

GNSO Council  
GNSO Stakeholder Groups  
Constituency Leaders

12 October 2020

**RE: The Upcoming Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO3) Review**

Dear GNSO Council and GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies Leaders,

On behalf of the ICANN Board, I am writing to you regarding the status of the upcoming Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO3) review.

Based on the review schedule currently in effect (see [ICANN Bylaws Section 4.4](#)), the third review of the GNSO is due to start in June 2021, five years after the [Board's receipt and action](#) on the final report from the last review. To support the current organizational review sequencing, the pre-planning work would start in the coming weeks.

As you may know, there are several potential dependencies and uncertainties related to organizational reviews: ATRT3 recommendation on reviews (see [ATRT3 Final Report](#), Section 8.4) could impact the timing and the nature of the next cycle of organizational reviews, depending on Board action in December 2020. Additionally, in connection with the ATRT3 recommendation on reviews, in its [transmittal letter](#) to the Board, the ATRT3 "*strongly suggests that the ICANN Board implement a moratorium on launching any new Organizational and Specific Reviews until it has made a decision on this recommendation.*"

The Board's Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) is leading active discussions on how to approach the scheduling of the next GNSO review, given the noted dependencies and uncertainties. The OEC is also taking into account that an organizational review requires extensive preparation, and the GNSO community would need to start preparing for the review in short order, with support from ICANN org.

The Board would like to understand the GNSO community's views about the timing of the next GNSO Review, considering your work plans. Please feel free to document your community's views to share with the Board, or if it would be helpful, I welcome you to schedule a time for the GNSO Council and GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies Leaders to meet with the OEC after ICANN69.

Many thanks and best wishes,



Maarten Botterman  
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors