ICANN | GAC
Governmental Advisory Committee

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Governmental Advisory Committee Comments
Regarding the Third Proceeding for Proposed Language for Draft Sections of the Next Round Applicant Guidebook
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The ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the Third Proceeding for Proposed Language for Draft Sections of the Next Round Applicant Guidebook (AGB) opened on 19 December 2024[1]. GAC members have reviewed the proposed language and herein provide general comments in that regard.[2]

The GAC thanks the Subsequent Procedures Implementation Review Team and ICANN org for the multiphase approach to drafting of Applicant Guidebook Language, providing the GAC and other members with multiple opportunities to review and provide input prior to the publication of the complete AGB. The GAC recognizes that the full Applicant Guidebook will be submitted for public comment prior to its publication, and therefore these comments do not preclude any future GAC input on the AGB as a whole.

GAC Topic Leads have found the Applicant Guidebook language on the following topics as discussed since ICANN81 by the IRT to be in accordance with SubPro PDP WG Recommendations:

- Community Input and Dispute Resolution
  - Application Comments (Topic 28: Role of Application Comment)

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[1] See public comment proceeding:
https://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/proceeding/third-proceeding-for-proposed-language-for-draft-sections-of-next-round-agb-19-12-2024

[2] This comment was prepared by the Committee's leadership and is made on behalf of the entire GAC. It has been subjected to review of the GAC membership and is intended to complement, but not replace, any input that may be provided on the Second Proceeding for Proposed Language for Draft Sections of the Next Round Applicant Guidebook by individual GAC members.

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- ○ GAC Member Early Warnings (Topic 30: GAC Consensus Advice and GAC Early Warning)
- ○ GAC Advice (Topic 30: GAC Consensus Advice and GAC Early Warning)
- ○ Singular/Plural Notification (Topic 24: String Similarity Evaluations)
- ○ Objections (Topic 31: Objections and Topic 32: Limited Challenge/Appeal Mechanism)

- ● Topic 31: Objections and Topic 32: Limited Challenge/Appeal Mechanism
  - ○ ICANN Dispute Resolution Procedure
  - ○ ICANN Objection Appeals Procedure

- ● Post-Contracting
- ● DNS Stability
- ● Security and Stability (Topic 26: Security and Stability)
- ● Different TLD Types (Topic 4: Different TLD Types)

Specifically, on the topics of <u>GAC Member Early Warnings and GAC Advice</u> (Topic 30: GAC Consensus Advice and GAC Early Warning) the GAC wishes to convey its support for the language included in the draft Applicant Guidebook. Such language aligns with GAC discussions[3] and interactions[4] with the Board following the GAC ICANN77 Communiqué, where this topic was addressed under "issues of importance", and with the agreed compromise reached with the Board during the subsequent GAC/Board discussions. The language included is consistent with the relevant outputs from the Final Report on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process.

While there is no specific consultation here on the Applicant Support Process; the GAC would like to thank ICANN Org and the IRT for updating the GAC and other Community members of the progress of the process.

It has been beneficial for the GAC to be represented in the Subsequent Procedures Implementation Review Team (IRT) and to therefore take part in the discussions of the

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[3] GAC/ICANN Board Discussion on SubPro Topic 30 (28 July 2023): https://gac.icann.org/sessions/icann-board-and-gac-call-on-icann77-communiqu-clarification-and-subpro-topic-30
[4] Board-GAC Interaction Group (BGIG) Call (20 September 2023): https://gac.icann.org/sessions/boardgac-interaction-group-call-bgig-20-september-2023

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important issues articulated above. This has been important in keeping the wider GAC informed of developments.

The GAC is grateful to ICANN org for this opportunity to share the committee's perspective on the Third Proceeding for Proposed Language for Draft Sections of the Next Round Applicant Guidebook (opened on 19 December 2024) and the committee looks forward to contributing to potential future comment opportunities as they relate to this matter at ICANN82 and in the future.

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