

8 May 2020

Henri Verdier
Ambassador for Digital Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France

RE: Updates to the proposed voluntary Public Interest Commitments by Public Interest Registry

Dear Ambassador Henri Verdier,

Thank you for your letters dated [7 February 2020](#) and [9 April 2020](#). We understand that you have closely followed the proposed change of control of Public Interest Registry (PIR) from the Internet Society (ISOC) to Ethos Capital. We appreciate your comments and have considered your letters as well as additional letters provided from the global community. On 30 April 2020, after thorough due diligence and robust discussions, the ICANN Board [decided](#) to reject the proposed change of control and entity conversion request submitted by PIR.

While further detail about the decision can be found in the corresponding [ICANN Board resolution](#), including details about criteria used and processes followed, the ICANN Board found it both reasonable and in the public interest to withhold consent for the change of control of PIR pursuant to the terms of its Registry Agreements.

ICANN has performed significant due diligence to comply with its contractual obligation to consider PIR's request and to meet the responsibility of coordinating the unique identifiers in a responsible manner. In addition, hundreds of pages of documentation and responses provided by PIR, ISOC, and Ethos Capital were reviewed to arrive at this decision. As you can appreciate, ICANN was presented with a unique and complex situation where the collective Board devoted countless hours to prepare for this decision.

ICANN has attempted to provide maximum transparency throughout this process and we thank you, the global community, and stakeholders for the engagement in this topic.

Sincerely,



Maarten Botterman
Chair, ICANN Board of Directors