



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

12 October 2015

Jonathan Robinson  
Chair, GNSO Council

Re: ICANN Board New gTLD Program Committee Resolutions Concerning Exclusive Registry Access for gTLD Strings Representing Generic Terms

Dear Jonathan:

Thank you for your letter of 22 September 2015 concerning exclusive registry access for gTLD strings representing generic terms. We have posted your letter to ICANN Correspondence page [<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/robinson-to-crocker-21sep15-en.pdf>].

On the topic of “global public interest” and the related challenges in definition or scope of the phrase, the GNSO Council’s concerns are noted.

As members are aware, staff will be available to support the Community when they have sufficient bandwidth on the broader theme of exploring how the term “public interest” is understood within ICANN’s remit; whether this is through providing background research or other means deemed useful by the Community in preparing for a bottom-up, multistakeholder approach that is cognizant of the operational, legal, and fiscal parameters and limitations of any potential definition(s).

In reference to the issue of exclusive registry access to generic terms, as noted in our correspondence of 27 July 2015, the Board is supportive of the GNSO considering this item for subsequent rounds of the New gTLD Program and staff stands ready to provide any information or resources to help support in this specific undertaking.

We look forward to hearing more on your progress on this topic.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen D. Crocker  
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors