Ref. 944713

Subject: Statement by the EC3 Advisory Group on Internet Security

Dear Mr Marby,

I write to bring to your attention and that of the ICANN community to the statement adopted today by the members of the European Cybercrime Centre (EC3) Advisory Group on Internet Security at Europol.

The Advisory Group on Internet Security advises EC3 of strategic issues and threats affecting the internet security industry with the intention of promoting joint action with Law Enforcement. It includes many of the largest and most experienced internet security firms in the world as well as non-profit members representing a wide-range of expertise in all the aspects of internet security and the fight against cybercrime.

The aim of this statement is to advise of a cross industry concern and inform the public discussions on the future of the WHOIS and to ensure that any further developments take into consideration the crucial role played by WHOIS data in the cybersecurity community’s efforts to protect against DNS-based threats.

The members of the EC3 Advisory Group believe that it is imperative that any assessment of new WHOIS implementations consider the legitimate purpose of processing WHOIS data for DNS abuse enforcement, Internet security and stability, and global cybersecurity efforts.

I hope that you will find this contribution to the ongoing discussions about the future of the WHOIS helpful and that the ICANN community will be successful in achieving a consensus-based policy solution which will satisfy all stakeholders’ interests, protecting the privacy and the safety of all internet users.

I look forward to continuing to develop with ICANN what is an important relationship for EC3.

Yours sincerely,

Steven Wilson
Head of European Cybercrime Centre
Europol