

26 February 2024

RE: GNSO COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION REPORT

Greg DiBiase
Chair, Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council

Dear Greg DiBiase,

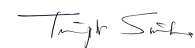
As the Board and community continue to plan for the upcoming Community Forum in San Juan, Puerto Rico, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the GNSO Council, on behalf of the Board, for the collaboration, constructive dialogue, and hard work that have enabled the Board to move forward with important policy initiatives this year. In particular, we are pleased to have been able to work together to address all the pending recommendations from the New Generic Top-level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) Policy Development Process (PDP). We know that the Council is working diligently on developing Supplemental Recommendation language for the small number of non-adopted SubPro recommendations and we expect that our continued collaborative relationship will be instrumental in ensuring that work concludes in a timely and effective manner.

In your [6 February 2024](#) letter enclosing the GNSO Council's report on your November 2023 Strategic Planning Session (SPS), you noted a number of strategic objectives and action items that the Council identified for this calendar year. The Board appreciates the Council's focus on enhancing processes to better ensure that recommendations approved by the GNSO Council can then be adopted by the ICANN Board. Enhancing the effectiveness of the Policy Development Process ultimately demonstrates the effectiveness of the multistakeholder model itself. The Board looks forward to discussing this topic with the GNSO Council, including during our joint meeting with the Council at ICANN79.

The Board also appreciates the efforts the Council made during the SPS to enhance the clarity around small teams, as the Board believes that they remain a valuable tool for the Council to advance work. Small teams have served as a mechanism to enhance communications and engagement between the Board and the GNSO Council. It is unlikely that the progress made to address the pending SubPro recommendations would have occurred as expeditiously without their help.

The Board is deeply appreciative of the trend toward open and collaborative two-way communication, which has already led to improving the way the Board and Council have been able to address issues that have arisen. The Board recognizes the importance of the Council focusing on improving two-way communication during the SPS and looks forward to continually evolving and enhancing its relationship with the Council.

Best regards,



Tripti Sinha
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors