

7 April 2021

Ms. Manal Ismail
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee

Re: Policy Development Process on the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All gTLDs Phase 1

Dear Manal,

On behalf of the ICANN Board, and pursuant to Article 12, Section 2.a-x of the ICANN Bylaws, this letter is to formally notify the Government Advisory Committee (GAC) that the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council has approved all of the 35 Phase 1 final recommendations developed during the Policy Development Process (PDP) on the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs. The adopted recommendations were posted for public comment, in accordance with Article 3, Section 6.a-iii of the ICANN Bylaws, prior to Board action (see <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/gnso-rpm-pdp-phase-1-final-recommendations-2021-04-07-en>).

Phase 1 of this PDP focused on reviewing the RPMs and associated structures and procedures applicable to gTLDs launched under the 2012 New gTLD Program, specifically: the Uniform Rapid Suspension System (URS); the Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH); the Sunrise and Trademark Claims services offered through the TMCH; and the Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure (TM-PDDRP). Among the 35 Phase 1 final recommendations, the Working Group reached full consensus on 34 recommendations and consensus on one recommendation, which was the TMCH Final Recommendation #1.

The Board will soon consider the Phase 1 recommendations for approval. In the event that the GAC believes that there are public policy issues raised by these recommendations and provides advice accordingly on those issues, the ICANN Board will take the GAC's advice into account on this matter, as set forth in the Bylaws.

Sincerely,



Maarten Botterman
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors