8 March 2020

Manal Ismail
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

RE: Community Interest in Announced PIR Acquisition – Information Mechanism from ICANN Org

Dear Manal,

I’m writing in regards to your 7 January 2020 letter and in follow-up to the 14 February 2020 letter from ICANN Board Chair, Maarten Botterman, to the GAC. In that letter, the Board provided the GAC the latest information and updates regarding the proposed transfer of ownership of the Public Interest Registry (PIR).

In addition to the information provided in the 14 February 2020 letter, I also wanted to inform the GAC of an upcoming discussion on the proposed transfer of ownership of PIR. In view of the community interest on this topic, the ICANN Board of Directors has invited the community to attend the Public Forum on Monday, 9 March 2020 from 9:00-10:15 local time (14:00-15:15 UTC), for a discussion about the approval process that the Board and ICANN organization must follow concerning ICANN’s registry agreements with PIR. While the Board and ICANN org cannot address questions and issues that relate to the Internet Society (ISOC), PIR, Ethos Capital or other parties, this session is an opportunity for the community to ensure that it understands the scope of the Board’s and ICANN org’s roles and responsibilities in this matter.

Additionally, although this session will be conducted via remote participation as part of the ICANN67 virtual meeting, as is the case with all Public Forums that are held at each ICANN Meeting, it will be live-scribed, recorded and transcribed. Session materials, recordings and transcripts will be posted when available.

Thank you again for your letter and for your interest in this topic. The ICANN Board and org look forward to the discussion in the Public Forum on Monday, 9 March 2020, and to our first virtual community forum at ICANN67.

Sincerely,

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