

03 September 2023

**RE: GNSO COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION REPORT**

Sebastien Ducos  
Chair, Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council

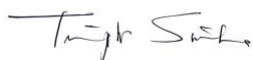
Dear Sebastien Ducos,

As the Board and community continue to plan for the upcoming Annual General Meeting in Hamburg, Germany, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the GNSO Council, on behalf of the Board, for the many consultations and the hard work that have enabled the Board to move forward with several important policy initiatives this year. These include the Board's adoption of policy recommendations on curative rights protections for International Governmental Organizations (IGOs) in [April 2023](#), and decisions relating to the next round of new gTLDs, including the deliverables we requested from the GNSO Council in our [March 2023](#) resolution as well as our recent [July 2023](#) decision to adopt the next round implementation plan.

In your February 2023 [letter](#) to me enclosing the GNSO Council's report on your December 2022 Strategic Planning Session, you noted a number of strategic objectives and action items that the Council identified for this calendar year. The Board appreciates that these action items contributed to the enhanced communication and engagement between the Board and the GNSO Council and community this year, and the two initiatives I mention above reflect this development; for example, the January 2023 meeting scheduled to review and discuss the IGO curative rights policy recommendations, and the various interactions between us on the outcomes of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures policy work over the last few months.

The Board also appreciates the Council's commitment to improving on the efficiency and effectiveness of the policy development process, as expressed in your letter. We agree that open and constructive dialogue is an important means for identifying further opportunities for continuous improvement. To that end, the Board welcomes continued engagement with the GNSO Council and community on this topic.

Best regards,



Tripti Sinha  
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors