

1900 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20006-1110 +1 202 261 3300 Main +1 202 261 3333 Fax www.dechert.com

## **ARIF HYDER ALI**

arif.ali@dechert.com +1 202 261 3307 Direct +1 202 261 3079 Fax

18 February 2022

## VIA E-MAIL

The ICANN Board of Directors c/o Mr. Maarten Botterman, Chair The Accountability Mechanisms Committee of the ICANN Board c/o Ms. Becky Burr

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers 12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300 Los Angeles, CA 90094 maarten.botterman@board.icann.org bburr@hwglaw.com

**Re:** ICANN Board Resolutions 2022.01.16.12 – 2022.01.16.15

Dear Mr. Botterman, Ms. Burr, and Members of the ICANN Board:

We write on behalf of Altanovo Domains Limited (**Altanovo**), f/k/a Afilias Domains No. 3 Limited (**Afilias**), to follow up on our letter to you dated 11 February 2022 (as corrected on 13 February 2022).

After seeing the transcript of VeriSign, Inc.'s (**Verisign**) Q4 Earnings Call on 10 February 2022 (quoted at page 8 of our 11 February letter), we reviewed Verisign's Annual Report (i.e., its 10-K Statement submitted to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("**SEC**")) dated 19 February 2021. We note that Verisign stated in connection with the *Afilias v. ICANN* IRP arbitration proceeding:

[T]he current arbitration proceeding against ICANN challenging the validity of ICANN's award of the .web gTLD to us [i.e., Verisign] could adversely affect our ability to operate the .web gTLD.<sup>1</sup>

It is difficult to believe that Verisign—which, as you are well aware, did not submit an application for .WEB—would have made this statement in an SEC filing, without some factual foundation. In light of the foregoing statement, we request ICANN's immediate confirmation as to whether at any time ICANN has awarded the .WEB gTLD to Verisign,

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VeriSign, Inc., Annual Report (Form 10-K) (19 Feb. 2021), p. 16 (emphasis added), *available at* https://investor.verisign.com/static-files/9f053f1f-a551-4abe-b817-bdb5d4ff874f.



or has advised Verisign that it will award the .WEB gTLD to Verisign, and, if so, when such an award was made or when such advice was provided. If the above statement is incorrect, we request ICANN to confirm as much.

Altanovo reserves all of its rights and remedies in all available for whether within or outside of the United States of America in regards to this matter.

Sincerely,

Arif Hyder Ali

Counsel for Altanovo Domains Limited, f/k/a Afilias Domains No. 3 Limited

Cc: Counsel for ICANN

Mr. John Jeffrey Ms. Amy Stathos

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ICANN General Counsel's Office

Mr. Jeffrey A. LeVee

Mr. Steven L. Smith

Mr. Eric P. Enson

Ms. Kelly M. Ozurovich

Jones Day LLP

Counsel for Verisign

Mr. Ronald L. Johnston

Mr. James S. Blackburn

Ms. Maria Chedid

Mr. Oscar Ramallo

Mr. John Muse-Fisher

Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP

Counsel for NDC

Mr. Steven Marenberg

Mr. Josh B. Gordon

Ms. April H. Hua

Paul Hastings LLP