



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

14 October 2014

Steve Crocker
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors

Re: NGPC Meeting 12, 14 October 2014

Dear Steve:

The ICANN Board New gTLD Program Committee (NGPC) continues to make progress to consider and address the remaining open items of advice from the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) related to the New gTLD Program. I am pleased to report that the NGPC took action during ICANN 51 to temporarily protect the 189 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the full names of the International Committee of the Red Cross and International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies as advised by the GAC in the [Singapore Communiqué](#) (27 March 2014). The protections would remain in place while the GAC, GNSO, Board, and ICANN community continue to actively work on resolving the differences between the GAC's advice on the GNSO policy recommendations on the scope and manner of protecting the names.

As part of its deliberations, the NGPC has identified a matter of GAC advice that concerns the ICANN Bylaws, which would be appropriate for consideration by the full Board. In Section 6 of its [London Communiqué](#) (25 June 2014), the GAC advised the Board that the GAC believes some subjects are not appropriate for a GNSO policy development process.¹

The advice from the GAC directly concerns the framework established in the Bylaws defining the supporting organizations and advisory committees. In particular, [Article X, Section 1](#) of the Bylaws provides that “[t]here shall be a policy-development body known as the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), which shall be responsible for developing and recommending to the ICANN Board substantive policies relating to generic top-level domains.” Because the GAC's advice touches and concerns the structures established in the Bylaws, the NGPC recommends that the advice be taken up by the full Board in due course.

The NGPC will continue to provide updates to the community on its work to respond to the remaining open items of GAC related to the New gTLD Program.

Best regards,

Cherine Chalaby,
Chair, ICANN Board New gTLD Program Committee

¹ See GAC Register of Advice (<https://gacweb.icann.org/display/GACADV/2014-06-25+RCRC>)