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Governmental Advisory Committee

28 October 2024

Tripti Sinha Chair, ICANN Board of Directors

Subject: GAC Response to Board follow-up on 3 September 2024 Board-GAC Consultation regarding ICANN77 GAC Advice Item 4.a.i

Dear Tripti,

Thank you very much for your recent <u>letter</u> following the Board-GAC Bylaws Consultation on the ICANN77 GAC Advice regarding Auctions: Mechanisms of Last Resort/Private Resolution of Contention Sets in New gTLDs.

The GAC wishes to take this opportunity to thank the Board for the productive <u>Consultation Call</u> <u>on ICANN77 GAC Advice on Auctions</u>¹, held on 3 September 2024. As noted in your letter, during this meeting, the Board presented different approaches to address the GAC's concerns following the <u>Community Wide dialogue</u> on this topic, held in August 2024.

The GAC understands the Board's proposed path forward as follows:

- 1. No private resolution
- 2. Ability to submit alternate strings
- 3. Continue to use the 2012 ascending-clock second price auction method

The GAC intends to discuss the above options at ICANN81 in plenary sessions internally, as well as with other Community Groups, and will respond to the Board once these discussions have occurred. Additionally, the GAC looks forward to further discussion with the Board during the GAC/Board bilateral meeting in Istanbul, to further address the proposed path forward outlined in the Board Chair's <u>letter</u>.

¹ ICANN80 Kigali Communiqué: <u>https://gac.icann.org/contentMigrated/icann80-kigali-communique</u>

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The GAC looks forward to continued collaboration with the Board on matters pertaining to new gTLDs and in particular as the Board moves towards conclusions on its decision on how to resolve contention sets in the Next Round.

Sincerely,

Mugle.

Nicolas G. Caballero Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)