



7 December 2023

Subject: SSAC2023-20: Response to ICANN Board Chair's Letter on Name Collision Analysis Project

To: Tripti Sinha, Chair, ICANN Board of Directors

CC: John Crain, Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, ICANN

Dear Tripti,

Thank you for your correspondence on 21 November 2023 regarding the submission of NCAP Study 2 to the ICANN Board.¹ We acknowledge the Board's request to receive the NCAP Study 2 Final report by 1 May 2024.

We are pleased to inform you that the Discussion Group has made significant progress in 2023. The Discussion Group has tentatively reached consensus in its deliberations in November. However, this consensus is yet to be documented.

A key finding of Study 2 is that Study 3 is unnecessary and attempting it would not be a good use of resources. As a result, the submission of the Study 2 report will conclude the NCAP's work.

The SSAC is concerned that there is very little margin for error in meeting the 1 May 2024 deadline desired by the Board. While the Discussion Group has reached high-level consensus, we write to advise you on the key risks in the Group's work, any of which might impact our ability to achieve this deadline, and potential resources needed to complete its work:

1. Sufficient dedicated time from an ICANN appointed technical writer, including transition from the current writer to the recently assigned one.
2. New text exposes lack of consensus in the Discussion Group, resulting in more time to resolve issues.
3. Remaining procedural steps for the Discussion Group (Public comments, report finalization) will limit available time to consider inputs from comment processes or reach consensus on any resulting proposed changes by the Discussion Group.
4. Possible delays arising from SSAC's review and release of its work product and advice to the Board.²

¹ See Letter from Tripti Sinha to Suzanne Woolf and Matt Thomas, 21 November 2023,

<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/sinha-to-woolf-thomas-21nov23-en.pdf>

² The SSAC work product and advice will be in response to the Board's resolutions [2017.11.02.30-2017.11.02.31](#).

The Discussion Group targets the Study 2 Report to be published for public comment no later than 19 January 2024. Delays in publication beyond 19 January 2024 will complicate our ability to complete successive procedural requirements by the Board's 1 May 2024 deadline.

We are committed to ensuring that every effort is made to deliver a final NCAP Study 2 Report to the Board by 1 May 2024. SSAC leadership has committed to supporting our members' timely review of the final report to produce SSAC's requisite work product. We request the collaboration of the ICANN org and ICANN Board to see this effort through, including diligence and flexibility in responding expeditiously to any resource needs.

Matt Thomas, Suzanne Woolf
NCAP Co-chairs

Rod Rasmussen
Chair, ICANN Security and Stability Advisory Committee

Ram Mohan
Incoming Chair, ICANN Security and Stability Advisory Committee