

Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 3:50 PM

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**From:** ICANN Global Support <[noreply-globalsupport@icann.org](mailto:noreply-globalsupport@icann.org)>

**Date:** Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 3:50 PM

**Subject:** Guidance and Update on Registry Procedures



Dear Registry Operator,

This communication provides guidance regarding recent questions about ICANN's role in evaluating services registries wish to implement to adapt to requirements specific to certain localities, such as requirements in China. We also want to inform you about an updated procedure, effective immediately, about WHOIS conflicts with privacy law.

**Guidance on New Services or Changes that Require an RSEP and/or MSA**

We have received inquiries regarding ICANN's role in reviewing and approving services registries wish to implement or planned changes in the design of a registry's systems to adapt to local requirements. **ICANN's review and approval are required if what the registry is planning falls within the scope of consensus policy requirements or contractual requirements, which reflect ICANN's mission and value of maintaining the security and stability of the Domain Name System and promoting competition.**

Depending on the implementation of a registry's proposed service or change, two different ICANN processes may be required: the [Registry Service Evaluation Policy \(RSEP\) process\[icann.org\]](#) and/or the [Material Subcontracting Arrangement \(MSA\) process\[icann.org\]](#). Under those processes, ICANN generally evaluates potential security, stability and competition issues in addition to whether the service is consistent with the registry's agreement with ICANN.

**We encourage you to reach out to ICANN to determine whether the service or change you are contemplating requires ICANN approval.** You can reach out to us by sending an email to your Engagement Manager or [globalsupport@icann.org](mailto:globalsupport@icann.org), or by creating a GDD Portal case.

## **Now Available: Updated ICANN Procedure For Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Law**

On 18 April 2017, ICANN published the updated Procedure for Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Law (WHOIS Procedure). **This revision, effective immediately, incorporates an additional trigger to invoke the procedure, known in the [Revised WHOIS Procedure\[icann.org\]](#) as the “Alternative Trigger.”** This is in addition to the existing trigger in the original WHOIS Procedure. With this update, a Registry Operator or an ICANN-Accredited Registrar may now also invoke the Procedure by providing ICANN with a written statement from the applicable government agency responsible for enforcing its data privacy laws by indicating that a WHOIS obligation in an ICANN contract conflicts with such applicable national law.

For more information, please refer to ICANN’s [announcement\[icann.org\]](#) and the [Revised WHOIS Procedure\[icann.org\]](#).

If you have questions about either of these two procedures, please contact us by sending an email to [globalsupport@icann.org](mailto:globalsupport@icann.org) or creating a GDD Portal case.

Regards,  
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