

9 May 2022

Graeme Bunton
Executive Director
DNS Abuse Institute

RE: Moving Forward to Reduce DNS Abuse

Dear Graeme,

Thank you for your [22 April 2022 letter](#), and your thoughtful contributions to the Generic Names Supporting Organization's (GNSO) "[Small Team](#)" on Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse. The suggestions for a way forward regarding DNS abuse using a series of tightly focused Policy Development Processes (PDPs) on specific aspects of the DNS abuse is innovative. This is a pragmatic proposal with the potential to benefit the Internet community and a way to make progress on the long discussed topic of DNS abuse.

I would be remiss not to highlight that through the data ICANN collects and aggregates from the Domain Abuse Activity Reporting System (DAAR), we have found the number and percentage of domains used for [DNS abuse trending down over the last four years](#). DNS abuse is a problem for our industry, but it is an issue where largely voluntary efforts have improved the situation, and more can be done to further drive down the rates of DNS abuse.

Ultimately, the choice of how to proceed will be up to the GNSO Council. The ICANN organization is ready to support the GNSO and the ICANN community. As you highlighted in your letter, the GNSO will need to account for ICANN's specific remit and capabilities as the technical coordinator of the DNS in any scoping decisions it takes. ICANN is not and was not designed to be the Internet's content police, so obligations regarding content moderation/regulation remain outside of ICANN's enforcement.

Thank you again for your thoughtful considerations on these issues and providing them to the GNSO's Small Team on DNS Abuse.

Sincerely,



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