8 April 2019

Ambassador Alexandra Moreira Lopez
Secretary General
Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization
Brasilia

RE: New gTLD Applications for .AMAZON

Dear Ambassador Alexandra Moreira Lopez,

I am writing in reference to the ICANN Board resolution of 10 March 2019 regarding the .AMAZON applications, about which ICANN President and CEO, Göran Marby, wrote to you in his letter of 11 March 2019. We are also copying the Amazon corporation on this letter for their information. The Board noted in the rationale of its resolution that a “further, short period of time before the Board makes a decision about whether to move toward delegation of the strings represented by the Amazon Applications could still lead to a mutually acceptable solution.” Accordingly, the resolution provided a deadline of 7 April 2019 for the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) member states and Amazon corporation to reach such a solution:

Resolved (2019.03.10.01), the Board calls on the ACTO member states and the Amazon corporation to engage in a last effort that allows both parties over the next four (4) weeks to work in good faith toward a mutually acceptable solution regarding the Amazon Applications, and if one is reached, to inform the Board of that solution by 7 April 2019.

The resolution also provided for the possibility of an extension of the deadline should the ACTO member states and the Amazon corporation jointly request more time:

Resolved (2019.03.10.03), if the ACTO member states and the Amazon corporation are unable to reach a mutually acceptable solution regarding the Amazon Applications in the next four (4) weeks, but both ACTO member states and the Amazon corporation mutually agree to and request an extension of that time period, the Board will honor that request.

However, the 7 April 2019 deadline has now passed, and the ICANN Board has not received either a mutually agreed-upon proposal for a solution or a joint request for an extension of the 7 April 2019 deadline. Therefore, the Board will proceed with next steps, as laid out in the resolution quoted below, which calls on the Amazon corporation to submit by 21 April 2019 a proposal for how it will address the ACTO member states’ concerns regarding the .AMAZON applications:

Resolved (2019.03.10.04), if the ACTO member states and the Amazon corporation do not mutually agree to an extension of that time period, or if after an extension, no mutual agreement is reached, the Board asks that within the two (2) weeks following (by 21
April 2019 or the extended date), the Amazon corporation submit a proposal on how it will address the ACTO member states continuing concerns regarding the Amazon Applications. Upon receipt of that proposal, the Board will determine if it is acceptable in accordance with policies and procedures governing the 2012 round of the New gTLD Program.

Upon receipt of the proposal from the Amazon corporation, the ICANN Board will review and take action as it deems appropriate. The 10 March 2019 resolution provides two possible paths forward from that point:

Resolved (2019.03.10.05), if the Amazon corporation’s proposal is acceptable to the Board, and is not inconsistent with any outstanding formal advice received regarding the Amazon Applications, the Board will direct ICANN org to continue processing the Amazon Applications according to the policies and procedures governing the 2012 round of the New gTLD Program.

Resolved (2019.03.10.06), if the Amazon corporation’s proposal is not acceptable to the Board, the Board might take two different approaches: (i) the Board might refer the proposal back to the Amazon corporation for additional work; or (ii) the Board might determine not to delegate the strings associated with the Amazon Applications.

The Governmental Advisory Committee, ACTO and its member states, and the Amazon corporation will be informed of the Board’s decision as soon as practicable following its review of the Amazon corporation proposal.

The Board understands the difficulty of the task at hand and greatly appreciates the time and effort of the ACTO member states and the Amazon corporation in seeking to reach a mutually agreeable solution.

Sincerely,

Cherine Chalaby, Chair
ICANN Board of Directors

Cc:
Göran Marby, President & CEO, ICANN
Brian Huseman, Amazon