

Lisbon, 28th March 2007

GAC Communiqué – Lisbon

28 March 2007

This Communiqué and its Annexes constitute formal advice to the Board from the Governmental Advisory Committee.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) met in Lisbon, during March 24-28, 2007.

46 members and 3 observers participated in the meeting.

The GAC expressed warm thanks to the Government of Portugal and the organisers, Fundação para a Computação Científica Nacional, for hosting the meeting in Lisbon.

II. WHOIS

The GAC adopted a set of Principles Regarding Generic Top Level Domain (gTLD) WHOIS Services (Annex A).

The GAC held a joint session with the GNSO Council regarding the recently completed WHOIS Task Force Final Report. The GAC noted that the recommendations included in the Report indicate a significant division of views regarding the appropriate approach to WHOIS services, and urges the GNSO

Council to continue its efforts to develop consensus-based proposals. In this regard, having completed the Principles, the GAC is committed to continuing consultations on the WHOIS issue, including providing additional advice as appropriate, prior to the further consideration of any recommendations by the Board.

III. New gTLDs

The GAC adopted Principles Regarding New gTLDs (Annex B) which are intended to provide the ICANN Board and the wider global community with a clear indication of the governmental priorities for the introduction, delegation and operation of new gTLDs. The principles respond directly to several agreed provisions resulting from the World Summit on the Information Society and will provide a coherent framework for future interactions on these issues, particularly in relation to the ongoing ICANN Policy Development Process for new gTLDs.

The GAC intends to develop its interactions with the GNSO in the future regarding the implementation of both the WHOIS and New gTLD principles.

IV. IDN

The GAC acknowledges with satisfaction ICANN's 7th March 2007 announcement of its successful conduct of laboratory tests of Internationalized Domain Names. The GAC has taken note of the draft issue paper on selection of IDN ccTLDs associated with the ISO 3166-1 two letter codes prepared within the joint ccNSO-GAC IDN Working Group.

In the spirit of the collaborative effort that was adopted in the S_{ão} Paulo meeting GAC has asked all its members to evaluate the socio-political and cultural implications of the issues outlined in the aforesaid paper in terms of the languages and characters that may be used for IDN ccTLDs, and respond

directly to the ccNSO Council. The GAC has similarly taken note of the outcomes report of the working group on IDNs constituted by the GNSO Council.

The GAC recognizes that the IDN ccTLD standards development processes can be slow and would encourage early action to develop methodology to prepare these standards.

The GAC and its members along with the ccNSO and GNSO Councils will work towards the global deployment of IDNs which will expand the spread of the Internet and enable a vast number of people to exchange information in their local languages.

V. ccNSO

The GAC had a useful exchange with the ccNSO on ccTLD issues. The GAC heard views from the ccTLD Community on ICANN regions and noted the sensitivities associated with this issue.

The GAC received a presentation of a national case study highlighting questions being addressed in the country. The GAC intends to continue this dialogue with the ccNSO on sharing good practices.

The GAC noted that the consultation on retiring country-codes raises public policy issues and intends to provide advice in due course.

The GAC reminds the Board that the applicable version of the GAC Principles and Guidelines for the Delegation and Administration of ccTLDs is the one dated 5th April, 2005 (Annex C), adopted at the Mar del Plata meeting.

VI. ICANN Board and GAC cooperation

The GAC welcomes the introduction of a Master Calendar which will allow all constituencies to participate in the ICANN policy development processes in a coordinated fashion. The GAC also welcomes the formulation of an extensive outreach programme and looks forward to contributing in this ongoing work.

VII. Transparency and Accountability Principles

The GAC recalls the paragraphs of the WSIS Geneva Declaration of Principles and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society relevant to international management of the Internet. The GAC took note of the Affirmation of Responsibilities for ICANN's Private Sector Management approved by the ICANN Board of Directors, 25th September 2006. The GAC encourages ICANN to continue posting advance notice of Board meetings and agenda and full minutes of such meetings and maintain a spirit of transparency in its deliberations.

The GAC intends to provide advice to the Board on the development of ICANN's Transparency and Accountability Management Operating Principles, and looks forward to the report commissioned by the Board from the One World Trust.

VIII. Other Matters

(i) .xxx

The GAC reaffirms the letter sent to the ICANN Board on 2nd February 2007. The Wellington Communiqué remains a valid and important expression of the GAC's views on .xxx. The GAC does not consider the information provided by the Board to have answered the GAC concerns as to whether the ICM application meets the sponsorship criteria.

