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Governmental Advisory Committee

15 December 2021

Phlippe Fouquart, GNSO Council Chair

Subject: **Proposed Design for Governmental Accreditation Authorities in a Standardized System for Access/Disclosure of Registration Data (SSAD)**

Dear Philippe,

I would like to draw your attention, and the attention of the GNSO Councilors, to recent discussions with ICANN's SSAD Operational Design Phase (ODP) team, regarding governmental Accreditation Authorities. In particular, please be aware that representatives of the GAC in the EPDP Phase 2 process do not agree with a statement in the recent activity report (14 December 2021) submitted by the GNSO Council liaison to the SSAD ODP.

During the recent SSAD ODP webinar for the GAC (3 December 2021) and a subsequent engagement with the ICANN org ODP team, GAC representatives stressed that the proposed SSAD design - by which government entities would act as a one stop shop to handle identity verification, credentialing, billing and the submission of requests to a central gateway - exceed the EPDP Phase 2 Recommendations which identify governments as accreditors of government users, akin to identity providers, and no more, consistent with the GAC Principles on Accreditation (21 January 2020) as incorporated into EPDP Phase 2 Recommendation 2.

This is contrary to what has been concluded in the Laison's report, that is that "*the proposed [SSAD ODP] approach does not contradict the recommendations set within the Final Report*". The GAC would welcome further discussion on this matter as needed.

Best regards,
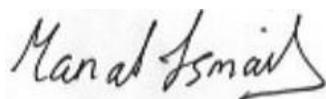
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