Dear ICANN-Accredited Registrar,

This notice is to inform you that the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) organization (org) recently opened a Public Comment proceeding that will directly impact registrars, pursuant to Section 7.4.3 of the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA). We value your attention to this project and encourage your feedback.

In November 2022 the Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) and Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLD) Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG), collectively the Contracted Parties House, proposed to ICANN org the idea of collaborating to enhance the existing contracts by creating clear obligations to stop or otherwise disrupt Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse. The Public Comment proceeding was opened on 29 May 2023 on the proposed amendments to the base gTLD Registry Agreement (RA) and the 2013 RAA to modify DNS Abuse contract obligations. The proposed amendments would enhance obligations by requiring registrars and registry operators to promptly take reasonable and appropriate action to stop or otherwise disrupt DNS Abuse. ICANN org negotiated these proposed changes with members of the RySG and RrSG, collectively the Contracted Party House Negotiating Team (CPH NT).

The comment submission window is open until 13 July 2023. After the public comment process, ICANN will administer a 60-day voting period for each registry and registrar to approve their respective proposed amendment. If the proposed amendments receive the required super majority of votes by registry operators and registrars for their respective agreements the proposed amendments will be sent to the ICANN Board for consideration.

If you would like to engage further with ICANN org and the CPH NT on this topic, please join the DNS Abuse Negotiation: CPH Outreach session on Tuesday, 13 June 2023 at 17:45 UTC during ICANN77. This event is designed to explain the amendments and take questions. More information is also available in Sally Costerton’s blog.

Sincerely,

Russ Weinstein
Vice President, GDD Accounts and Services
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)