created for Consumer Trust, Consumer Choice and Competition (CTCCC) should be communicated across the community as soon as possible in order to best facilitate adoption. Second, we will also welcome an update from you about the proposed metrics that were included in the advice. You may recall that the definition of three-year targets for the proposed metrics required a comparison against the existing delegated gTLDs (the current environment) and that several of these metrics can be collected by ICANN immediately. Finally, we recognize that the proposed metrics framework for use by the Affirmation of Commitments (AoC) review team will be a complex undertaking, potentially requiring significant resources. We are therefore eager to see when the Board will announce formation of the future review team so that they can begin to formalize requirements around the final set of metrics in which to conduct the review.

The GNSO Council welcomes an update from the Board concerning this important and necessary effort in supporting the new gTLD program. We thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours Sincerely,

Jonathan Robinson
Chair, GNSO Council