

# ICANN | GAC

Governmental Advisory Committee

10 October 2018

Mr. Cherine Chalaby  
Chairman of the Board

Mr. Göran Marby  
President and CEO  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)

RE: GAC Request For Additional Secretariat Support From ICANN

Dear Mr. Chalaby and Mr. Marby,

At the ICANN62 Public Meeting in Panama, the GAC leadership confirmed with the Australian Continuous Improvement Group (ACIG) that its services to the GAC would effectively end on 31 December 2018.

Since that time, the GAC has formed a targeted task force to develop a request for proposal to identify interested parties, target qualified candidates and eventually replace the services and functions currently being performed by ACIG. The leadership appreciates the willingness of the ICANN CFO to support GAC efforts in this regard.

As the work of the task force continues, it has become clear that in 2019 there will be a period of time during which the GAC will be without the resources to support a number of the functions currently being provided by ACIG. This comes at a critical time as the GAC is heavily involved in and contributing to a number of important community deliberations regarding new European General Data Protection Regulations and the potential next phase of new generic top-level domains among other critical topics.

In order to maintain consistent support of GAC services and capabilities during this critical time, the GAC leadership formally requests that ICANN org provide a substitute for the ACIG secretariat for the duration of 2019.

The GAC leadership recognizes the high level of service presently being provided by the current ICANN GAC Support staff on administrative, operational, logistical and a growing list of other important substantive matters and the effective collaboration that support team has demonstrated with ACIG. While a temporary or permanent replacement for ACIG will cover a number of those functions, it is important to note that the

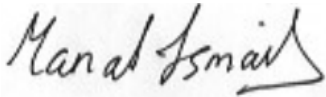
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independent secretariat function is a unique one for the GAC membership and its effective contributions to the multistakeholder community.

The GAC leadership is willing to collaborate with ICANN org and ICANN GAC Support Staff to identify an effective solution that maintains those core support functions that are presently being provided by ACIG so that there is little or no loss of services during this temporary period. In parallel, the GAC will continue to explore the options for preserving an independent resource of advice and counsel for GAC deliberations.

We look forward to working with you between now and the end of the year to explore a range of options for additional support of our advisory committee and appreciate your willingness to have ICANN org staff engage in this dialogue.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Manal Ismail". The signature is written in a cursive style with a distinct flourish at the end.

Manal Ismail  
Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee