16 March 2023

Sebastien Ducos
Chair, Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council

RE: Board's action on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Final Report

Dear Sebastien,

I am writing to inform you that the ICANN Board took action on March 16, 2023, to act on a number of Outputs from the GNSO Subsequent Procedures Final Report, as specified in the Scorecard: Subsequent Procedures (SubPro PDP) (Scorecard). The Board has adopted all Outputs contained in Section A of the Scorecard and designated the Outputs in Section B as pending. The Board has also committed to resolve the dependencies noted in Section C of the Scorecard in a timely manner.

The ICANN Board has directed ICANN org to submit a comprehensive implementation plan no later than 1 August 2023, containing a work plan, relevant information for the Infrastructure Development stream, timelines, and anticipated resource requirements to announce the opening of the next round of new gTLDs (Implementation Plan).

The Board acknowledges that the delivery of the Implementation Plan requires the satisfactory completion of four deliverables by 15 June 2023, the last day of the ICANN77 Public Meeting. These deliverables are:

1. A plan and timeline as agreed upon by the ICANN Board and the GNSO Council for consideration and resolution of all Outputs contained in Section B of the Scorecard.
2. A working methodology and Implementation Review Team (IRT) work plan and timeline as agreed upon by ICANN org and the GNSO Council.
3. A GNSO Council project plan and timeline for policy work, or an alternate path, on how to handle closed generics for the next round of new gTLDs.
4. A project plan from the GNSO Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Working Group (WG) identifying all charter questions that will impact the next Applicant Guidebook, along with considerations to ensure a consistent solution on IDN Variant TLDs with the ccPDP4 on IDN ccTLDs (in accordance with prior Board Resolution 2019.03.14.09), and a timeline by when the IDNs EPDP WG will deliver relevant recommendations to the GNSO Council.
The Board is prepared to work closely with the GNSO Council on the first deliverable. The Board appreciates that the GNSO Council has already begun a conversation with ICANN org on a working methodology for the IRT. Please let us know if there is any input from the Board that would support the GNSO Council as it works on the timely delivery of these items by 15 June 2023.

The Board acknowledges that the satisfactory completion of these deliverables by 15 June 2023 will require a collective commitment from the Board, the GNSO Council, and ICANN org as they form the critical path for ICANN org to produce the Implementation Plan.

We look forward to working with you on this important matter as the ICANN Board, org, and community embark together on the next important phase to open the next round of new gTLDs.

Sincerely,

Tripti Sinha  
Chair of the ICANN Board of Directors

cc: Nico Caballero, Chair, ICANN Government Advisory Committee (GAC)  
Jonathan Zuck, Chair, At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)