

Dear SO/AC Chairs,

**A working group to develop recommendations on new gTLD auction proceeds**

During the GNSO weekend sessions at ICANN 52 in Singapore, the GNSO discussed the issue of new gTLD auction proceeds. As you know, new gTLD auction proceeds have been building up and there is no current plan in place for the use or allocation of these funds.

In order to commence discussions on a plan for the use of new gTLD auction proceeds, the GNSO would like to form a working group to develop recommendations on this topic. As such, I am reaching out to you to see whether there is an interest to form a cross-community working group on this topic. Note, should there not be sufficient interest to form a cross-community working group at this stage, the GNSO plans to form a GNSO working group on this topic which will be open to anyone interested to participate in. Regardless of which approach is chosen, it is the GNSO's expectation that any work on this topic will be conducted through an open and consultative process allowing everyone interested to participate and provide their perspectives.

In order to determine the interest from the different communities in this topic, I would like to ask you to provide an initial response to me by **14 March 2015** at the latest. Based on the feedback received, the GNSO Council will initially discuss how to proceed at its meeting on 19 March 2015.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Robinson

For and on behalf of the ICANN GNSO Council