The GAC also calls the Board's attention to the comment from the Government of Canada to the ICANN online Public Forum and expresses concern that, with the revised proposed ICANN-ICM Registry agreement, the Corporation could be moving towards assuming an ongoing management and oversight role regarding Internet content, which would be inconsistent with its technical mandate.

(ii) ENAC Representation

The following members have been designated to serve as GAC representatives to the Emergency Numbers and Addresses Committee (ENAC) for 2007:

- Mr. Pankaj Agrawala, India
- Ms. Maimouna Diop Diagne, Senegal
- Mr. Augusto Gadelha, Brazil
- Mr. Bill Graham, Canada
- Mr. Stefano Trumpy, Italy

(iii) President's Strategy Committee report

The GAC welcomes with interest the final report of the President's Strategy Committee and would appreciate receiving information from the Board on how it intends to associate the GAC and its members with any follow-up activity on this report. The GAC expects that any such follow-up activity will fully take into account relevant provisions of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.

* * * *

The GAC warmly thanks all those among the ICANN community who have contributed to the dialogue with the GAC in Lisbon.

The next GAC meeting will take place during the ICANN meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA 24th -28th June 2007.

Annex A

GAC PRINCIPLES REGARDING gTLD WHOIS SERVICES

Presented by the Governmental Advisory Committee
March 28, 2007

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to identify a set of general public policy issues and to propose principles related to generic top level domain (gTLD) WHOIS services, in line with the recommendations of the Tunis Agenda of the World Summit on the Information Society in November, 2005.
- 1.2 These principles are intended to guide the work within ICANN and to inform the ICANN Board of the consensus views of the GAC regarding the range of public policy issues associated with WHOIS services.

Public Policy Aspects of WHOIS Data

2.1 The GAC recognizes that the original function of the gTLD WHOIS service is to provide a look up service to Internet users. As the Internet has evolved, WHOIS data is now used in support of a number of other legitimate¹ activities, including:

1. Supporting the security and stability of the Internet by providing contact points for network operators and administrators, including ISPs, and certified computer incident response teams;
2. Allowing users to determine the availability of domain names;
3. Assisting law enforcement authorities in investigations, in enforcing national and international laws, including, for

¹ Subject to applicable national law.

example, countering terrorism-related criminal offences and in supporting international cooperation procedures. In some countries, specialized non governmental entities may be involved in this work;

4. Assisting in combating against abusive uses of ICTs, such as illegal and other acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance, hatred, violence, all forms of child abuse, including paedophilia and child pornography, and trafficking in, and exploitation of, human beings.
5. Facilitating enquiries and subsequent steps to conduct trademark clearances and to help counter intellectual property infringement, misuse and theft in accordance with applicable national laws and international treaties;
6. Contributing to user confidence in the Internet as a reliable and efficient means of information and communication and as an important tool for promoting digital inclusion, e-commerce and other legitimate uses by helping users identify persons or entities responsible for content and services online; and
7. Assisting businesses, other organizations and users in combating fraud, complying with relevant laws, and safeguarding the interests of the public.

2.2 The GAC recognizes that there are also legitimate concerns about:

1. the misuse of WHOIS data, and
2. conflicts with national laws and regulations, in particular applicable privacy and data protection laws.

Principles Applicable to WHOIS Services

- 3.1 The definition, purpose, and operation of gTLD WHOIS services should reflect and respect the different interests and concerns outlined in Section 2 above.
- 3.2. gTLD WHOIS services must comply with applicable national laws and regulations.
- 3.3 gTLD WHOIS services should provide sufficient and accurate data about domain name registrations and registrants subject to national safeguards for individuals' privacy in a manner that:
 1. Supports the stability, reliability, security, and global interoperability of the Internet, from both a technical and public trust perspective; and
 2. Facilitates continuous, timely and world-wide access.
- 3.4 Ongoing collaboration among all relevant stakeholders who are users of, affected by, or responsible for, maintaining WHOIS data and services is essential to the effective implementation of these principles.

Recommendations for Action

- 4.1 Consistent with the above principles, stakeholders should work to improve the accuracy of WHOIS data, and in particular, to reduce the incidence of deliberately false WHOIS data.
- 4.2 The ICANN community, working with other stakeholders, should gather information on gTLD domain name registrations and registrants and how WHOIS data is used and misused. This information should be publicized and used to inform future debate on this issue.

