

Dear ICANN-Accredited Registrar,

This notice is to inform you that you are eligible to vote on the proposed global amendment to the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) which, if approved, will incorporate Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse-related provisions for the associated registrars referenced in Appendix A below.

Please review the details below for important information regarding this upcoming vote.

Proposed Global Amendment: The [proposed global amendment to the RAA](#) (Global Amendment) would enhance the existing provisions in Section 3.18 of the RAA by requiring registrars to promptly take reasonable and appropriate action to stop or otherwise disrupt DNS Abuse.

Further, the Global Amendment would enable ICANN Contractual Compliance to take enforcement actions against those registrars or registry operators who fail to take prompt and appropriate action reasonably necessary to stop or otherwise disrupt well-evidenced DNS Abuse.

We encourage you to please also read the [draft ICANN Advisory](#) that would come into effect if the Global Amendment is approved. The draft Advisory further explains the new requirements, provides guidance, and sets out expectations for action by contracted parties to establish compliance. The draft Advisory also elaborates upon terms like “mitigation actions,” “appropriate,” “stop” (contributing to stop), and “disrupt” (contributing to disrupt). Additionally, the draft Advisory contains examples of DNS Abuse, actionable evidence, and corresponding appropriate and prompt mitigation actions, considering the circumstances of each case.

For additional information, please see a [redline](#) of the RAA showing the proposed changes.

60-day Voting Period:

- **Open date: Monday, 9 October 2023, at 17:00 UTC**
- **Close date: Friday, 8 December 2023, at 23:59 UTC**

Invitation to Vote: The registrar primary contact – as specified by the Registrar the [Naming Services portal \(NSp\)](#) – will receive an invitation from eBallot, a secure, third-party, online voting platform operated by Votenet. The email will be sent from noreply@eballot.com. This email invitation will contain a direct link to an online ballot that will permit the registrar primary contact to vote. The online ballot can be accessed from any smartphone or device that has full-browser capabilities. The registrar family name will be displayed in both the invitation to vote email and the onscreen voting ballot.

Registrars will receive one vote per accreditation. If the registrar's primary contact email address is associated with more than one registrar (i.e., the registrar is part of a registrar group), the vote will apply to all associated registrars within that group.

Prior to the voting period, please review and ensure that your registrar primary contact information is current and is the appropriate individual with the authority to cast a vote on behalf of the Registrar(s). To review your registrar primary contact information, login to [NSp](#), select the respective IANA ID and click on the “IANA ROLES” tab. If any changes are required, please email a completed [Primary Contact Update Form](#) to globalsupport@icann.org.

Voting Options: You will have two options on how to vote:

1. “**Yes**” – voting “yes” means that you **approve** the proposed Global Amendment.
2. “**No**” – voting “no” means that you **do not approve** the proposed Global Amendment.

Please note that not voting or abstaining is the same as voting "No".

Approval by Registrars: As more fully set forth in [Section 1.20.1 of the RAA](#), the following threshold is required to be met to achieve Registrar Approval:

- A “yes” vote from registrars who make up 90% of the total registered domains under management (TDUM). Note that per Section 1.20.1 of the RAA the TDUM will be adjusted to more evenly distribute voting weight among registrars.

The final TDUM adjustment will be based on the most recent Per-Registrar Transactions Report available prior to the conclusion of the voting period. For the Global Amendment to be fully approved, it will need Registrar Approval (i.e., meeting the threshold above) AND approval from the ICANN Board of Directors.

Resources: Visit the dedicated [2024 Global Amendment webpage](#) for additional information and background on the Global Amendment to the RAA. Periodic updates and final results will be posted to the 2024 Global Amendment webpage. Final voting results will be communicated via email to the registrar primary contact and posted to the 2024 Global Amendment webpage.

Next Steps:

1. **Review your primary contact information:** Please review and ensure that your registrar primary contact information in NSp is current and is the appropriate individual with the authority to cast a vote on behalf of the registrar.
2. **The voting period will open on 9 October 2023 at 17:00 UTC** and will remain open for sixty (60) days.
3. **After the voting period closes:** The vote will be tabulated and then verified by Votenet, an independent, third-party, voting administrator. The Global Amendment will then be shared with the ICANN Board of Directors for their consideration.
4. **If approved:** The Global Amendment shall be effective and deemed an Approved Amendment to the RAA following a 60-day notice from ICANN to Registrars. If the Global Amendment is not approved, it will go back to the negotiating teams to discuss next steps.

Transparency Notice: ICANN organization (org) voting administrator, Votenet, an independent, third-party, administrator will have access to voter data. During the 60-day voting period, ICANN org will publish data relating to the progress of the vote including whether a registrar has voted, but ICANN org will not publish data regarding how individual registrars vote except to the extent required by law, the ICANN Documentary Information Disclosure Policy, or other applicable policy.

If you have any questions regarding the voting process, please send an email to registrar@icann.org.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Sincerely,

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

Appendix A

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