

Dear Maarten,

Thank you for your 6 March 2022 [letter](#), which invited the GNSO Council to participate in a facilitated dialogue to formulate a workable framework to handle closed generic applications.

The Council has considered the proposed approach as described in greater detail in the ICANN org developed Framing Paper (now attached to the Board's letter). The Council recognizes that the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP considered and deliberated extensively on the topic of closed generics but nevertheless, was unable to reach consensus on policy recommendations. In the absence of recommendations, the Council appreciates that the approach for closed generics for the immediate next round of new gTLDs may be unclear. It is on that basis that the Council is willing to pursue next steps for the facilitated dialogue, subject to mutual agreement with the GAC on the conditions and modalities for that dialogue.

While the Council is willing to pursue next steps, it is important to note that some are opposed to the approach and the Council acknowledges the concerns expressed in the [letter](#) from the Non-Commercial Stakeholders Group.

The Council is appreciative of the ICANN Board's attention to GNSO related matters and looks forward to engaging with the GAC in seeking to reach mutual agreement on conditions and modalities for the facilitated dialogue.

Best regards,