[Date]

Subject: ICANN Expedited Policy Development Process Team Releases Interim Report

Dear Members of the European Data Protection Board,

i am writing on behalf OF THE expedited policy development( EPDP ) Team further to earlier correspondence between European Data Protection Board ( EPDB) and Mr. Goran Marby, the CEO of ICANN, (the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers). It is worth mentioning that as described in its mission in ICANN Bylaws The EPDP is established by Generic Name Supporting Organization ( GNSO) of ICANN to develop GDPR-compliant policies to govern the operation and procedures relating to the processing of personal databy stakeholders in the domain name industry.

The Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data (“Temporary Specification”), which is intended to bring gTLD (generic Top Level Domain) registration data processing into compliance with GDPR, with the least impact on current operations and practices adopted by ICANN Board with effective date of 25 May 2018 . It expires on 25 May 2019 as per relevant clause of ICANN Bylaws . Accordingly, an Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Working Group was chartered and tasked with determining if the Temporary Specification should be adopted as ICANN policy, as is or with modifications, while complying with the GDPR and other relevant privacy and data protection laws. This Working Group is comprised of designated individuals representing the global stakeholders in the ICANN community, including, Internet engineers, technical and security experts, civil society, academic experts, governments end users, business and intellectual property interests, domain name registrars and registry operators.

The EPDP Working Group Team is approximately half-way through its deliberations, and has read and considered the GDPR, explanatory documents, and other relevant documents/materials made available by the EDPB to date. It is still dealing with many difficult challenges in interpretation and analysis of ICANN’s complex multi-stakeholder role relatingto/dealing with the subject matter , but I am pleased to inform that it is making progress. The Working Group has published an Initial Report for public comment describing preliminary recommendations aimed at complying with the GDPR and also answering questions posed in the EPDP Working Group’s Charter. Data Elements Workbooks, which are tools to capture the data processing analysis described above, can be found in the Initial Report Annex.

The EPDP Working Group benefited from comments provided to ICANN by the EDPB in its previous communications and, in particular,its letter dated 5 July 2018 (see <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/correspondence/jelinek-to-marby-05jul18-en.pdf>). The EPDP Working Group is of the opion that the EDPB might be interested in the above-mentioned Initial Report, which has now been published for public comments (see <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/epdp-gtld-registration-data-specs-initial-2018-11-21-en> ). The Working Group would, of course, be most grateful for any comments views the EDPB might have at this point of time.

Yours truly,

Kurt Pritz

Chair, EPDP Working Group