

18 October 2021

## **ICANN Board Liaison to the GNSO Expedited Development Process (EPDP) on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)**

Maarten Botterman  
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors

Dear Maarten,

I am writing to request that the ICANN Board consider appointing a Board Liaison to the recently established GNSO Expedited Development Process (EPDP) Team on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs). The Team believes that a Board Liaison will be an important addition to our Team to ensure that our work adequately takes into account a number of Board requests related to the development of policies to define and manage IDN variant TLDs. This request also has support from the GNSO Council.

We understand that the appointed Liaison would perform his/her role in accordance with the [Guidelines for Board Members Serving as Liaisons to ICANN Community Groups](#) (“Guidelines”).

We also appreciate that this request does not strictly conform with the Guidelines because a Board Liaison was not foreseen in the EPDP Charter; however, the reason for this is a consequence of timing as the Guidelines were published after the GNSO Council’s [approval](#) of the EPDP [Charter](#) on 20 May 2021.

The EPDP Team believes the following criteria may be helpful to the Board in selecting a liaison:

- Knowledge of and preferably direct experience in IDN related work at ICANN;
- Knowledge of ICANN policies and procedures, registry/registrar services, and domain name life cycle as they relate to IDNs;
- Knowledge of GNSO policy development processes and be respectful to the processes;
- Commitment to participating in Working Group meetings on a regular and ongoing basis.

For more detailed information on the EPDP Team’s mission, scope, and team composition, please refer to the EPDP [charter](#). For a list of the current EPDP IDNs members, participants, and liaisons from other appointing organizations, please visit this [page](#).

The EPDP is in the early stage of its work and would appreciate it, if the Board is agreeable to appointing a Liaison, that this be done by **19 November 2021** by informing the GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@icann.org](mailto:gnso-secs@icann.org).

Kind regards

Donna Austin  
Chair, IDNs EPDP