

14 October 2019

Manal Ismail
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee
ICANN

RE: Submission by the ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GNSO) on the GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) on International Governmental Organizations and International Non-Governmental Organizations (IGO-INGO) Access to Curative Rights Policy Recommendations for ICANN Board Consideration

Dear Manal,

On behalf of the ICANN Board of Directors, I write to acknowledge receipt of the Governmental Advisory Committee's (GAC) [letter of 20 August 2019](#), concerning recommendations from the GNSO's Policy Development Process (PDP) on IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms. The Board notes that the GAC also submitted the letter as a public comment during the Public Comment Proceedings for this PDP, which closed on 20 August 2019 (see <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/igo-ingo-crp-recommendations-2019-07-11-en>).

Recommendations 1,2,3 and 4

In the letter of 20 August 2019, the GAC “advises the ICANN Board to abstain from taking a decision on these Recommendations inter alia to allow the parties sufficient time to explore possible ways forward.” Under the ICANN Bylaws, the Board is obliged to take duly into account any advice timely presented by the Governmental Advisory Committee, prior to taking action.

The Board notes that the question about what constitutes appropriate protections for International Governmental Organizations (IGOs) in the domain name system has been a topic of longstanding discussion within the ICANN community and has been the subject of various instances of GAC advice.


At its workshop at ICANN65 in Marrakech in June 2019, the Board decided to form a Board Caucus Group to review the community's work on this matter. As such, the Board does not presently intend to act on the GNSO's PDP recommendations 1, 2, 3, and 4 until the newly formed Board Caucus Group has completed its review of the matter and formulated suggestions for possible paths forward.

Recommendation 5

The Board notes the GAC's stated willingness to participate in the chartering effort within the GNSO relating to further policy work on recommendation 5 of the PDP.

We thank the GAC for its input on this matter.

Sincerely,



Cherine Chalaby
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors