



The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf Secretariat General

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Subject: Preserving the rights to the (.gcc)

Dear Chairman of the Board of ICANN,

We are pleased to send our sincere fraternal greetings.

We are reaching out to seek your esteemed guidance and expertise regarding the protection of (.gcc) as it is critically important to our organization's online identity and mission.

(.gcc) holds immense cultural, historical, and geographical significance for the community it represents. It serves as a pivotal identifier for stakeholders within the region, encapsulating their identity and facilitating online presence and communication.

Our primary concern is the potential for abuse of (.gcc) by third parties. Malicious actors could exploit the gTLD for misleading or deceptive purposes, potentially undermining public trust in both our organization and the legitimacy of the gTLD itself.

Given ICANN's commitment to promoting a stable and secure internet environment, we believe strong measures are necessary to safeguard (.gcc) and uphold the integrity of the Domain Name System. Moreover, As an IGO tasked with overseeing matters related to the Gulf region, we are deeply committed to safeguarding the integrity and authenticity of our online presence.

We recognize the importance of collaborating with ICANN and relevant stakeholders to ensure the protection of (.gcc) from malicious intentions. Therefore, we seek advice and support from ICANN in implementing effective protective mechanisms. We are particularly interested in exploring options that align with the framework set forth for IGOs under ICANN's current policies and the ongoing policy development efforts for the Next round of new gTLD Program. Specifically to ensure that any registration and use of the .gcc TLD be contingent on the applicant providing documentation of support or non-objection from the Gulf Cooperation Council. This aligns with the council's IGO status and ensures the TLD's use remains consistent with the region's cultural, historical, and socio-economic context.

We value ICANN's role in fostering a transparent and accountable domain name environment. We believe that by working together, we can effectively address these issues and uphold the principles of fairness, security, and transparency in the domain name system.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and look forward to your guidance and support.

Please accept your Excellency with the utmost respect and appreciation

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H.E Khalid Ali Salim Al Sunaidi

Assistant secretaries of Economic and Development Affairs