



## The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

5 April 2014

Governmental Advisory Committee  
Via, Ms. Heather Dryden  
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee

Dear Ms. Dryden:

I am pleased to inform you that the ICANN Board New gTLD Program Committee (NGPC) took action today to address advice from the GAC issued in the Singapore Communiqué concerning the applications for .WINE and .VIN. In the Singapore Communiqué, the GAC noted that “there appears to be at least one process violation and procedural error, including in relation to ByLaws Article XI-A, Section 1 subsection 6” in the ICANN Board’s final deliberation of [Resolution 2014.03.22.NG01](#) concerning .WINE and .VIN and advised that the ICANN Board reconsider the matter before delegating these strings. The GAC further advised the ICANN Board that “concerned GAC members believe the applicants and interested parties should be encouraged to continue their negotiations with a view to reach an agreement on the matter.”

The NGPC recognizes that some GAC members remain concerned about the .WINE and .VIN applications, and recognizes that this is a matter of great importance to these GAC members, as well as to the interested applicants for these top level domains. In its [action](#) today, the NGPC:

- accepted the GAC advice identified in the Singapore Communiqué as it relates to the applications for .WINE and .VIN;
- considered whether there may have been a process violation or procedural error, and concluded that there has been no process violation or procedural error under the Bylaws; and
- directed the President and CEO to not commence the contracting process for the applications for .WINE and .VIN for 60 days (from the date the resolutions are posted) in order to provide additional time for the relevant impacted parties to negotiate, which they are encouraged to do.



As noted in the rationale to the resolutions, attached is a copy of the Independent Legal Analysis concerning .WINE and .VIN. The NGPC will continue its work to address the remaining open items of GAC advice in the Singapore Communiqué. We will also provide updates on the NGPC's progress in considering the outstanding GAC advice items from Beijing, Durban and Buenos Aires.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen D. Crocker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Stephen D. Crocker  
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors