



## G7 Lyon-Roma Group

High Tech Crime Subgroup

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21 June 2019

Mr. Cherine Chalaby  
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)  
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536, USA

Dear Chairman Chalaby:

IG7 members recognize that it is of critical importance for the security of the citizens to find a solution which will ensure access to non-public Whois information in order to preserve the investigative capabilities of the G7 members. Supporting investigations related to phishing, malware, ransomware, counterfeit products, child sexual abuse material and terrorism, among other offenses, as well as to facilitate the identification of victims and offenders, goes to the essence of providing domestic security for the citizens of the G7 members. As such, Whois constitutes a key element of online accountability.

The G7 members followed with great interest the discussions at ICANN about policy changes that would make the Whois service compliant with the European General Data Privacy Regulation (GDPR) requirements and they welcomed the efforts. The G7 members took note of the outcome of the first phase of policy development, which delivered a partial policy covering collection of Whois data only. The G7 members fully support the advice of the ICANN Government Advisory Committee in its communiqué issued at the ICANN64 meeting, in particular its emphasis on the need for an expeditious conclusion for Phase 2 of the Expedited Policy Development Process.

In view of the importance of ensuring access to Whois data for law enforcement authorities, the G7 members call on ICANN to quickly implement a unified access solution that would make non-public Whois data accessible to third parties with legitimate purposes while also complying with the requirements of the GDPR and other data protection and privacy laws. This is a necessity for public safety.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Green  
Chair, G7 High Tech Crime Subgroup

cc: Göran Marby, CEO and President, ICANN