*The GNSO Council and the GAC was asked this week by the board to provide policy advice in response to a December 13 letter from Intergovernmental Organizations legal counsel seeking provision for a targeted exclusion of third party registrations of the names and acronyms of IGOs both at the top and second level, at least during ICANN’s first application round of new gTLDs.*

*The April 12 close of the application window does not allow adequate time for the GNSO Council to address this matter.*

*It is an issue, though, that deserves due consideration and a response for future rounds, at both the first and second levels.  But, as the legal counsel represent Intergovernmental Organizations, the focus first needs to rightly be on them working with the GAC to provide advice to the Board. To the extent that the GAC provides policy advice to the Board on this matter, the GNSO looks forward to reviewing the policy implications of such advice, in accordance with its role within the organizational framework of ICANN.*

*The Board can, as is explicit in the organizational design of ICANN, then ask the GNSO Council to deal with the policy implications.*

*In the near term, the Council will re-visit a motion on providing top tier considerations for the IOC and Red Cross to meet the deadline of the first round of the new gTLDs.*