



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

Steve Crocker, Chairman of the ICANN Board of Directors

Rod Beckstrom, ICANN CEO

26 March 2012

RE: Your letter, dated 11 March 2012, on IGO request regarding registration and use of IGO names in DNS.

The GNSO Council and the GAC were asked in the letter referenced above to provide policy advice in response to a December 13 letter from Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) 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.

As you know, the Council is currently considering 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.

Yours Sincerely,

Stéphane Van Gelder

Chair, GNSO Council

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