

ICANN | GAC

Governmental Advisory Committee

16 March 2020

Maarten Botterman, Chair, ICANN Board of Directors
Göran Marby, CEO, ICANN org

Subject: Acquisition of PIR (.org)

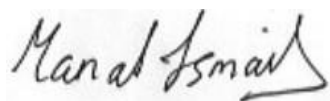
Dear Maarten,

As a follow-up to the GAC and ICANN Board exchanges so far on the .org matter, both in writing and in our ICANN67 meeting, allow me to share, on behalf of the GAC, the following considerations with you:

- The GAC highly appreciates the ICANN Board reviewing the transaction and considering it in the light of the global public interest, including the interests of the “.org” community;
- The GAC commends and encourages the ICANN Board to keep engaging with the ICANN community, including the GAC, and to ensure that the views of the community and the .org community, are properly taken into account. In this regard, we welcome the recent transparency steps both by ICANN and PIR to build the trust of the broader Internet community through public dialogues and other measures.
- Further, the GAC expects that clear and enforceable safeguards in the contractually binding Public Interest Commitments (PICs) are duly put in place to protect the public interest, including the interests of the “.org” community, in the long-standing spirit of the .org registry.
- Finally, the GAC welcomes the reassurance you gave in the GAC/Board meeting during ICANN67 that all options remain open and that the Board will consider the public interest in its decision-making.

We look forward to continuing our dialogue on this matter.

Best regards,



Manal Ismail
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)