

Dear Maarten,

In advance of our joint meeting on the topic, I wanted to share with you some initial feedback that I have received from Council as well as EPDP Phase 2 Team members during a follow up conversation we had on 12 January.

There is appreciation for the sharing of the high-level findings to date, but at the same time many have expressed the importance of being able to review the detailed information and analysis that underpin these high-level findings to better understand where possible costs and complexities arise before being able to form a position on what this means for the SSAD recommendations. At the same time, the Council recognizes the importance of continuing the dialogue with the ICANN Board on this topic and it would appreciate the opportunity to hear initial reactions of the Board during this upcoming meeting.

In addition to potential concerns about costs, the Council would be interested to learn whether there are other concerns or risks that the Board has identified with the SSAD recommendations as these currently stand. As you know, procedurally the Council would have the ability to modify the recommendations prior to Board consideration, or if the Board decides to not adopt these recommendations, the Council will be requested to consider proving a Supplemental Recommendation. In either scenario it will be key for the Council to understand the specifics of the Board's concerns to determine a possible path forward.

We appreciate that this may be uncharted territory, but we welcome this opportunity to work on this issue in collaboration with the ICANN Board and expect the upcoming meeting to be the starting point of an ongoing conversation that will hopefully result in an outcome that we are all willing and able to support and stand behind.

Best regards,

Philippe Fouquart  
GNSO Chair

Dear Philippe

Thanks for this message indeed. Fully appreciate the opportunity for this informal exchange in order to explore together the potentially best way forward. With you I look forward to an open, constructive discussion during our call on the 27<sup>th</sup>, as to get there without unnecessary delays.

Best regards,

Maarten

Hi

Thanks for your email. I know that Maarten will reply but just wanted to inform you that the ODA will be published before the meeting between the Council and the Board.

Regards

Goran Marby