

21 October 2019

RE: Negotiation Notice to Registries Stakeholder Group to amend contractual requirements in the Base gTLD Registry Agreement

Donna Austin
Registries Stakeholder Group Chair

Dear Donna,

ICANN org is providing this “Negotiation Notice” under Section 7.7(a) of the Base gTLD Registry Agreement to communicate its desire to initiate discussions for a global amendment to the Base gTLD Registry Agreement (“RA”). The primary focus of the amendment is to incorporate contractual requirements for the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) into the Registration Data Directory Services. This should include definition of the plan and provisions to sunset the obligations related to the WHOIS protocol as we transition Registration Data Services to RDAP.

Following this notice, ICANN org requests the Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) designate members to participate in good faith negotiations with ICANN org regarding the form and substance of the proposed revisions (the “Working Group”) for a period of at least 90 calendar days (the “Discussion Period” under Section 7.7(b) of the RA) and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable agreement to the proposed revisions. There will also be a similar and parallel effort to amend the Registrar Accreditation Agreement with the Registrars Stakeholder Group.

If agreement is reached following the conclusion of the Discussion Period, ICANN org will follow the process outlined in Section 7.7(c) of the RA and post the proposed revisions on its website for public comment for no less than 30 calendar days (the “Posting Period”) and provide notice of the revisions to all applicable registry operators in accordance with Section 7.9 of the RA.

ICANN org and the Working Group will consider the public comments and submit the proposed final version of the amendments for Registry Operator approval (according to the process defined in Section 7.6 of the RA) and approval by the ICANN Board of Directors. If these approvals are obtained, the amendment will become effective upon 60 days’ notice from ICANN org to the Registry Operators.

ICANN org looks forward to working with the RySG on defining such an amendment to the RA to advance the current state of Registration Data Directory Services. The Global Domains Division team will be in touch to coordinate such discussions.

Sincerely,



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