



Governmental Advisory Committee

11 February 2013

Mr. Fadi Chehadé
CEO, ICANN

Dr. Stephen Crocker
Board Chairman, ICANN

Cc: Board of Directors
Christine Willett, VP, gTLD Operations

RE: ICANN gTLDs objection funding for governments

Dear Fadi and Steve,

I'm writing to relay a pressing question from the GAC about the procedure for requesting funding to raise objections, as mentioned in paragraph 3.3.2 of the Applicant Guidebook:

"Funding from ICANN for objection filing fees, as well as for advance payment of costs, is available to individual national governments in the amount of USD 50,000 with the guarantee that a minimum of one objection per government will be fully funded by ICANN where requested. ICANN will develop a procedure for application and disbursement of funds."

Considering that the objection period is currently scheduled to end at mid-March, the GAC would like to receive guidance about how to request this funding, and whether ICANN has developed a procedure for this.

At this stage of the process, I would like to highlight that though the GAC has not yet received such guidance official documents produced by governments take time. GAC Members are concerned that governments who need this funding to file an objection won't be able to do so due to time constraints. In that context, it is therefore essential to ensure full availability of this

mechanism for governments during the objection filing period, by ensuring the full effectiveness of the aforementioned procedure.

I look forward for your earliest response on this matter.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Heather Dryden', with a stylized, cursive script.

Heather Dryden
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee
Senior Advisor to the Government of Canada