



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

22 January 2015

Thomas Schneider, Chair
Governmental Advisory Committee
ICANN

Re: Protections for IGO names and acronyms

Dear Thomas:

On behalf of the New gTLD Program Committee, I write because the NGPC understands that there may be differing views within the GAC about the nature and extent of the rights of international governmental organizations with respect to curative rights protections for IGO names and acronyms.

As you are aware, discussions about curative rights protections have taken place with representatives of IGOs (under the auspices of the GAC). Further, the Generic Names Supporting Organization is currently conducting a Policy Development Process. The focus of the discussions and the Policy Development Process has been to determine whether, to address the specific needs of IGOs at the second level of the domain name system:

- a) the existing curative rights mechanisms (the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy and the Uniform Rapid Suspension procedure) could be amended, or,
- b) whether a separate, narrowly tailored rapid take down procedure and a dispute resolution procedure could be developed,.

We understand that some GAC members may be concerned that resolving the issue of curative rights in the ways currently being discussed could result in the creation of new rights for IGOs, which may be tantamount to creating new international law. Taking into account these possible concerns and the desire of all interested parties to reach a workable solution, we seek your input on whether the resolutions being considered are likely to garner GAC consensus support or whether they may raise issues that make it difficult for the GAC to reach consensus.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to assure you and the GAC that the NGPC understands the need to resolve the issue of IGO protections in the New gTLD Program. We therefore welcome the GAC's continuing input on the matter, and look forward to



clarifications and further feedback from the GAC. We also look forward to continuing our discussions with the GAC and the GNSO, including at the upcoming ICANN 52 meeting in Singapore.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, written in a cursive style. The signature appears to read "Cherine Chalaby" and is written over a horizontal line.

Cherine Chalaby, Chair
ICANN Board New gTLD Program Committee