Dear Registry Operator,

Pursuant to Section 7.7(c) of the base generic top-level domain (gTLD) Registry Agreement (base RA), this notice is to inform you that you are eligible to vote on the proposed global amendment to the base RA (Global Amendment) for the executed Registry Agreements referenced in Appendix A below. All referenced sections and applicable capitalized terms throughout this letter have the meaning ascribed to them in the base RA.

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

Proposed Global Amendment: The proposed Global Amendment to the base RA specifies operational requirements for providing Registration Data Directory Services (RDDS) via the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP), and to phase out certain obligations to provide RDDS via the WHOIS protocols. The proposed Global Amendment contains the foundational requirement for registries to comply with the gTLD RDAP Profile to ensure registries and registrars provide responses via RDAP in a standardized format and consistent with ICANN Consensus Policies.

60-day Voting Period:
- **Open date: Thursday, 19 January 2023, at 17:00 UTC**
- **Close date: Monday, 20 March 2023, at 23:59 UTC**

Invitation to Vote: The registry primary contact – as specified by the Registry Operator – 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 registry primary contact to vote. The online ballot can be accessed from any smartphone or device that has full browser capabilities.

If the *registry primary contact's email address* is associated with multiple gTLDs within the same registry operator account, the *vote will apply to each gTLD that is associated with the registry primary contact's same email address*. The registry primary contact will receive one email invitation per registry operator account, unless unique registry primary contact email addresses are associated with gTLDs under the registry operator account. In such instances, separate invitations will be sent to each unique registry primary contact email address associated with the registry operator account.

Please review and ensure that your registry primary contact information in the Naming Services portal (NSp) is current and is the appropriate individual with the authority to cast a vote on behalf of the registry operator prior to the voting period. To review your registry primary contact information, login to NSp, select the respective TLD, and click on the "TLD ROLES" tab. If any changes are required, please submit a General Inquiry case in the portal.

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.

Approval: In order for the Global Amendment to be approved, it must be submitted to and receive approval from Applicable Registry Operators and the ICANN Board of Directors.

Pursuant to Section 7.6(j)(ii) of the base RA, two thresholds are required for this vote to achieve Registry Operator Approval:

1. Approval from the Applicable Registry Operators (as such term is defined in Section 7.6(j)(i) of the base RA) whose payments to ICANN in the immediately preceding calendar year accounted for two-thirds of the total amount of fees paid; and

2. Approval from the majority of the Applicable Registry Operators, where each Applicable Registry Operator shall have one vote for each top-level domain operated by such Registry Operator pursuant to an Applicable Registry Agreement.

Resources: Visit the dedicated 2023 Global Amendment webpage for additional information and background on the Global Amendment to the base RA. Periodic updates and final results will be posted to the 2023 Global Amendment webpage. Final voting results will be communicated via email to the registry primary contact and posted to the 2023 Global Amendment webpage.

Next Steps: As stated above, the voting period will be open for 60 days. Following the voting period, the vote will be tabulated and then verified by Votenet. For the Global Amendment to be approved it must receive Registry Operator Approval and approval from the ICANN Board of Directors. If approved, the Global Amendment shall be effective and deemed an Approved Amendment to the base RA following a 60-day notice from ICANN to Registry Operators. If the Global Amendment is not approved, it will go back to the negotiating teams to discuss next steps.

Transparency Notice: ICANN org voting administrator, Votenet, an independent third-party reviewer, 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 registry operator has voted, but ICANN org will not publish data regarding how individual registry operators voted 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 submit a General Inquiry case in NSp or email globalsupport@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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