



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

Jonathan Robinson
Chair, GNSO Council

27 July 2015

Re: ICANN Board New gTLD Program Committee Resolutions Concerning Exclusive Registry Access for gTLD Strings Representing Generic Terms

Dear Jonathan:

On 21 June 2015, the ICANN Board New gTLD Program Committee (NGPC) met, and among other things, adopted [resolutions](#) to address an item of outstanding [advice](#) from the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) issued in the [Beijing Communiqué](#) (11 April 2013). In the Beijing Communiqué, the GAC advised the Board that “For strings representing generic terms, exclusive registry access should serve a public interest goal.”

As part of its action, the NGPC acknowledged that exclusive registry access for generic strings may raise policy considerations that require input from the GNSO through the bottom-up policy development process. As a result, the NGPC requests that the GNSO specifically include the issue of exclusive registry access for generic strings serving a public interest goal as part of the policy work it is planning to initiate on subsequent rounds of the New gTLD Program. The GNSO is also asked to inform the Board on a regular basis with regards to the progress on the issue. Staff stands ready to provide the GNSO with information needed to help support this request.

The Board looks forward to the results of this work to ensure that key policy areas are addressed for future rounds.

Regards,

Steve Crocker
Chairman, ICANN Board