ANNEX B

GAC PRINCIPLES REGARDING NEW gTLDs

Presented by the Governmental Advisory Committee
March 28, 2007

1. Preamble

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to identify a set of general public policy principles related to the introduction, delegation and operation of new generic top level domains (gTLDs). They are intended to inform the ICANN Board of the views of the GAC regarding public policy issues concerning new gTLDs and to respond to the provisions of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process, in particular “*the need for further development of, and strengthened cooperation among, stakeholders for public policies for generic top-level domains (gTLDs)*”² and those related to the management of Internet resources and enunciated in the Geneva and Tunis phases of the WSIS.

- 1.2 These principles shall not prejudice the application of the principle of national sovereignty. The GAC has previously adopted the general principle that the Internet naming system is a public resource in the sense that its functions must be administered in the public or common interest. The WSIS Declaration of December 2003 also states that “*policy authority for Internet-related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States. They have rights and responsibilities for international Internet-related public policy issues.*”³

² See paragraph 64 of the WSIS Tunis Agenda, at <http://www.itu.int/wsis/docs2/tunis/off/6rev1.html>

³ See paragraph 49.a) of the WSIS Geneva declaration at <http://www.itu.int/wsis/docs/geneva/official/dop.html>

- 1.3 A gTLD is a top level domain which is not based on the ISO 3166 two-letter country code list⁴. For the purposes and scope of this document, new gTLDs are defined as any gTLDs added to the Top Level Domain name space after the date of the adoption of these principles by the GAC.
- 1.4 In setting out the following principles, the GAC recalls ICANN's stated core values as set out in its by-laws:

- a. Preserving and enhancing the operational stability, reliability, security, and global interoperability of the Internet.*
- b. Respecting the creativity, innovation, and flow of information made possible by the Internet by limiting ICANN's activities to those matters within ICANN's mission requiring or significantly benefiting from global coordination.*
- c. To the extent feasible and appropriate, delegating coordination functions to or recognizing the policy role of other responsible entities that reflect the interests of affected parties.*
- d. Seeking and supporting broad, informed participation reflecting the functional, geographic, and cultural diversity of the Internet at all levels of policy development and decision-making.*
- e. Where feasible and appropriate, depending on market mechanisms to promote and sustain a competitive environment.*
- f. Introducing and promoting competition in the registration of domain names where practicable and beneficial in the public interest.*
- g. Employing open and transparent policy development mechanisms that (i) promote well-informed decisions*

⁴ See: <http://www.icann.org/general/glossary.htm#G>

based on expert advice, and (ii) ensure that those entities most affected can assist in the policy development process.

h. Making decisions by applying documented policies neutrally and objectively, with integrity and fairness.

i. Acting with a speed that is responsive to the needs of the Internet while, as part of the decision-making process, obtaining informed input from those entities most affected.

j. Remaining accountable to the Internet community through mechanisms that enhance ICANN's effectiveness.

k. While remaining rooted in the private sector, recognizing that governments and public authorities are responsible for public policy and duly taking into account governments' or public authorities' recommendations.

2. Public Policy Aspects related to new gTLDs

When considering the introduction, delegation and operation of new gTLDs, the following public policy principles need to be respected:

Introduction of new gTLDs

2.1 New gTLDs should respect:

a) The provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁵ which seek to affirm "*fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women*".

b) The sensitivities regarding terms with national, cultural, geographic and religious significance.

2.2 ICANN should avoid country, territory or place names, and country, territory or regional language or people

⁵ See <http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>

descriptions, unless in agreement with the relevant governments or public authorities.

- 2.3 The process for introducing new gTLDs must make proper allowance for prior third party rights, in particular trademark rights as well as rights in the names and acronyms of inter-governmental organizations (IGOs).
- 2.4 In the interests of consumer confidence and security, new gTLDs should not be confusingly similar to existing TLDs. To avoid confusion with country-code Top Level Domains no two letter gTLDs should be introduced.

Delegation of new gTLDs

- 2.5 The evaluation and selection procedure for new gTLD registries should respect the principles of fairness, transparency and non-discrimination. All applicants for a new gTLD registry should therefore be evaluated against transparent and predictable criteria, fully available to the applicants prior to the initiation of the process. Normally, therefore, no subsequent additional selection criteria should be used in the selection process.
- 2.6 It is important that the selection process for new gTLDs ensures the security, reliability, global interoperability and stability of the Domain Name System (DNS) and promotes competition, consumer choice, geographical and service-provider diversity.
- 2.7 Applicant registries for new gTLDs should pledge to:
 - a) Adopt, before the new gTLD is introduced, appropriate procedures for blocking, at no cost and upon demand of governments, public authorities or IGOs, names with national or geographic significance at the second level of any new gTLD.

