



Los Angeles Headquarters

12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536  
USA

+1 310 301 5800

+1 310 823 8649

25 April 2018

Ms. Manal Ismail  
Chair, ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

Dear Ms. Manal Ismail:

I am writing in regard to the [GAC San Juan Communiqué](#) and the GAC's Consensus Advice on IGO Reserved Acronyms (§2.a.i).

The Board understands that the GAC wishes for the Board to ensure that the [list](#) of IGOs provided to the ICANN org by the GAC in 2013 is accurate and complete. The Board also understands that the list itself, the criteria for inclusion on the list, the two specific languages in which each listed IGO's name and acronym are to be protected, and updating the list (either prior to the delegation of new gTLDs in subsequent rounds or every three years, whichever is earlier) are all determined by the GAC. The Board also acknowledges the significant work undertaken by the GAC, WIPO and OECD in contacting all the listed IGOs.

In order to assist the Board's review of the GAC's Advice on IGO Reserved Acronyms, the Board kindly requests the GAC to clarify the following:

1. Which lists are the subject of the Advice: the list of IGO Names, the list of Identifiers/Acronyms, or both?
2. What is the nature of the assistance that the GAC believes may be needed of the ICANN organization in order to ensure that the GAC's lists are accurate and complete?
3. Could the GAC confirm that it remains the authoritative organization to determine which IGOs are to be protected [including an IGO's specific name, acronym and applicable language(s)] as well as to determine any updates that are to be made to the list?
4. What mechanism does the GAC believe should be utilized for maintaining the accuracy of the list, i.e., for adding or deleting a name or identifier from the list? Can the GAC confirm that it is possible to have a scenario where an IGO's name (but not acronym) is deleted such that the deleted name becomes available for third parties while the acronym remains under protection, and vice versa (i.e., where the acronym is deleted but not the name)?

The Board thanks the GAC for its attention to these questions and looks forward to the GAC's timely reply.

Sincerely,

Cherine Chalaby  
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors