



9 August 2017

Dear Thomas,

Thank you and the GAC for your letter of 24 July 2017 with regards to the GDPR-related work ICANN organization is facilitating for the community, specifically in relation to user cases as they relate to WHOIS.

We appreciate the tight timeline and turn around that began when the ad hoc group convened a few times, beginning in Johannesburg at ICANN60. This ad hoc group provided the preliminary input to the matrix. As you may be aware, this matrix is now posted for public review to ensure transparency and to reach out to the widest range of interested parties as possible. We appreciated the preliminary input provided by some GAC members, and look forward to further rolling input over the course of the public review time frame.

It is our intention, through the work of reaching out as broadly as possible, to capture the respective user stories to help inform whether, and if so, to what extent, this impacts the current global policy as it relates to WHOIS. We fully agree it is essential to consult and proactively seek the input beyond the range of routine ICANN participants.

While we appreciate the request for an extension, we were concerned that any delay would go against ensuring the opportunity to seek the widest input possible, and make it impossible to try to achieve clarity on the impact of the GDPR in the October/November time frame. Rather, the opportunity for rolling input can help provide updated iterations as appropriate, at which point we will provide clarity in any updated versions to avoid confusion.

Thank you again and we look forward to working with the GAC and wider community to help inform discussions and provide clarity for our contracted parties so they can factor this into any business plans to meet the deadline set by the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of 25 May 2018.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Theresa Swinehart", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Theresa Swinehart
Senior Vice-President, Multistakeholder Strategy and Strategic Initiatives