**Public Comments-Open**

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| **Public Comment Invited: Proposal to Protect International Red Cross and International Olympic Committee Names at the Top Level in New gTLDs** | | | |
| **Forum Announcement:** | Comment (or Reply) Period Opens on… | **Date:** | 3 March 2012 |
| **Categories/Tags:** |  | | |
| **Purpose (Brief):** | Public comment is being sought by the IOC/RC Drafting Team established by the GNSO Council on an expedited basis as a matter of urgency on a proposal developed in collaboration with the GAC and the IOC/RC Drafting Team to implement certain protections for Red Cross/Red Crescent and International Olympic Committee names at the top level commencing with the first round of New GTD applications. It is recognized that that the time frame is exceptionally short because of the time constraints imposed by the closing of the new gTLD application window on April 12, 2012, and the new working relationship between the GNSO community and the GAC. It should also be noted that these recommendations may be the subject of possible action by the GNSO Council on 14 March 2012 at the ICANN Meeting in Costa Rica. | | |
| **Public Comment Box Link:** |  | | |

**Part B: Public Comment Box**

***Note****: The Public Comment Box will appear on the* [*Public Comments-Open*](http://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/) *web page. Information that was previously presented in the Announcement has now been consolidated into this single template. Where applicable, text fields will auto-text.*

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| **Public Comments: Proposal to Protect International Red Cross and International Olympic Committee Names at the Top Level in New gTLDs** | | | | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **COMMENT/REPLY PERIODS (\*)** | | | Comment Open: | 2 March 2012 | | Comment Close: | 12 March 2012 | | Close Time (UTC): | 23:59 (UTC) | | Reply Open: |  | | Reply Close: |  | | Close Time (UTC): |  | | | |  | | --- | | **IMPORTANT INFORMATION LINKS** | | Public Comment Announcement | | To Submit Your Comments (Forum) | | View Comments Submitted | | Report of Public Comments | | | |
| **BRIEF OVERVIEW** | | | | | |
| **Originating Organization:** | GNSO International Olympic Committee/Red Cross Drafting Team | | | | |
| **Categories/Tags:** | Top-Level Domains, Second-Level Domains, Intellectual Property | | | | |
| **Purpose (Brief):** | Public comment is being sought by the IOC/RC Drafting Team established by the GNSO Council on an expedited basis as a matter of urgency on a proposal developed in collaboration with the GAC and the IOC/RC Drafting Team to implement certain protections for Red Cross/Red Crescent and International Olympic Committee names at the top level, commencing with the first round of New GTD applications. It is recognized that that the time frame is exceptionally short because of the time constraints imposed by the closing of the new gTLD application window on April 12, 2012, and the new working relationship between the GNSO community and the GAC. It should also be noted that these recommendations may be the subject of possible action by the GNSO Council on 14 March 2012 at the ICANN Meeting in Costa Rica. | | | | |
| **Current Status:** | The proposed solution is under consideration by the GNSO Council and the GAC, and is posted in advance of the Costa Rica Meeting. | | | | |
| **Next Steps:** | The GNSO Council is expected to vote to recommend to the Board the adoption of the proposed solution at the Costa Rica Meeting for implementation in the first round of applications. | | | | |
| **Staff Contact:** | Margie Milam | | **Email:** | [margie.milam@icann.org](mailto:margie.milam@icann.org) | |
| **DETAILED INFORMATION** | | | | | |
| **Section I: Description, Explanation, and Purpose** | | | | | |
| The GNSO International Olympic Committee/Red Cross Drafting Team (IOC/RC Drafting Team) is seeking public comment on the following proposal [link to document] to extend certain protections to the Red Cross/Red Crescent (RC) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) names at the top level, to be effective commencing with the first round of applications in the New GTLD Program. Due to the pendency of the application period (which is currently scheduled to close in on April 12), this public comment forum is being treated as a matter of urgency in order to present a solution for consideration by the ICANN Board as its Costa Rica meeting. | | | | | |
| **Section II: Background** | | | | | |
| The IOCRC Drafting Team developed this proposal to implement the ICANN Board’s 20 June 2011 resolution, stating that:  “Resolved (2011.06.20.01), the Board authorizes the President and CEO to implement the new gTLD program which includes . . .  incorporation of text concerning protection for specific requested Red Cross and IOC names for the top level only during the initial application round, until the GNSO and GAC develop policy advice based on the global public interest, . . .”  This proposal has not yet received consensus among the members of the IOC/RC Drafting Team, or the Government Advisory Committee (GAC). The IOC/RC Drafting Team has collaborated with the GAC during its deliberations in an attempt to identify a solution that addresses GAC concerns, and has informally briefed the GAC on the details of this proposed solution. The GAC is expected to provide input on this proposal in Costa Rica.  In addition to these recommendations, the IOC/RC Drafting Team plans to evaluate whether second level protections should be extended to these names, and expects to produce a solution for consideration at the ICANN Prague meeting in June, 2012. | | | | | |
| **Section III: Document and Resource Links** | | | | | |
| The proposed solution posted for public comment by the IOCRC Drafting Team is available at:  [insert link} | | | | | |
| **Section IV: Additional Information** | | | | | |
| For more information on this issue:   * The relevant ICANN Board resolution:   <http://www.icann.org/en/groups/board/documents/resolutions-20jun11-en.htm>   * The GAC letter concerning the protection of IOC/RC names:   <https://gacweb.icann.org/download/attachments/1540128/GAC+advice+on+IOC+and+Red+Cross+Sep.+2011.pdf?version=1&modificationDate=1317031625914>   * The Questions & Answers concerning protection of IOC/RC names:   <https://community.icann.org/download/attachments/30343723/IOC+AND+IRC+RESERVATIONS+IN+NEW+GTLDS+QUESTIONS+AND-ANSWERS.pdf?version=1&modificationDate=1320967688000>   * The Status Report of the Chairman of the IOCRC DT:   <http://gnso.icann.org/drafts/ioc-rcrc-status-report-29feb12-en.pdf>   * The mailing list of the GNSO IOCRC DT:   <http://forum.icann.org/lists/gnso-iocrc-dt/mail4.html>   * The Applicant Guidebook for the New GTLD Program:   <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/agb> | | | | | |

*(\*) Comments submitted after the posted Close Date/Time are not guaranteed to be considered in any final summary, analysis, reporting, or decision-making that takes place once this period lapses.*

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| **Translations: If translations of the Announcement and Public Comment Box will be provided please indicate the languages below:** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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