

30 September 2019

Keith Drazek, GNSO Chair
Rafik Dammak, GNSO Council Vice Chair
Pam Little, GNSO Council Vice Chair

Dear Keith, Rafik and Pam,

Thank you for your letter of 2 September 2019 regarding your request for additional resources to support the GNSO Council's acceptance of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Team's Phase 2 work plan.

Tight deadlines

The Board, with the assistance of the Board liaisons assigned to the EPDP, has been closely following the EPDP's activities since Phase 2 was initiated in March of 2019. We have reviewed the EPDP Leadership Team's proposed deliverable timelines of December 2019 for publication of the Initial Report and early April 2020 for delivery of the Final Report. The Board notes the proposed completion date of April 2020 appears to be ambitious, particularly in light of the remaining policy topics detailed in the EPDP Team's work plan. However, the Board supports the EPDP Team's goal and recognizes the urgency and severity of many outstanding policy issues needing resolution.

Additional resources for Phase 2 approved

Thank you for providing a detailed summary of the events leading up to this request; the summary proved helpful in our deliberation and consideration. As you reinforced in your letter and as stated in our first correspondence of [6 May 2019](#), the Board is committed to providing the EPDP Team with the necessary resources for this important work. Accordingly, we approve your request.

The additional resources for Phase 2 will be allocated as follows:

- Travel support and facilitation services - \$197,000
- Remote participation services - \$60,000
- Legal service - \$300,000.

Total allocation for Phase 2 not to be exceeded

The fulfillment of this request, together with the funds previously allocated to EPDP Phase 2 (eg prior request for face-to-face engagements), is roughly equivalent to the categories of resources that were allocated and consumed during Phase 1. The total allocation for Phase 2 amounts to:

- Travel support - \$300,000 (2 ICANN meetings and 2 dedicated face-to-face meetings)
- Facilitation services - \$100,000
- Remote participation services - \$60,000
- Legal services - \$300,000

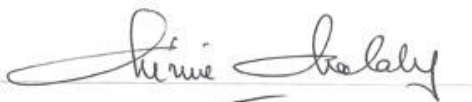
The Board notes the absence of a contingent amount in the Council's request. Greater attention to not exceed the total allocation stated above is required. The total allocation should therefore be considered a maximum allocation.

Legal services not to be duplicated

With respect to the legal services resource specifically, the Board wants to reemphasize the high scrutiny requirement for how this resource is allocated across EPDP Phase 2 activities. We understand the Legal Committee has been reconstituted and the Project Cost Support Team (PCST) is tasked with providing specific oversight for these expenses. The Board acknowledges that the impacts from GDPR require the EPDP Team to tackle specialized and complex issues. We also recognize the EPDP Team's policy work will require professional services that may be expensive due to the specialized expertise needed. However, we note that extensive resources have already been spent in relation to many of the issues the EPDP Team is confronted with. It is therefore critical that any legal advice requested relate to new questions and issues emerging from the EPDP Team's work that cannot be answered by ICANN Legal. The Board requests that the EPDP Team avoids duplication and looks to past and current efforts, where available, as there may be existing legal advice the EPDP Team could utilize.

We are hopeful the approval of this request will meet your requirements, and we look forward to the EPDP Team achieving its charter and concluding with a successful outcome.

Sincerely,



Cherine Chalaby
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors