29 June 2022

Re: Report of the GNSO Council Small Team on Next Steps for Closed Generics

TO: Maarten Botterman, Chair, ICANN Board of Directors
    Manal Ismail, Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee

CC: Maureen Hilyard, Chair, At-Large Advisory Committee

Dear Maarten and Manal,

The purpose of this brief cover letter is to convey the outcomes of the GNSO Council’s small team on next steps for Closed Generics. As you will recall, the Council responded to the Board affirmatively on 27 April 2022, that it is willing to pursue next steps in the facilitated dialogue. In addition, the Council convened a small team to review the Framing Paper and the response from the GAC, to formulate the Council’s expectations for the conditions, parameters, and methodology for the facilitated dialogue.

The small team was responsible for three discrete tasks:
1. Provide input on the criteria for identifying a facilitator.
2. Consider whether the Council is amenable to the ALAC taking part in the facilitated dialogue.
3. Provide guidance on the conditions, parameters, and methodology for the dialogue, which will be subject to mutual agreement with the GAC.

All three tasks were completed and outcomes captured in the small team’s recommendations to the Council, attached to this email. In brief, the small team 1) largely supported the facilitator criteria identified by the GAC, with a small adjustment 2) supports the inclusion of an ALAC member and 3) supports the parameters and methodology in the ICANN org Framing Paper as a good basis for the facilitated dialogue, with some adjustments and points of emphasis.

With the attached report, the GNSO Council hopes that a mutually agreeable foundation is established for the facilitated dialogue and looks forward to working with the GAC on the framework for Closed Generics.

Best regards,

Philippe Fouquart, GNSO Chair