

15 December 2020

Mr Khalifa Bin Saeed Alabri
Assistant Secretary General for Economic and Development Affairs
The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf
Office of the Secretariat General
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Riyadh 11462 - P.O. Box: 7153

Dear Mr Khalifa Bin Saeed Alabri,

I would like to thank you for your letter regarding the protection of IGO identifiers and acronyms (Including “Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf” and “GCC”) in new generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs).

Both the GCC identifier and acronym are already protected at the second level in all new gTLDs. The New gTLD Subsequent Procedures working group (SubPro wg) which is the community policy development process working group for the next round of new gTLDs, and in which the Government Advisory Committee (GAC) participates, has not suggested any changes to this protection. These names and acronyms are not available for registration at the second level.

The SubPro working group work is ongoing and a monthly newsletter is produced so that everyone can see and follow the progress of this work. Please see [here](#) for the most current information. Regarding any future potential application for a .GCC top-level domain, ICANN will follow the outcome of this policy development process.

Please accept assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,



Göran Marby
President and Chief Executive Officer
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)