From: "rys-mailings-noreply@icann.org" <rys-mailings-noreply@icann.org>
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 11:05 AM
To: Janella Conroy <janella.conroy@icann.org>
Subject: Legal Notice of New ICANN Consensus Policy - Protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs Policy and Update to the IGO, Red Cross, and IGO Reserved Name List

16 January 2018

Dear Registry Operator,

Please take notice that ICANN has published the implementation of a new Consensus Policy concerning the protection of intergovernmental organizations (IGO) and international nongovernmental organization (INGO) Identifiers in all gTLDs, which is available here[icann.org]. The Protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs Policy ("Policy") was developed and adopted in accordance with the ICANN Bylaws and is required to be implemented pursuant to the registry agreement between ICANN and Registry Operator. The protections within this Policy cover specific names of the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement (RCRC), the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and certain IGOs and INGOs. The Policy requires registry operators to withhold the specified names from registration for IGOs, the IOC, and the RCRC, at the second-level and provides exceptions procedure for registration. The Reserved Names List[icann.org] has been revised to accommodate this policy to indicate those names requiring reservation per the Policy versus the Registry Agreement Specification 5. For INGOs, the Policy requires a notice to be sent to the INGO if the protected name is registered within the first 90-days that the name is available for registration.

To provide a reasonable period of time to comply with the Policy, contracted parties will have until 1 August 2018 to implement the new requirements for IGOs, the IOC, and the RCRC. For the required protections concerning INGOs, the implementation period will be 12 months from the release of the INGO Claims Systems Specification, which is currently under development by the ICANN org.

This letter constitutes ICANN's notice to you, for the TLDs referenced in Appendix A below.

Background:

Issues related to whether certain international organizations such as IGOs and the INGOs should receive special protection for their names at the top and second-level of the Domain Name System have been raised throughout the development of the New gTLD Program. The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) has advised that these organizations perform important public interest or humanitarian work. In addition, the organizations themselves have reported that cybersquatting and related abuses of domain names that are identical or confusingly similar to their names and acronyms could significantly impact their missions and

resources. Thus, the Generic Names Support Organization (GNSO) initiated a Policy Development Process (PDP) to develop policy recommendations for the provision of protection for identifiers of certain IGOs and INGOs, including the IOC and the RCRC. The PDP Working Group completed its work in November 2013 and all its consensus recommendations were approved[gnso.icann.org] by the GNSO Council.

In April 2014, the ICANN Board adopted[icann.org] part of those recommendations: the GNSO recommendations that are not inconsistent with GAC advice received on the topic set forth in Annex A[icann.org] [PDF, 74 KB] of the Board resolution. In addition, the Board requested additional time to consider the GNSO Council's remaining unanimous recommendations on the protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in all gTLDs as set forth in Annex B[icann.org] [PDF, 90 KB] of the Board resolution and continues to facilitate discussions among the relevant parties to reconcile the remaining differences between the policy recommendations and the GAC advice on the topic. The ICANN Board has directed the ICANN org to proceed with the implementation of the recommendations adopted in April 2014.

A Consensus Policy Implementation Team was formed to begin work on the implementation plan. An Implementation Review Team (IRT) consisting of members of the PDP Working Group and interested community members was also formed to work with the Consensus Policy Implementation Team in line with the Consensus Policy Implementation Framework[icann.org] [PDF, 594 KB] developed by ICANN's Global Domains Division and adopted by the GNSO Council following the work of its Policy and Implementation Working Group[gnso.icann.org].

Questions about this Policy may be directed to globalsupport@icann.org.

Learn more:

- IGO/INGO PDP WG[gnso.icann.org]
- Policy Implementation at ICANN[icann.org]
- IGO/INGO IRT Wiki[community.icann.org]
[1] https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/igo-ingo-protection-policy-2018-01-16-en[icann.org]

[2] https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/reserved-2013-07-08-en[icann.org]

Appendix A

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