

30 November 2018

RE: GAC Request For Additional Secretariat Support From ICANN org

Mrs. Manal Ismail
Chair of the Governmental Advisory Committee

Dear Mrs. Ismail:

I am responding on behalf of Cherine Chalaby, Chair, ICANN Board, and myself.

Thank you very much for your letter of 10 October advising ICANN org about the changes in the services provided by the Australian Continuous Improvement Group (ACIG) expected at the end of this calendar year. We all believe that an efficient and effective Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) is critical to maintaining a healthy and balanced ICANN multistakeholder community.

We are pleased hear that the GAC leadership recognizes the high level of service presently being provided by the current ICANN GAC Support staff on important policy development, operational, logistical and administrative matters and the effective collaboration that this support team has demonstrated with ACIG.

As formally requested by the GAC Leadership, ICANN org agrees to maintain the same high level of services currently provided by the ICANN GAC Support Team. We are confident that ICANN org's Policy Development Team, by adding another skilled ICANN support professional to the current team of four professionals, will be able to maintain and sustain the GAC's operational functions and core services, including certain services previously provided by ACIG.

We are very interested in working with you and the GAC leadership team on a solution that will maintain the functionality of the current GAC support services for the duration of 2019 while, in parallel, the GAC continues to explore the options for preserving an independent resource of advice and counsel for GAC deliberations.

David Olive, Senior Vice President for Policy Development Support, will be contacting you shortly to go over a proposal and to work with you to ensure that the same high level of service will be available to the GAC in its important advisory role within ICANN.

With sincere appreciation,



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