

22 April 2019

Honorable David J. Redl
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and Administrator,
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Letter of 4 April 2019 regarding ICANN Expedited Policy Development Process on the
Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data

Dear David:

Thank you for your letter of 4 April 2019¹ regarding the Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data (EPDP) now underway at ICANN. On behalf of the ICANN Board and organization, I would first like to express our thanks for NTIA's participation, both direct and through the Governmental Advisory Committee, in this complex and challenging effort to update ICANN's policies and procedures with respect to domain name registrant information. In particular, we are grateful for your active participation in the EPDP Team's Phase 1 work through the appointment of Ashley Heineman as an EPDP Team member, the submission of a public comment and your active contribution to the work of the GAC.

Like you, we are pleased with the Phase 1 work completed by the EPDP Working Group. The ICANN Board is scheduled to vote on the EPDP Team's Final Report for Phase 1 shortly. In recognition of the critical dates provided within the Final Report (e.g., February 29, 2020 as the recommended policy effective date), ICANN org has already begun working with a Pre-Implementation Review Team. The Pre-Implementation Review Team is comprised of EPDP Team members and is working with ICANN org to begin designing and building an implementation plan.

I agree with you that there is much work left to be done but I am happy to report that much of that work is underway. The GNSO Council recently voted to appoint Janis Karklins as the Chair for Phase 2 of the EPDP Team's work. Prior to Mr. Karklins' appointment, the interim leadership and ICANN org staff support team have been working to organize the feedback received from EPDP Team members on working methodology, prioritization of work for Phase 2, et. al. The interim leadership and ICANN org staff support team look forward to working closely with Mr. Karklins on the leadership transition so that the EPDP Team can begin its important work on standardized access to non-public registration data in a timely manner.

¹ The letter has been posted to the ICANN Correspondence page (<https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/correspondence>) with direct link at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/redl-to-chalaby-04apr19-en.pdf>.

In addition, we are working to provide clarity around possible options that could be available for the community to consider in Phase 2. A [Technical Study Group on Access to Non-Public Registration Data](#) (TSG) has completed its work on a possible Technical Model for Access to Non-Public Registration Data. The group worked together over the course of four months to develop this model under which ICANN would serve as the coordinating party for third-party queries for non-public registration data in the gTLD space. The TSG has submitted its report to ICANN President and CEO Göran Marby, who chartered the group's work. ICANN intends to share the model and pose questions to the European Data Protection Board (EDPB), to understand if the EDPB sees this model as minimizing the legal liability for ICANN gTLD contracted parties who provide access to non-public gTLD registration data.

Thank you again for your commitment to resolving these difficult issues and for your unflagging support for the multi-stakeholder model. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Regards,



Göran Marby
President and Chief Executive Officer
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)