



Geneva, 17 October 2016

CIMDIR 16/0006

Dear Dr Crocker, Dear Mr Marby,

On behalf of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), I wish to refer herewith to the recent exchanges held between ICANN's Board and the GNSO, calling for the reconciliation of the GAC's consistent advice relating to the protection of certain Red Cross and Red Crescent identifiers with past GNSO policy recommendations.

The ICRC, acting on behalf of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, has as you will no doubt recall, been engaged in a longstanding dialogue with ICANN's Board, staff (here in Geneva and elsewhere), the GAC and ICANN's policy making bodies and constituencies, with the aim to confirm the permanent reservation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent designations and names from registration in the current and in future rounds of the new gTLD program.

I have taken good note of the terms of the Board's response to the GNSO Council's Chairman and Vice-Chairs dated 4 October, confirming that the issue of the protections for National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' names and of the identifiers of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement remains outstanding.

Further to the most recent ICANN meetings held in Marrakech and Helsinki, it was stated that this matter would be addressed by the Board, and we were therefore expecting a conclusive Board decision ahead of Hyderabad. I wish in this regard to refer to the minutes of the Board - GAC Teleconference of 20 July 2016, where it is stated with regard to the Red Cross Red Crescent protections:

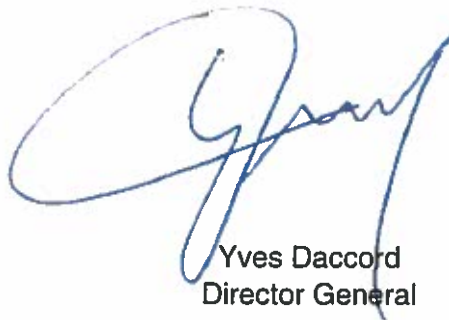
"The possibility has been raised of carving out this issue from others that may take more time. The Board will respond to the recent letter from the GNSO on this issue and the response "will be swift."

It is thus disappointing to note that this response has not been given and that it is now suggested that discussions may continue at ICANN 57 in Hyderabad next month.

In reference to the Board's expectation and anticipation that the discussion on the Red Cross and Red Crescent protections will continue between the Board, the GNSO and the GAC at the upcoming ICANN 57 meeting, it is important that this discussion not take place without a representative of the ICRC present. I should hence be very much obliged for your confirmation that a formal working session will be organized on this matter in Hyderabad in order to finally resolve and conclude this ongoing issue with all concerned parties. The only date that Ms. Charlotte Lindsey - who has been managing this matter with ICANN for over 5 years - can be present is on Friday 4 November I would therefore like to respectfully request that such a meeting be planned on this date.

I would be grateful for your reply and confirmation in the next days, so as to allow me to ensure ICRC's presence and participation at ICANN 57. Please do respond directly to my e-mail < officeofdq@icrc.org >, with copy to Ms Charlotte Lindsey, ICRC Director for Communication and Information Management <clindsey@icrc.org>.

While thanking you in advance for your consideration, I remain,



Yves Daccord
Director General

Dr Stephen D. Crocker
Chair, Board of Directors

Mr Göran Marby
President and CEO

Copies to

Mr Akram Atallah, President; Global Domains Division
Mr Nigel Hickson, VP, IGO Engagement, Geneva

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094
USA