29 January 2025

Nicolas G. Caballero
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

RE: GAC Response on the Board's Proposed Path Forward on Auctions: Mechanisms of Last Resort/Private Resolution of Contention Sets in New gTLDs.

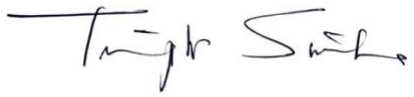
Dear Nicolas,

Thank you for your letter of 13 December 2024 in response to the Board's approach to "Auctions: Mechanisms of Last Resort/Private Resolution of Contention Sets in New gTLDs." The Board appreciates the GAC's time and efforts related to this topic, and notes the discussions held at the ICANN81 Istanbul meeting.

The Board takes note that the GAC finds the Board's proposal to provide applicants with an opportunity to submit an alternate string to potentially avoid contention resolution to be a mutually acceptable solution. The Board also notes the GAC's suggestion that further dialogue with efforts from ICANN org involving interested community participants should take place regarding the implementation of this proposal and encourages interested community members to participate in the meetings of the Subsequent Procedures Implementation Review Team.

The Board would like to thank the GAC for their time and effort in considering this proposed path forward and looks forward to continued collaboration with the GAC.

Sincerely,



Tripti Sinha,
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors