

12 September 2016

GNSO COUNCIL REQUEST FOR INPUT REGARDING NEW GTLD SUBSEQUENT PROCEDURES

Dear Stakeholder Group, Constituency and new gTLD Subsequent Procedures Chairs,

On 5 August 2016, the GNSO Council received a <u>letter</u> from the ICANN Board requesting feedback on the timing of subsequent procedures for new gTLDs. The GNSO Council is now seeking input from Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies and the new gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG to help inform the Council's response to the Board. The Council anticipates an initial review of this input during its meeting on 29 September in view of finalizing its response during the 13 October meeting, so the earlier your input is received, the better **but it should be received no later than 25 September**.

In its letter, the Board asked the GNSO Council to provide its perspectives on the work plan of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP and the timing of a new application process for gTLDs:

The Board is interested in the GNSO's view of its current work in light of the existing policy recommendations and related review activities...For example, assuming all other review activities are completed, it would be helpful to understand whether the GNSO believes that the entirety of the current Subsequent Procedures PDP must be completed prior to advancing a new application process under the current policy recommendations. The Board is cognizant that it may be difficult to provide a firm answer at this stage of the process as the reviews are still underway and the PDP is in its initial stages of work, but if any consideration has been given in relation to whether a future application process could proceed while policy work continues and be iteratively applied to the process for allocating new gTLDs, or that a set of critical issues could be identified to be addressed prior to a new application process, the Board would welcome that input.

The Board would also welcome any elaboration on the expected time frame outlined in the PDP Work Plan, as well as any additional points the GNSO might wish to clarify for the Board in its efforts to support the various areas of work underway in the multistakeholder community.

The <u>Business Constituency</u> has already held discussions about the Board's question and shared its views with the Council. In addition, the ALAC liaison to the GNSO Council gave ALAC input during the <u>Council's last meeting</u>. Stakeholder Groups, Constituencies and the new gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG are encouraged to review this input in formulating responses within their own groups.

The GNSO Council anticipates that this issue will be a topic of community discussion at ICANN57 in November and therefore seeks to provide a response to the Board prior to ICANN57. We look forward to receiving your input.

With best regards,

Donna Austin, GNSO Vice Chair James Bladel, GNSO Chair Heather Forrest, GNSO Vice Chair

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