February 28, 2018

RE: IRTP Policy Review

Dear Ms. Heather Forrest, GNSO Chair

Included in the 2014 Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (“IRTP”) Part D PDP Working Group’s Final Report is a recommendation for the GNSO Council, together with ICANN organization, to “convene a panel to collect, discuss, and analyze relevant data to determine whether [the policy updates resulting from the IRTP WGs] have improved the IRTP process and dispute mechanisms, and identify possible remaining shortcomings.” The IRTP PDP WG Part D Working Group noted this review “should occur once all the recommendations from the various IRTP PDP efforts have been implemented and have been in place for twelve months.”

The updated IRTP went into effect on 1 December 2016, and the updated policy has now been in place for over twelve months. In order to help inform the above-mentioned review, GDD staff would like to propose to produce a Post-Implementation IRTP Status Report, which would include:

(1) a summary of the original policy recommendations of IRTP Working Groups A, B, C, and D, and the stated goals and/or intent of the policy recommendations,
(2) details regarding the subsequent implementation of the policy recommendations, 
(3) relevant data points ICANN org has collected that may help inform the subsequently-formed panel’s review of the impact of the IRTP policy recommendations, 
(4) potential issues or gaps ICANN org and/or the community has identified via specific complaints, and
(5) potential options for next steps for Council consideration.

Any input on additional information that should be considered for inclusion is, of course, welcome.

In line with previous practice, as well as the draft Post-Implementation Review Framework that is in development, GDD staff proposes to post the Status Report for public comment to allow for community input on the staff findings as well as encourage others to come forward with relevant data and/or information that would help inform subsequent steps. Once the public comment forum has closed, GDD staff would provide a public comment summary report to the Council along with the Post-Implementation IRTP Status Report to help inform the assessment of the IRTP and aid the Council in determining next steps.

If the Council agrees with the above approach, ICANN org will proceed with drafting the Post-Implementation IRTP Status Report, with the intent to deliver the report to the
Council by 1 May 2018. With this in mind, GDD staff and the GNSO Policy Development Support Team kindly request the Council’s feedback on the above proposal by 30 March 2018. If more time is needed, please advise accordingly.

GDD staff, together with the GNSO Policy Development Support Team, look forward to discussing the above proposal, and will be available in San Juan if the Council wishes to discuss this during its ICANN61 meeting.

Sincerely,

Ms. Jennifer Gore
Director of Registrar Services and Engagement
ICANN, Global Domains Division