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ICANN

Date: 07 March 2018

ICANN Final Determination
Re: Notice of Registry Operator Request for Termination of Registry Agreement - .boots

On 06 December 2017, The Boots Company PLC notified ICANN of its intent to terminate the .boots Registry Agreement entered into on 08 January 2015. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, Registry Operator may terminate the Registry Agreement for any reason upon one hundred eighty (180) calendar day advance notice.

Pursuant to the terms of Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified by Section 6 of Specification 13 for this .Brand TLD), ICANN consulted with The Boots Company PLC to assess whether to transition operation of the .boots top-level domain (.boots) to a successor Registry Operator.

On 16 January 2018, ICANN made a preliminary determination that operation of the .boots TLD need not be transitioned to a successor Registry Operator based on the following rationale:

- Transitioning operation of the TLD is not necessary to protect the public interest.
- The Boots Company PLC, in its function as the Registry Operator has represented to ICANN that it does not sell, distribute or transfer control or use of any registrations in the .boots TLD to third parties.
- .boots qualifies as a .Brand TLD.
- Two domain names are registered in the .boots TLD. Both domains are managed by the Registry Operator, including one as mandated by the Registry Agreement (http://www.nic.boots).

On 15 February 2018, after a 30-day period for comments by interested parties, no comments were received. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, ICANN will proceed to terminate the .boots Registry Agreement by 04 June 2018.

In conformance with Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified by Section 6 of Specification 13 for this .Brand TLD), ICANN may not delegate the TLD to a successor registry operator for a period of two years without Registry Operator's consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

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Akram Atallah
President, Global Domains Division
ICANN