

21 November 2023

RE: Submission of the Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) Study2 to the Board

Suzanne Woolf
Matt Thomas
Co-Chairs, NCAP Discussion Group

cc: Rod Rasmussen, SSAC Chair, Julie Hammer, SSAC Vice Chair

Dear Suzanne and Matt,

I am writing to you regarding the ongoing work related to the Name Collision Analysis Project (NCAP) Study 2. The Board recognizes the time, effort and hard work that has gone into this project and wishes to thank the community for their dedication.

As mentioned in both the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Operational Design Assessment ([ODA](#)), and the [New gTLD Program: Next Round Implementation Plan](#), the Study 2 work is a dependency for the next round of new gTLDs and is expected to impact the implementation of the [SubPro Final Report](#) outputs related to name collisions. As such, the Board must receive the Study 2 Final Report no later than 1 May 2024 to avoid any negative impact on the timeline of the next round of new gTLDs, and particularly the completion of the Applicant Guidebook in May 2025. The table below outlines the projected steps that must occur after the Board receives the report, illustrating why the 1 May 2024 deadline is critical.

The Board understands that the Study 2 Final Report will be published for public comment prior to being submitted to the Board. Therefore, we believe that producing a draft final report to be published for public comment by early January 2024 will be critical to avoid any impact to the timeline to finalize the AGB by May 2025.

The Board looks forward to continued progress toward finalization of the draft final report. If there is anything that the Board or the ICANN organization can do to support the swift completion of the draft final report, please be in contact at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Tripti Sinha
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors

	Step/Milestone	Estimated Timing
1	Study 2 Final report submitted to Board	1 May 2024
2	May Board Workshop (initial discussion with full Board)	3-5 May 2024
3	Board Technical Committee (BTC) working sessions, including formulating recommendation to Board	May - July 2024
4	<i>Board hiatus/break period</i>	<i>August 2024</i>
5	September Board Workshop (Board adoption of recommendation and directing of ICANN org to implement)	9-10 September 2024
6	ICANN org drafts Applicant Guidebook language on relevant name collision procedures based on GNSO policy recommendations and Board adopted recommendations from Study 2	11 September - 14 November 2024 (end of ICANN81)
7	Implementation Review Team (IRT) discussion/review period	25 November - 13 December 2024
8	Public Comment Period on draft policy language in the AGB	13 January - 22 February 2025
9	AGB language is finalized in consultation with the IRT	8-13 March 2025 (end of ICANN82)