

The Director
LEGAL DIRECTORATE

Mr Cherine Chalaby
Chair
New gTLD Program Committee
By email: cherine.chalaby@icann.org

9 August 2013

Dear Mr Chalaby,

Re: Advice in the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Durban Communiqué

We take stock of the meetings (both formal and informal) that took place during the ICANN 47 meeting in Durban between Intergovernmental Organisations (IGOs) and the New gTLD Program Committee (NGPC), on the issue of IGO protection in the Domain Name System.

We also note and welcome the GAC Durban Communiqué, in which the GAC:

- advises the Board that the initial protections for IGO acronyms confirmed by the NGPC at its meeting of 2 July 2013 should remain in place until the dialogue between the GAC, the NGPC and IGO representatives for ensuring due implementation of preventative protection for IGO acronyms at the second level is completed; and
- communicates its willingness to work with IGOs and the NGPC on a cost-neutral mechanism for the practical and effective implementation of permanent preventative protection of IGO acronyms at the second level.

In light thereof and as discussed in Durban, it would be very useful that IGO representatives and members of NGPC meet in person, to move forward on this important issue as soon as possible.

In this regard, we would like to confirm our readiness to arrange a meeting at a mutually convenient time and location (either in Europe or on the West Coast of the United States).

We appreciate your consideration of this outstanding matter and look forward to discussing together the implementation of the aforementioned protection, without prejudice to the existing GAC advice pertaining to the protection of the names and acronyms of IGOs at both the second and top levels in future rounds of gTLDs.

Naturally, we remain fully available to discuss practical arrangements for us to meet.

Sincerely yours,



Nicola Bonucci
On behalf of the "IGO Coalition"



cc: Heather Dryden
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee
Heather.Dryden@ic.gc.ca

Fadi Chehade
President, ICANN Board
fadi.chehade@icann.org

Steve Crocker
Chair, ICANN Board
steve.crocker@icann.org

Chris Disspain
Member of the ICANN Board
ceo@auda.org.au

Bill Graham
Member of the ICANN Board
bill.graham@icann.org