

13 June 2019

Brian Huseman  
Vice President, Public Policy  
Amazon

RE: New gTLD Application for .AMAZON

Dear Brian Huseman,

Thank you for your recent communications regarding the Amazon corporation's applications for .AMAZON and related internationalized domain names (.AMAZON applications). Your letters of [17 April](#), [19 April](#), and [23 April 2019](#) have been posted to the [ICANN Correspondence page](#).

In your letters, you submitted a proposal for how the Amazon corporation will address the concerns of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) member states regarding the .AMAZON applications. As you are aware, in a Board meeting held on 15 May 2019, the Board passed [resolutions](#) related to the .AMAZON applications in which the Board directed me as ICANN President and CEO to continue processing the .AMAZON applications.

The full resolutions state:

Resolved (2019.05.15.13), the Board finds the Amazon corporation proposal of 17 April 2019 acceptable, and therefore directs the ICANN org President and CEO, or his designee(s), to continue processing of the .AMAZON applications according to the policies and procedures of the New gTLD Program. This includes the publication of the Public Interest Commitments (PICs), as proposed by the Amazon corporation, for a 30-day public comment period, as per the established procedures of the New gTLD program.

Resolved (2019.05.15.14), the Board thanks ACTO, the ACTO member states, and the Amazon corporation for their time and efforts in attempting to reach a mutually acceptable solution on this matter.

Resolved (2019.05.15.15), the Board thanks the ICANN org President and CEO, along with his team within the ICANN organization, for their facilitation efforts.

In the [rationale](#) for its resolution, the Board states:

The Board recognizes the need to balance concerns of all those involved, and to act fairly and transparently at all times. Indeed, the Board has considered the concerns raised regarding the .AMAZON applications at every stage of their processing through the New gTLD Program.

However, the Board is also cognizant of the time that has lapsed since the .AMAZON applications were submitted in 2012, and since the Amazon corporation prevailed in its Independent Review Process (IRP) against ICANN in July 2017. Since that time, the ICANN Board and org have engaged with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), ACTO, and the Amazon corporation in pursuit of a mutually acceptable solution, as evidenced by the numerous meetings, proposals, and letters received on the topic of the .AMAZON applications over the past few years. The Board believed that its March 2019 resolution allowing a further, short period of time—following over a year of facilitation by the ICANN org Preseident and CEO—before the Board made a final decision about whether to move toward delegation of the .AMAZON applications was appropriate and in line with requests by ACTO member states for additional time. The Board considered that this additional time could lead to a mutually acceptable solution regarding those applications.

As of today, two months from the Board’s March 2019 resolution, ACTO and the Amazon corporation have been unable to come to a mutually acceptable solution or agree on an extension of time for continued discussions. In light of this, the Board is now moving forward with the next steps laid out in Board resolution 2019.03.10.05 and is directing ICANN org to continue processing the .AMAZON applications toward delegation.

As per the resolution 2019.05.15.13 quoted above, ICANN org will now proceed with processing the .AMAZON applications. My team should have reached out to you by now to confirm the procedures for processing your applications, including the necessary steps in order for ICANN org to post the Amazon corporation’s proposed Public Interest Commitments for a 30-day comment period. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my team with any questions you have regarding the processing of your applications.

I would like to personally thank you for your efforts in trying to reach a mutually acceptable solution and for your continued participation in the ICANN multistakeholder model.

Sincerely,



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