

8 April 2020

Ching Chiao, Brandma.co Ltd. (Registrar) &
China-based Contracted Parties

Dear Mr. Chiao and Contracted Party Signatories,

Thank you for your letter of 21 February 2020 regarding the requested fee waiver for the 2020 annual and transaction fees for the China-based registries and registrars. Your letter has been published to the ICANN correspondence page at <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/chiao-et-al-to-namazi-21feb20-en.pdf>.

ICANN is sensitive to the growing scale of the coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19). This pandemic is significantly affecting the world. We are currently looking at ways to mitigate the effects of this virus on registrants, registrars, and registry operators.

While we sympathize with the potential financial impact this unprecedented event may have on contracted parties, we are not prepared to provide a waiver at this time. We are closely monitoring the situation and its impact on the domain industry. We are interested in hearing more from representatives from the contracted parties to better understand the problems both the contracted parties and the registrants are facing and ideas for potential solutions.

We will continue to assess and discuss this matter and update the community should new information become available.

With sincere wishes for good health during this trying period,

Russ Weinstein

Russ Weinstein
Senior Director, gTLD Accounts and Services
ICANN