

\$ 12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536 USA

+1 310 301 5800

+1 310 823 8649

Date: 21 October 2019

**ICANN Preliminary Determination** 

Re: Notice of Registry Operator Request for Termination of Registry Agreement - .liaison Top-Level Domain

On 16 July 2019, Liaison Technologies, Incorporated notified ICANN org of its intent to terminate the .liaison Registry Agreement entered into on 02 October 2014. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, Registry Operator may terminate the Registry Agreement for any reason upon one hundred eighty (180) calendar day advance notice.

Pursuant to the terms of Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement, as modified by Section 6 of the Specification 13 (.Brand TLD Provisions), ICANN org consulted with Liaison Technologies, Incorporated to assess whether to transition operation of the .liaison top-level domain (TLD) to a successor Registry Operator.

Subject to an ongoing evaluation, ICANN org has made a preliminary determination that operation of the .liaison TLD need not be transitioned to a successor Registry Operator. ICANN org's review and determinations regarding transition to a successor registry are subject to Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified for a .Brand TLD).

ICANN org's preliminary determination to not transition the TLD to a successor Registry Operator is based on the following rationale:

- 1. .liaison qualifies as a .Brand TLD.
- 2. Transitioning the TLD is not necessary to protect the public interest.

In conformance with Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified for a .Brand TLD), ICANN org may not delegate the TLD to a successor registry operator for a period of two years without the Registry Operator's consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

Before releasing its final determination, ICANN org will consider input provided by interested parties via email at <u>ra-termination-comments@icann.org</u>. The deadline to submit input is 20 November 2019 – 23:59 UTC.

\_\_\_\_\_

Cyrus Namazi Senior Vice President, Global Domains Division ICANN