

24th Jan, 2024

The Petitioners
Accra

Dear Sir,

RE : PETITION : TRANSFER OF .GH COUNTRY CODE TOP LEVEL DOMAIN (ccTLD) TO GDNR

I have received a document titled as above; signed by eight (8) persons who themselves are not registrants of .GH and from eight (8) prospective Registrars who are not currently Resellers of .GH names nor using .GH names in their signatures. They purport to represent the Local Internet Community (LIC)

The petition follows the pattern of GDNR maligning the .GH Trustee, defaming and causing disaffection to the role in many quarters.

One wonders how the incumbent operator that GDNR continues inciting people against, would be expected to support with delegation now that trust is broken.

Yet the Trustee has not refused to re-delegate to GDNR who will need his support in the exercise according to GAC principles. The Petition complains of lack of cooperation from Trustee when the only remaining issue is GDNR's refusal of community oversight.

I have been informed of statements about my refusal to re-delegate at various International fora by functionaries of GDNR but have chosen to focus on ensuring a resilient Internet ecosystem.

I heard that at ITU, ICANN, US delegations, IGF, GFCE etc, all told GDNR to do the right thing locally by following a consensus agreement with the .GH Trustee. The GDNR refusal to follow procedures, haste, lack of respect for Trustee and denigrating Trustee makes one not believe GDNR has ability to secure such critical infrastructure. You can break the sacred glass easily.

The consensus document, a draft MOU of 21/10/2021, which .GH Admin PoC asked GDNR to turn into formal agreement was revised in April 2022 with a number of clauses removed. GDNR indicated they rejected the earlier agreed draft MOU because the clause below was perpetual after having accepted the said clause at a joint meeting of GDNR and the Trustee.

“3.2.18.2 Appreciate and Compensate the decades of contributions with 10% of the fee for every domain name sold or renewed, to a not for profit organization of choice of the .gh admin PoC, who so designates Internet Society of Ghana as the beneficiaries”

Of course, delegations are perpetual and all conditions are consequently perpetual.

Find the complete draft MOU at <https://nic.gh/notice.html>

The signatories should know that they are supporting government to be the Policy Maker, Regulator and Operator without any community oversight. All well-meaning people see the governance purpose of this innovative approach which is best practice.

GDNR should also know that the GH registry is the creation of a Ghanaian technologist and our constitution has clear statements on government acquiring such and therefore unless the Trustee releases his creation to the state, his rights are protected by law.

We follow the GAC principles here

<https://gac.icann.org/principles-and-guidelines/public/principles-cctlds.pdf>

Please find some additional comments for your information :

Legal: Where did Act 772 obtain the .GH registry rights from to then assign the responsibility to GDNR?

Technical readiness: The .GH admin PoC has to certify GDNR irrespective of acclaimed expertise in the transition of critical infrastructure.

Registrars: This is dependent on agreement reached with incumbent operator to create Registry -Registrar Agreements.

Policy: This is also dependent on Agreement with incumbent operator

GDNR has acted in bad faith and continues to act in ways that impair support and cooperation in processing the delegation.

All that GDNR has to do is to accept the consensus agreement for the Trustee to commence the various processes leading to re-delegation.

Respectfully ,

Nii Nana Quaynor

Nii Quaynor
.GH Registry Admin PoC