- b) Ensure procedures to allow governments, public authorities or IGOs to challenge abuses of names with national or geographic significance at the second level of any new gTLD.
- 2.8 Applicants should publicly document any support they claim to enjoy from specific communities.
- 2.9 Applicants should identify how they will limit the need for defensive registrations and minimise cyber-squatting that can result from bad-faith registrations and other abuses of the registration system

Operation of new gTLDs

- 2.10 A new gTLD operator/registry should undertake to implement practices that ensure an appropriate level of security and stability both for the TLD itself and for the DNS as a whole, including the development of best practices to ensure the accuracy, integrity and validity of registry information.
- 2.11 ICANN and a new gTLD operator/registry should establish clear continuity plans for maintaining the resolution of names in the DNS in the event of registry failure. These plans should be established in coordination with any contingency measures adopted for ICANN as a whole.
- 2.12 ICANN should continue to ensure that registrants and registrars in new gTLDs have access to an independent appeals process in relation to registry decisions related to pricing changes, renewal procedures, service levels, or the unilateral and significant change of contract conditions.
- 2.13 ICANN should ensure that any material changes to the new gTLD operations, policies or contract obligations be

made in an open and transparent manner allowing for adequate public comment.

2.14 The GAC WHOIS principles are relevant to new gTLDs.

3. Implementation of these Public Policy Principles

- 3.1 The GAC recalls Article XI, section 2, no. 1 h) of the ICANN Bylaws, which state that the ICANN Board shall notify the Chair of the Governmental Advisory Committee in a timely manner of any proposal raising public policy issues. Insofar, therefore, as these principles provide guidance on GAC views on the implementation of new gTLDs, they are not intended to substitute for the normal requirement for the ICANN Board to notify the GAC of any proposals for new gTLDs which raise public policy issues.
- 3.2 ICANN should consult the GAC, as appropriate, regarding any questions pertaining to the interpretation of these principles.
- 3.3 If individual GAC members or other governments express formal concerns about any issues related to new gTLDs, the ICANN Board should fully consider those concerns and clearly explain how it will address them.
- 3.4 The evaluation procedures and criteria for introduction, delegation and operation of new TLDs should be developed and implemented with the participation of all stakeholders.

N.B. The public policy priorities for GAC members in relation to the introduction of Internationalised Domain Name TLDs (IDN TLDs) will be addressed separately by the GAC.

ANNEX C

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE DELEGATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF COUNTRY CODE TOP LEVEL DOMAINS

Presented by the Governmental Advisory Committee

1. PREAMBLE

1.1. The purpose of this document is to set out a general framework of principles and guidelines for the relationship between national governments, the Registry of the country code associated with that country, and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). However, the situation varies significantly between countries. This framework is intended to help establish, not constrain or dictate, the development of the three-way relationship. Governments, country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) Registries and ICANN share the responsibility for ensuring a Domain Name System that is stable, secure, open, and easily accessible.

1.2. The main principle is the principle of subsidiarity. ccTLD policy should be set locally, unless it can be shown that the issue has global impact and needs to be resolved in an international framework. Most of the ccTLD policy issues are local in nature and should therefore be addressed by the local Internet Community, according to national law.

1.3. These principles are intended as a guide to the relationships between Governments, their ccTLD and ICANN. They are not intended to be binding and need both Governments and Registries voluntarily to agree to apply them within their legal framework. If either the Government or the Registry decide not to adopt the principles, this cannot be held against the Registry, and the Registry still has a valid existence.

1.4 The Internet has evolved from a tool primarily reserved for computer and networking research, to a global medium for commerce, education, and communication since ccTLDs were first established and, in particular, since [RFC 1591](#) was issued. Advances in the global information infrastructure, especially the Internet, are of crucial importance for national and global economic growth. Top Level Domains (i.e. domains in the top level of the global domain name system) play a significant role in this respect. ccTLDs have acquired an increasing part in the domain names market and are seen by many as part of the Internet identities of their country or geopolitical territory.

1.5. The initial selection for the management of ccTLDs was by “selecting a designated manager for a domain that was able to do an equitable, just, honest, and competent job”. This was a mutual recognition of rights and duties and this should remain the fundamental basis for any future selection of ccTLD Registries. There is currently a variety of legacy ccTLD situations with different legal or contractual frameworks.

