



22 December 2017

Mr. Paul Diaz
Chair, gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group

RE: New gTLD Registry Fee Offset Proposal

Dear Mr. Diaz and members of the gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group,

Thank you for your letter of 3 October 2017, regarding new gTLD application funds. Your letter has been published to the ICANN correspondence page (<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/diaz-to-atallah-03oct17-en.pdf>).

As requested in your letter, we had a brief discussion with you and your colleagues on 30 October at the ICANN60 meeting in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. We found this meeting productive and hope you feel the same.

The 2012 round of the New gTLD Program is still underway, and we do not yet know if any excess of the New gTLD Program remaining funds will exist after the conclusion of this round. The remaining Program funds are intended to cover operating expenses and future unanticipated costs which continue to occur on an ongoing basis. As such, at this time, ICANN is not in a position to commit to the possible use of any potential remaining funds from the New gTLD Program applications fees.

Your letter also requests greater clarity regarding the past and anticipated uses of the New gTLD program funds. The ICANN org is committed to providing additional transparency and understanding of the past, current and future uses of the New gTLD Program funds. As you know, the ICANN org is in the midst of planning its FY2019 budget and the first draft is expected to be published for public comment before the end of January 2018. These budget documents will include several pages of information dedicated to the New gTLD program financials, as they have in years past. The ICANN org team will coordinate with the RySG to provide increased clarity and understanding into this aspect of the ICANN budget in advance of the ICANN61 meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. If sufficient interest exists, we would happily host a dedicated session about this topic at the ICANN61 meeting open to the entire community..

Thank you for your continued support and participation in ICANN's multistakeholder process.

Sincerely,

Akram Atallah
President, Global Domains Division