

30 May 2017

To: Members of the 2012-2013 GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG) on IGO-INGO Protections in All gTLDs

From: GNSO Council Chairs

Cc: Thomas Rickert

**Subject: Reconvening the IGO-INGO Protections in All gTLDs PDP WG**

Dear Members,

As you may know, the GNSO Council recently voted to initiate the Policy Amendment Process contained in Section 16 of the GNSO PDP Manual (see <https://gnso.icann.org/en/council/annex-2-pdp-manual-01sep16-en.pdf> at Page 10), with respect to Recommendation 5, in Section 3.1 of the IGO-INGO Protections in All gTLDs PDP WG Final Report. This Recommendation states that a 90-days Claims Notice period be applied to the full names of the then-189 Red Cross National Societies, as well as the two full names by which the international Red Cross movement is known (i.e. the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies) (see <https://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/igo-ingo-final-10nov13-en.pdf>).

The Policy Amendment process calls for the GNSO Council to, among other things, consult the original PDP Working Group on the specific policy modification that is being proposed. To do this, the GNSO Council considers it necessary to reconvene the members of the PDP WG and ***we are therefore writing to all former PDP Working Group members, to asking you to indicate (via reply to the Working Group mailing list) if you will be available to participate in a consultation with the GNSO Council on the proposed modification of the above-noted PDP recommendation.*** We will greatly appreciate it if you can do so before Friday 9 June 2017, so that a first meeting of the reconvened Working Group can be scheduled for the following week.

The scope of the proposed modification for which the Council wishes to receive input from the reconvened PDP Working Group is described in the GNSO Council resolution that launched this Policy Amendment Process (See <https://gnso.icann.org/en/council/resolutions#20170503-071>). It is based on a request to the GNSO from the ICANN Board, following a discussion between representatives of the GNSO and the GAC at ICANN58 in Copenhagen. At this meeting, we discussed several developments that occurred subsequent to the conclusion of the PDP, and noted that some possibly merited a reconsideration of this specific PDP recommendation (see the Board request at <https://features.icann.org/protections-red-crossred-crescent-movement-identifiers-gtlds>).

Thomas Rickert, the Chair of the original PDP Working Group, has agreed to resume his duties and moderate the discussion of the Working Group on this request from the GNSO Council.

Following your confirmation that you are available and willing to participate in this consultation, the next step will be for ICANN staff, working in consultation with Council leadership and Thomas, to arrange for a conference call where we will discuss the proposal and the process to be followed in greater detail.

On behalf of the GNSO Council, we thank you once again for all your previous hard work in the original PDP from 2012-2013, which led to the adoption by the GNSO Council of over 20 consensus recommendations. We recognize a considerable period of time has passed since the completion of that work and this request. but we sincerely hope that you will be available to assist with this effort. Your work will ultimately provide guidance to the Council, that will resolve a long-standing issue created by the ICANN Board being unable to support the original PDP recommendation because it was inconsistent with GAC advice.

We look forward to hearing your response by **9 June 2017**.

Thank you.

Best regards,

*James Bladel (Chair, GNSO Council)*

*Donna Austin (Vice-Chair, GNSO Council, Contracted Parties House)*

*Heather Forrest (Vice-Chair, GNSO Council, Non-Contracted Parties House)*