1.6. It is recalled that the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) to ICANN has previously adopted the general principle that the Internet naming system is a public resource in the sense that its functions must be administered in the public or common interest. The WSIS Declaration of December 2003 states that *“policy authority for Internet-related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States. They have rights and responsibilities for international Internet-related public policy issues.”* This is in the context that, *“Governments, as well as private sector, civil society and the United Nations and other international organizations have an important role and responsibility in the development of the Information Society and, as appropriate, in decision-making processes. Building a people-centred Information Society is a joint effort which requires cooperation and partnership among all stakeholders.”*

1.7. It is recalled that the WSIS Plan of action of December 2003 invites *“Governments to manage or supervise, as appropriate, their respective country code top-level domain name”*. Any such involvement should be based on appropriate national laws and policies. It is recommended that governments should work with their local Internet community in deciding on how to work with the ccTLD Registry.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THIS DOCUMENT

2.1. This document updates the principles set out in February 2000. It takes account of experience and best practice for the delegation and administration of ccTLDs. It is intended as a framework which the different parties can use to help define the way they work together. How these principles and guidelines may be used depends on local/national laws and traditions. They may contribute to clarifying the bilateral relationship between these parties. They could also contribute to the development of:

- a communication between the relevant government or public authority and ICANN about their respective roles;
- a communication between the relevant government or public authority and the ccTLD Registry where this is deemed appropriate by the government and Registry concerned or provided for by national laws; and
- an appropriate communication between ICANN and the ccTLD Registry.

2.2. From a GAC perspective, the first two of these types of communications are of primary importance, since governments are directly involved. The third type often involves two private parties and is of interest to governments to the extent it affects public policy interests.

3. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions apply:

3.1 “Communication” might include a law, regulation, agreement, document, contract, memorandum of understanding or any other form of relationship as appropriate.

3.2 'Country code top level domain' or 'ccTLD' means a domain in the top level of the global domain name system assigned according to a two-letter code based on the ISO 3166-1 standard 'Codes for the Representation of Names of Countries and Their Subdivisions.'

3.3 'Delegation' means the procedures that need to be taken by ICANN/IANA for the inclusion of a ccTLD in the DNS root upon receipt of an authoritative request.

3.4 'Re-delegation' means the change of the person or body responsible for the administration of a ccTLD Registry effected by ICANN/IANA upon receipt of an authoritative request.

3.5 'Authoritative request' for the purposes of this document is the request for the delegation or re-delegation concerning a ccTLD Registry addressed to ICANN/IANA by the appropriate body, according to national law, showing that the request is correctly made, authoritative and is in line with applicable law or, in the absence of such law, RFC 1591.

3.6 'ccTLD Registry' means the entity (whether an organisation, enterprise or individual) responsible for managing and administering a ccTLD.

3.7 'Designation' means decision by the relevant government or public authority or any other body foreseen by the national law of the country concerned on the person or body that will be the manager of the relevant ccTLD Registry according to national law.

3.8 'Relevant government or public authority' means the national government or public authority of a distinct economy as recognised in international fora, as those terms are used in the ICANN bylaws and the GAC Operating Principles, associated with the country code.

3.9 'Local Internet community' means the local community in the country associated with the country code, and includes the national government. This definition is specific to the purposes identified in this document and not broader.

4. ROLE OF GOVERNMENT OR PUBLIC AUTHORITY

4.1 Principles

4.1.1. Ultimate public policy authority over the relevant ccTLD rests with the relevant government or public authority; how this authority is exercised is determined by applicable law.

4.1.2. Every country or distinct economy with a government or public authority recognised in accordance with article 3.8 above should be able to ask for its appropriate country code to be represented as a ccTLD in the DNS and to designate the Registry for the ccTLD concerned.

4.2 Guidelines

4.2.1. The relevant government or public authority is strongly encouraged to ensure that the ccTLD is being administered in the public interest, within the framework of its national public policy and relevant laws and regulations.

4.2.2. The relevant government or public authority should be able to ensure that domain name registration in the ccTLD by Registrars benefits from effective and fair conditions of competition, at appropriate levels and scale of activity.

4.2.3. To give effect to their public policy interests, governments or public authorities may wish to base any communication with ccTLD Registries on the terms outlined in Clause 9.

4.2.4. In making a designation or acceptance for a ccTLD Registry, the government or public authority should take into consideration the importance of long-term stability in the administration and management of the ccTLD and in the DNS. In most cases, such stability may be best served through the designation of an organisation or an enterprise rather than a specific individual.

