Tim Berners Lee at the Net Mundial conference in Brazil, 2014 (emphasis added):

“The web needs to remain a system which exists without regard to national borders. Today most of the work is already done in the non-national Internet technical community. I was also pleased to hear that ICANN is beginning a dialogue to create a multi-stakeholder review process to replace that of the U.S. government. That is appropriate because ICANN services the global public interest.

“For me, that means that when a decision is taken about a possible new top-level domain, ICANN’s job is to work out, in a transparent and accountable manner, whether it is really in the best interest of the world as a whole, not just of those launching the new domain.”

ICANN has failed in its new gTLDs domain name program to heed the wise words of Sir Tim. As a result, until 4.2.1 of your Preliminary Report is answered, all other issues should be deferred as they are premature.

Should there even be gTLDs? Most of the original gTLDs (EDU, COM, NET, ORG, GOV, MIL, and INT), were, and many still are, operating under the authority of the U.S. government. Why should lawless multinational corporations be allowed “brand” gTLDs.

Many fundamental questions were left unanswered in the original policy development process and implementation, see: ICANN Insiders On New gTLDs: Mistakes, Fiascos, Horrible Implementation

Respectfully submitted,

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