

27 March 2020

Moez Chakchouk  
The Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**RE: Proposed Change of Control of Public Interest Registry (PIR)**

Dear Mr. Chakchouk,

Thank you for your letter dated [28 February 2020](#). We appreciate your interest in the proposed change of control of Public Interest Registry (PIR) from the Internet Society (ISOC) to Ethos Capital.

Since learning of this proposed transaction, ICANN has consistently and repeatedly urged ISOC, PIR, and Ethos Capital to act in an open and transparent manner throughout this process. ICANN has published several announcements and blogs to update the community, along with the related correspondence.

As you noticed, ICANN raised several questions to ISOC and PIR. We expect that these responses will provide a better understanding of the proposed structure, which will help us to evaluate the request, and bring additional transparency to questions raised.

For convenience, here are several updates:

- **24 February 2020** – ISOC Response to Information Requests (<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/camarillo-to-botterman-24feb20-en.pdf>)
- **4 March 2020** – PIR Response to Information Requests (<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/cimboric-to-jeffrey-04mar20-en.pdf>)
- **9 March 2020** – ICANN67: Community Dialogue on the Proposed Transfer of Ownership of the PIR (<https://67.schedule.icann.org/meetings/1152519>)

You may also be aware that Ethos Capital issued a [press release](#) on 21 February 2020, announcing its proposal to the .ORG community to add contractual commitments related to pricing and accountability in the .ORG Registry Agreement. We encourage those interested to communicate their views about the registry operations and/or policies directly to PIR, Ethos Capital, and/or ISOC.

We continue to thoughtfully and thoroughly evaluate the proposed transaction to ensure that .ORG registry remains secure, reliable, and stable. The Registry Agreement requires a standard of reasonableness for ICANN's determination about whether to provide or withhold its consent to the request. As of 17 March 2020, PIR has [agreed](#) to extend the deadline for ICANN to respond to 20 April 2020. ICANN appreciates your correspondence. Thank you for your interest and input in this topic.

Sincerely,



Maarten Botterman Chair,  
ICANN Board of Directors