Dear Registry Operator,

This notice is to inform you that you are eligible to vote on the proposed global amendment to the base generic top-level domain (gTLD) Registry Agreement (Base RA) which, if approved, will incorporate certain Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse-related provisions into the Registry Agreements referenced in Appendix A below.

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

Proposed Global Amendment: The proposed global amendment to the Base RA (Global Amendment) would enhance obligations by requiring registry operators to promptly take reasonable and appropriate action to stop or otherwise disrupt DNS Abuse. Please see Specification 6, Section 4 and Specification 11, Section 3(b) for the proposed changes and refer to the 2024 Global Amendment webpage for a more detailed explanation of these changes.

Further, the Global Amendment would enable ICANN Contractual Compliance to take enforcement actions against those registrars or registry operators who fail to take prompt and appropriate action reasonably necessary to stop or otherwise disrupt well-evidenced DNS Abuse.

We encourage you to please also read the draft ICANN Advisory that would come into effect if the Global Amendment is approved. The draft Advisory further explains the new requirements, provides guidance, and sets out expectations for action by contracted parties to establish compliance. The draft Advisory also elaborates upon terms like "mitigation actions," "appropriate," "stop" (contributing to stop), and "disrupt" (contributing to disrupt). Additionally, the draft Advisory contains examples of DNS Abuse, actionable evidence, and corresponding appropriate and prompt mitigation actions, considering the circumstances of each case.

For additional information, please see a redline of the Base RA showing the proposed changes.

60-day Voting Period:
- **Open date: Monday, 9 October 2023, at 17:00 UTC**
- **Close date: Friday, 8 December 2023, at 23:59 UTC**

Invitation to Vote: The registry primary contact – as specified by the Registry Operator in the Naming Services portal (NSp) – 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. The registry operator account name will be displayed in both the invitation to vote email and the onscreen voting ballot.

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.

Prior to the voting period, please review and ensure that your registry primary contact information in NSp is current and is the appropriate individual with the authority to cast a vote on behalf of the registry operator. 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.

 Please note that not voting or abstaining is the same as voting "No".

Approval by Registry Operators: As more fully set forth in Section 7.6(j)(ii) of the Base RA, two thresholds are required to be met to achieve Registry Operator Approval:

1. A "yes" vote by registry operators whose payments from the prior year account for two-thirds (⅔) of total fees paid to ICANN; and
2. A "yes" vote by the majority (greater than 50%) of registry operators. Note that each registry operator has one (1) vote per TLD registry agreement).

For the Global Amendment to be fully approved, it will need Registry Operator Approval (i.e., meeting the two thresholds above) AND approval from the ICANN Board of Directors.

Resources: Visit the dedicated 2024 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 2024 Global Amendment webpage. Final voting results will be communicated via email to the registry primary contact and posted to the 2024 Global Amendment webpage.

Next Steps:

1. **Review your primary contact information**: Please review and ensure that your registry primary contact information in NSp is current and is the appropriate individual with the authority to cast a vote on behalf of the registry operator.
2. **The voting period will open on 9 October 2023 at 17:00 UTC** and will remain open for sixty (60) days.
3. **After the voting period closes**: The vote will be tabulated and then verified by Votenet, an independent third-party voting administrator. The Global Amendment will then be shared with the ICANN Board of Directors for their consideration.
4. **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 organization (org) voting administrator, Votenet, an independent, third-party, administrator 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 vote 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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