

Statement of Interests and Affirmation regarding Conflicts of Interest Policy

By Michael D. Palage for participation in the ICANN Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team (CCT-RT)

1. Current vocation, employer and position:

I am an information technology consultant, holding a bachelor's of science in electrical engineering and a juris doctorate in law. I currently serve as the President and CEO of Pharos Global, Inc. of which I am the sole owner.

2. Type of work performed in 1 above and declaration of relationships with entities holding a Financial (or declarable) Interest in ICANN:

Pharos Global provides a range of consulting services for its clients, most of which are ICANN accredited registries or registrars. These services range from registry onboarding, RPM implementation and operation, ICANN compliance, RSEP, business development, etc.

In connection with those clients that have a contractual relationship with ICANN, Pharos Global works with both ICANN accredited Registrars (Alibaba, Afilias, CSC), Registries (Afilias, Dominion Registries, fTLD, Alibaba, and CUNA) and pending Applicant SportAccord (.SPORT).

3. Identify any financial ownership or senior management/leadership interest in registries, registrars or other firms that are interested parties in ICANN policy or any entity with which ICANN has a transaction, contract, or other arrangement:

I am the sole shareholder of Pharos Global, Inc. Neither myself nor Pharos Global has any ownership interest in any ICANN accredited registrar or registry. Pharos Global does derive the majority of its revenue from parties that have contractual relationships with ICANN.

4. Were you, or a company you work for:

• An applicant for a new gTLD?

Neither I nor Pharos Global applied for any new gTLDs. However, I though Pharos Global did work as a consultant for clients that submitted over 150 new gTLD applications in total. Pharos Global is currently working with clients that own and/or operate approximately 20 gTLDs.

• Providing advice to any new gTLD applicants?

Yes.

• Otherwise involved in an application submitted for the New gTLD Program, such as providing service in support of an applicant or having a financial interest in an applicant?

Yes to providing consulting services as answered above. No as to any software (e.g. backend registry services) or any ownership interests.

If your answer is yes to any of the above, please identify the interest you have in the application submitted for the New gTLD Program.

The only interest was a fixed professional service contract for consulting services.

5. Identify any type of commercial interest in ICANN policy development outcomes. Do you represent other parties in any PDP or other ICANN related processes?

Because of my diverse client base which may have opposing interests, Pharos Global does not engage in direct advocacy on behalf of a client within ICANN's PDP. It will instead provide information or briefing material that they themselves can submit to ICANN in their name. Currently Pharos Global is not working on any PDP on behalf of a client. If Pharos Global engaged in any PDP it is because Pharos Global believes that it is in the best interest of the community. Pharos Global has assisted clients in connection with various RSEP requests that Registry Operator clients may submit to ICANN from time to time.

6. Geographic Region associated with the domicile of volunteer (Africa, North America, Latin America/Caribbean, Asia/Australia/Pacific and Europe):

North America

7. Stakeholder Group(s) AC's or SO's in which I volunteer or currently participate within ICANN:

I currently am not an active member in an ICANN GNSO stakeholder group. In my over 15 years of ICANN involvement, I have been a member of the Registrars, Registry, Business, and Intellectual Property Stakeholder groups/constituencies. I am contemplating re-engaging in the Registry and the Business Constituency Stakeholder Group, but have elected not to do so at this time.

Except as described above, I have no (i) ownership or investment interest in any entity with which ICANN has an existing or proposed transaction, contract, dispute, or other arrangement; (ii) a compensation arrangement with any entity or individual with which ICANN has a transaction, contract, dispute, or other arrangement; and (iii) a potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which ICANN is negotiating a transaction, contract, dispute, or other arrangement.

SIGNATURE:



DATE: 13-November-2015