On behalf of the GNSO Council, we wish to inform you that on 23 January 2020, the GNSO Council adopted the [Addendum](https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/file/field-file-attach/rpms-charter-addendum-09jan20-en.pdf) to the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs Policy Development Process (PDP) Charter in order to integrate Recommendation 5 from the IGO-INGO Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Final Report as a new and parallel Work Track into the ongoing RPMs PDP. Due to general capacity concerns within the GNSO and for other interested parties, as well as challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, the GNSO Council believed it prudent to delay this call for volunteers until a more appropriate time. If you wish for your group to participate in the IGO Work Track, we ask that you commence the selection and appointment process for members and alternates from your respective group as soon as practicable, to enable the team to begin its work in an expeditious manner. Under the Charter, your group may appoint a certain maximum number of members, as indicated below.

Please note the composition of the IGO Work Track as approved by the GNSO Council in the Charter:

* Members appointed by GNSO Stakeholder Groups and GNSO Constituencies, as follows:
	+ The Registries Stakeholder Group may appoint up to 2 Members;
	+ The Registrars Stakeholder Group may appoint up to 2 Members;
	+ The Commercial Stakeholder Group may appoint up to 3 Members; and
	+ The Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group may appoint up to 3 Members.
* Up to 2 Members from each interested SO other than the GNSO, and AC.
* Up to 2 Members representing IGOs.

As you consider possible appointments from amongst your members, please take into account the expected membership criteria:

All Members of the IGO Work Track must:

* Be responsible to their appointing organization, seeking input as necessary and keeping the appointing organization informed of progress;
* Agree to respect the GNSO PDP and other applicable GNSO rules of procedure;
* Be willing to work, in good faith, toward consensus;
* Commit to Terms of Participation, to be set by the GNSO Council prior to the first meeting of the IGO Work Track;
* Provide an updated Statement of Interest in accordance with Section 5 of the GNSO Operating Procedures; and
* Be available to actively contribute to the discussion and activities of the Work Track on an ongoing basis.

All Members of the IGO Work Track should:

* Possess a working understanding of international intellectual property law, public international law, international arbitration or alternative dispute resolution.

In addition, please note that:

(1) groups should endeavor to appoint representatives with the relevant knowledge/expertise as detailed; and

(2) where a group is not able to appoint representatives with the relevant knowledge/expertise, it should seek to contribute towards the balanced participation that is being sought, by appointing representatives with specific skill sets that otherwise facilitates an effective policy outcome (e.g. professional experience in an IGO/international NGO environment, relevant practical experience with complex legal and policy issues, demonstrated expertise in consensus-building and/or professional facilitation experience, etc.)

 Please also take into account the following points of information:

* IGO Work Track **Members**: Members are expected to adhere to the attached Statement of Participation as well as participate in any IGO Work Track consensus calls, as applicable. A consensus call, as outlined in section 3.6 of the GNSO Working Group Guidelines, is used to formally assess the level of support for recommendations by the IGO Work Track. It is a requirement of the charter that members represent the formal position of their appointing organization, not individual views or positions.
* IGO Work Track **Alternates**: An alternate will only participate if a Member is not available. Alternates will be responsible for keeping up with all relevant IGO Work Track deliberations to ensure they remain informed and can contribute as and when required (when called upon by their appointing organization, as a Member is unavailable). As noted below, the ability to listen in real-time is expected to be made available to facilitate this process.
* **Observers**: Anyone may join as an Observer. However, Observers will only be subscribed to the Work Track mailing list on a read-only basis and will not be able to participate in Work Track discussions, whether at meetings or on the mailing list.

To effectively manage the workload in a reasonable timeframe, all IGO Work Track **Members** (as defined above) are required to commit from the outset of the work effort to the attached Statement of Participation. In addition, all Team Members and Alternates must complete and maintain an up-to-date Statement of Interest on the GNSO wiki.

In order to ensure a timely start of the IGO Work Track, you are requested to confirm your appointed Members and Alternates at the latest by **7 December 2020** in order to be able to schedule the first meeting of the IGO Work Track in a timely manner.

On behalf of the GNSO Council

**Annex A - IGO Work Track Statement of Participation**

As a member of the IGO WOrk Track:

* I agree to genuinely cooperate with fellow members of the IGO Work Track to reach consensus on the issues outlined in the Charter. I understand this does not mean that I am unable to fully represent the views of myself or the organization I represent but rather, where there are areas of disagreement, I will commit to work with others to reach a compromise position to the extent that I am able to do so;
* I acknowledge the remit of the GNSO to develop consensus policies for generic top level domains. As such, I will abide by the recommended working methods and rules of engagement as outlined in the Charter, particularly as it relates to designating consensus and other relevant rules in [GNSO Working Group Guidelines](https://gnso.icann.org/en/council/annex-1-gnso-wg-guidelines-30jan18-en.pdf);
* I will treat all members of the IGO Work Track with civility both face-to-face and online, and I will be respectful of their time and commitment to this effort. I will act in a reasonable, objective, and informed manner during my participation in this IGO Work Track and will not disrupt the work of the IGO Work Track in bad faith;
* I will make best efforts to regularly attend all scheduled meetings and send apologies in advance when I am unable to attend. I will take assignments allocated to me during the course of the IGO Work Track seriously and complete these within the requested timeframe. As and when appropriate I shall seek to be replaced by my designated Alternate in accordance with the wishes of my appointing organization;
* I agree to act in accordance with [ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior](https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/expected-standards-2016-06-28-en), particularly as they relate to:
	+ Acting in accordance with, and in the spirit of, ICANN’s mission and core values as provided in [ICANN's Bylaws](https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/governance/bylaws-en);
	+ Listening to the views of all stakeholders and working to build consensus; and
	+ Promoting ethical and responsible behavior;
* I agree to adhere to any applicable conflict of interest policies and the Statement of Interest (SOI) Policy within the [GNSO Operating Procedures](https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/file/field-file-attach/op-procedures-18jun18-en.pdf), especially as it relates to the completeness, accuracy, and timeliness of the initial completion and maintenance of my SOI; and
* I agree to adhere to the [ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy and Terms of Participation](https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/community-anti-harassment-policy-2017-03-24-en) and Complaint Procedures.

I acknowledge and accept that this Statement of Participation, including ICANN’s Expected Standards of Behavior, is enforceable and any individual serving in a Chair role (such as Chair, Co-Chair, or Acting Chair or Acting Co-Chair) of the IGO Work Track and GNSO Council Leadership Team have the authority to restrict my participation in the IGO Work Track in the event of non-compliance with any of the above.