



17 April 2026

Tripti Sinha  
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors

Re: Next Round Applicant Support Program (ASP)

Dear Tripti,

We refer to your [6 April 2026 request](#) for input to the ICANN Board for additional funds for the 2026 Round Applicant Support Program (ASP).

Following our [letter of 20 March 2026](#), we are pleased to note that the ICANN Board [had resolved on 26 March 2026](#) to approve the allocation of up to an additional US\$4.9 million from the 2012 New gTLD Program Auction Proceeds to support up to 75 qualified ASP applicants at a 75 percent discount on gTLD evaluation fees.

The ALAC is further encouraged to learn that the ICANN Board is supportive of our call to increase the discount on gTLD evaluation fees to 85 percent, and we express our full support for this move, on the basis that the ASP is a priority to us, in the Next Round, and on the grounds already stated in our earlier letter.

That being said, we would like to ask the Board to inform the ICANN community on whether any or all funds drawn from the 2012 Round auction proceeds to support the ASP, might be replenished in the event a Next Round Application Volume Refund<sup>1</sup> were to materialize.

The ALAC remains hopeful that the Board will continue to press for transparency in reporting on the evaluation, implementation, and outcomes of the ASP as outlined in our [joint letter](#) with the GAC.

Sincerely,

A black and white image of a handwritten signature, "Jonathan Zuck", enclosed in a rectangular box. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jonathan Zuck  
Chair, At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

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<sup>1</sup> See: [New gTLD Program: 2026 Round Applicant Guidebook](#), section 3.3.3.2