

7 August 2018

Heather Forrest, GNSO
Chair Donna Austin, GNSO Council Vice Chair
Rafik Dammak, GNSO Council Vice Chair

Dear Heather, Donna and Rafik,

Thank you very much for your letter of 2 August 2018 concerning your request for Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Team resources. My Board colleagues and I are pleased to hear that the EPDP Team is moving forward with its work and is eager to make quick progress to ensure that the 25 May 2019 deadline for the Board to consider its recommendations regarding the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration is met.

I want to reconfirm our commitment to provide the necessary support to the EPDP Team to meet this deadline, provided that any supplemental resources are managed in a transparent and fiscally prudent manner. These supplemental resources are in addition to the services that are already being provided in the form of policy staff support such as planning, project management, facilitation, drafting and meeting organization and support, as well as liaisons from the Global Domains Division (GDD) and Legal department. As such, I am happy to report that, as requested, a supplemental budget will be made available immediately to support the following, as prioritized by the EPDP Team:

- Recording and transcription of all EPDP Team calls, which are to be made publicly available (estimated at \$60,000)
- Provision for up to three face-to-face meetings (estimated at \$260,000 in total)
- A mediator/facilitator, contracted by ICANN ORG, to support the EPDP Team's deliberations in certain areas. It is the expectation that such mediation/facilitation may be especially useful during any F2F time the EPDP Team is planning (estimated at \$100,000)
- Limited use of external experts, such as a data protection/GDPR expert, to complement expertise within the EPDP Team and other sources available (estimated at \$50,000).
- 25% Contingency (estimated at \$120,000)

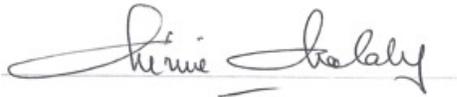
ICANN org, therefore, estimates an overall supplemental budget for the above items to be \$590,000, excluding staff/Full Time Employee (FTE) expenses. This budget does not include the use of external legal counsel/advice. However, if deemed necessary and only if adequate support cannot be provided through existing ICANN resources and available Data Protection Authority guidance, the EPDP team could make use of

external legal counsel/advice as long as the overall budget is not exceeded. In other words, trade-offs would have to be made to make room within the budget for the use of external legal counsel/advice, which would be contracted by ICANN org.

The Board welcomes the suggestion that a cost/benefit methodology will be put in place for any potential further requests, as well as metering and reporting on expenses on a regular basis. In relation to the latter, ICANN ORG will put in place a project cost support team (PCST) that is modelled on a system that has been used in other recent efforts to ensure accountability as well as transparency of any expenditures. The PCST will support the project planning, providing costs information and analysis, and supporting forecasting. The PCST will not only account for the supplemental budget that is being made available but also the existing resources that are already being provided to the EPDP Team through the policy team. Please note that the PCST is already in place and will not slowdown the EPDP.

Ultimate ICANN budget responsibility for this effort will lie with David Olive, SVP Policy Development Support, who will work in close co-ordination with the GNSO Council Chair and EPDP Leadership Team to ensure that the supplemental budget resources are reviewed and managed in a responsible and fiscally prudent manner. David will contact you shortly to provide you with further details on the supplemental budget and will be able to answer any further questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Cherine Chalaby
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors