20 March 2017

Dear Mr. Schneider,

We write to you as the Co-Chairs of the GNSO's New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Working Group (WG), which was chartered by the GNSO Council to conduct a Policy Development Process (PDP) to determine what, if any changes may need to be made to the existing *Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains* policy recommendations from 8 August 2007 as well as the final Applicant Guidebook dated June 2012. As the original policy recommendations as adopted by the GNSO Council and ICANN Board have "been designed to produce systemized and ongoing mechanisms for applicants to propose new top-level domains," those policy recommendations remain in place for subsequent rounds of the New gTLD Program unless the GNSO Council would decide to modify those policy recommendations via a policy development process. We are now writing to seek your input on several questions as part of the Group's second Community Comment process.

1.   **Background on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG**

In June of 2014, the GNSO Council created the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Discussion Group, which was focused on reflecting upon the experiences gained from the 2012 New gTLD round and identifying a recommended set of subjects that should be further analyzed in an Issue Report. At the ICANN53 meeting, the GNSO Council approved a motion to request that an Issue Report be drafted by ICANN staff, basing the report on the set of deliverables developed by the Discussion Group, to further analyze issues identified and help determine if changes or adjustments are needed for subsequent new gTLD procedures. The Final Issue Report was submitted to the GNSO Council for its consideration on 4 December 2015 and a PDP on New gTLD Subsequent Procedures was initiated on 17 December 2015.

The PDP WG has been meeting on a regular basis since February 2016. The PDP WG began its deliberations by preliminarily considering a set of 6 subjects that it considers high level and foundational in nature (which the PDP WG called overarching issues). As the GNSO's PDP Manual mandates that each PDP WG reach out at an early stage to all GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies to seek their input, and encourages WGs to seek input from ICANN's Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees as well, the PDP WG sent a request to the community (i.e., Community Comment 1) on 9 June 2016. The PDP WG appreciates input provided by the community, which it has considered and will integrate into the outcomes and deliverables related to the 6 overarching issues.

The PDP WG has created a set of 4 sub-team Work Tracks (WTs) that are addressing the remaining subjects within its Charter. This communication, Community Comment 2 (CC2), is in relation to these subjects now under consideration. We are now writing to solicit feedback on certain questions and issues that stem from our Charter and the initial deliberations of the WTs.

The PDP WG is aware of other efforts related to New gTLDs that are underway within the community that we are coordinating with to answer a number of other questions related to the New gTLD Program. The PDP WG has identified the following initiatives that may have an influence on the outcomes of this WG.

- Competition, Consumer Trust & Consumer Choice Review Team (CCT-RT)
- PDP on Next-Generation gTLD Registration Directory Services
- PDP on IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms

- [Non-PDP CWG on the Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs](#)
- [PDP Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs](#)
- [CCT-RT and the associated New gTLD Program Reviews](#)
- The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) working groups on the topics of: a) public safety, b) underserved regions, and c) geographic names.
- Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) reviews of guidance provided regarding the New gTLD Program and determinations of whether new recommendations are needed.

In some circumstances, the PDP WG has not begun work, nor is it specifically seeking input at this juncture on several of the topics being considered by the groups above.

2. Community Comment Request: Survey on the subjects under consideration by the 4 WTs

The subjects that the PDP WG's four WTs are considering at this stage are listed below. Each subject and specific questions on which the PDP WG seeks your input are included as Annex A. Your input is critical in enabling these subjects to be considered fully and achieving a thoughtful outcome, which could include new policy recommendations, amendments to existing policy recommendations, or implementation guidance to be considered in the future. ***The PDP WG recognizes that this survey is extensive and understands that respondents may want to only provide answers to certain questions that relate to its own particular interests or concerns. To enhance the PDP WG's ability to consider all comments received, the PDP WG would like to encourage you to reference the specific question number, where applicable, when providing your responses.*** The subjects, as identified in this WG's charter, are:

Work Track/Section	Subject
1.1	Registry Services Provider Accreditation Programs
1.2	Applicant Support
1.3	Clarity of Application Process
1.4	Application Fees
1.5	Variable Fees
1.6	Application Submission Period
1.7	Application Queuing
1.8	Systems
1.9	Communications
1.10	Applicant Guidebook
2.1	Base Registry Agreement
2.2	Reserved Names
2.3	Registrant Protections
2.4	Closed Generics
2.5	Applicant Terms and Conditions
2.6	Registrar Non Discrimination & Registry / Registrar Separation
2.7	TLD Rollout
2.8	Contractual Compliance

2.9	Global Public Interest
3.1	Objections
3.2	New gTLD Applicant Freedom of Expression
3.3	Community Applications and Community Priority Evaluations
3.4	String Similarity (Evaluations)
3.5	Accountability Mechanisms
4.1	Internationalized Domain Names
4.2	Universal Acceptance
4.3	Applicant Reviews
4.4	Name Collisions
4.5	Security and Stability

We look forward to any comments and any input that you and the organization you Chair are able to provide to our WG. If possible, please forward your comments and input to us by May 1, 2017 so that we may fully consider it in our further deliberations.

Best regards,

Avri Doria and Jeff Neuman (WG Co-Chairs)