



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

14 June 2013

Heather Dryden
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee

Re: NGPC progress update on addressing advice in the GAC Beijing Communiqué

Dear Heather,

On behalf of the New gTLD Program Committee (NGPC), I am writing to provide an update on the Committee's efforts with respect to the GAC Beijing Advice.

The NGPC met on 11 June 2013 to discuss the GAC Beijing advice regarding singular and plural versions of the same string as a New gTLD. The discussion followed the NGPC's decision on 4 June 2013 to accept the GAC's advice to consider this issue. The NGPC made considerable progress toward reaching consensus on a way forward and expects to reach a conclusion at its 25 June 2013 meeting.

The NGPC also considered how it might respond to the ALAC Statement on IDN Variants. Finally, it began in-depth discussion of the GAC's Safeguard Advice applicable to all strings.

The next two meetings of the NGPC on 18 and 25 June 2013 will focus on items within the GAC's Annex 1 Safeguard advice. Below please find an updated NGPC work plan.

	Item	Resp.	Start Date	Compl. Date	Status
1.	Publish GAC Communiqué to solicit input on how the New gTLD Board Committee should address GAC advice regarding safeguards applicable to broad categories of New gTLD strings	Staff		23 April	Complete
2.	Public comment period on how NGPC should address GAC Advice re: Safeguards	Public	23 April	Comment 14 May; Reply 4 June	Complete
3.	Summarize and analyze public comments on GAC Advice re: Safeguards	Staff	5 June	12 June	Complete
4.	Meeting to review and consider staff proposals for addressing overarching Safeguard advice (Annex 1, 1-6) and Restricted &	NGPC		18 June	Not Started

	Exclusive Registry policies (Category 2)				
5.	Meeting to review and consider staff proposals on Category 1, Items 1-5, and Singular vs. Plural	NGPC		25 June	Not Started

The New gTLD evaluation and objection processes remains on track while the NGPC continues its deliberations. The NGPC is prioritizing its work in order to allow the greatest number of applications to move forward as soon as possible.

I hope that this information is helpful. I look forward to providing you with further updates on the NGPC's progress in responding to the GAC Beijing advice.

Best regards,



Stephen D. Crocker, Chair
ICANN Board of Directors