5. ROLE OF ccTLD REGISTRY

5.1 Principles

5.1.1. The ccTLD Registry is a trustee for the delegated ccTLD, and has a duty to serve the local Internet community as well as the global Internet community. Some governments or public authorities may require their agreement before any sub-contracting or sub-licensing of the delegation. Where this agreement is given, the government or public authority should notify ICANN.

5.1.2. In performing their functions ccTLD Registries are subject to applicable law.

5.1.3. Any claim of intellectual property right in the two letter code in itself shall not impede a change of Registry.

5.2 Guidelines

5.2.1. Any intellectual property rights that the ccTLD Registry may have acquired as the result of delegation or which any entity may have acquired as a result of the management, administration or marketing of the ccTLD shall be taken into account and dealt with in accordance with applicable law in the case of a re-delegation. Such rights should not be exercised in a way that unnecessarily impedes re-delegation of a ccTLD Registry decided according to national law or under the circumstances described under clause 7 below.

5.2.2. The ccTLD Registry should work cooperatively with the relevant government or public authority of the country or territory for which the ccTLD has been

established, within the legal framework, and in line with appropriate public policy objectives of the government of the country or distinct economy concerned.

5.2.3. The ccTLD Registry, and the Registry's administrative contact, should be resident or incorporated in the territory and/or jurisdiction of the relevant government or public authority unless formally decided otherwise by the relevant government or public authority. In any event the ccTLD should operate in a way that is consistent with the laws and public policy of the relevant government or public authority.

5.2.4. The ccTLD Registries have the opportunity to participate in the ICANN Policy Development Processes through the Country Code Names Supporting Organisation (ccNSO). The GAC encourages the ongoing extension of the ccNSO's membership.

5.2.5. In any sub-contracting of the technical operations of the ccTLD Registry or administrative and management functions of the ccTLD, the sub-contract should state that the delegation itself is not reassigned to the sub-contractor. Any re-assignment would have to be in accordance with the provisions of Clause 7.

6. ROLE OF ICANN

Principle

6.1 ICANN's mission with respect to ccTLD Registries is to co-ordinate the Internet's systems of top-level domain unique identifiers, and to ensure their stable and secure operation, in particular: the allocation and assignment of the sets of unique Internet identifiers; the operation and evolution of the root name server system; and the policy development related to these technical functions as defined in the ICANN Bylaws.

7. PRINCIPLES RELATING TO DELEGATIONS AND RE-DELEGATIONS

7.1. Principle

Delegation and re-delegation is a national issue and should be resolved nationally and in accordance with national laws, taking into account the views of all local stakeholders and the rights of the existing ccTLD Registry. Once a final formal decision has been reached, ICANN should act promptly to initiate the process of delegation or re-delegation in line with authoritative instructions showing the basis for the decision.

7.2. Guidelines

7.2.1. Where the Registry operating the country code TLD does not have a formal communication with its national government and its core functions are operated under a different jurisdiction, any action to re-delegate needs to take account of the legal framework in the country where the Registry is based. In the event of a re-delegation, registrants in the ccTLD should be afforded continued name resolution or, if necessary, a mutually agreed period in which to transfer to another TLD.

7.2.2. In the case of a disputed re-delegation request where the relevant country code TLD Registry is based in another country and where there is not a contract specifying

which national law should apply, the government and ccTLD should seek to find a mutually acceptable solution. Where there is evidence that local stakeholders and the Internet community support the government proposal for re-delegation, but where there is no legal basis for imposing the re-delegation, ICANN may contribute to identifying alternative solutions to resolve the problem.

7.2.3. It is strongly recommended that, in the case of new delegations or re-delegations, particularly where a Registry is based out of country, national governments and Registry managers should agree on the legal framework and specific contract conditions to be used to judge any subsequent disputes or re-delegation requests.

8. GUIDELINES FOR A COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT OR PUBLIC AUTHORITY AND ICANN

8.1. In cases in which there is a communication between the relevant government or public authority and ICANN/IANA, it should include the nominated, designated point of contact for communications with the relevant government or public authority.

8.2. In the absence of a communication, or where there are reasons for doubt, ICANN/IANA should consult with the diplomatic authorities or the Governmental Advisory Committee members for the government or distinct economy concerned on the competent authority and appropriate point of contact with their administration for communications.

8.3. Recognising ICANN's responsibilities to achieve consensus in the creation of any new generic TLDs, ICANN should avoid, in the creation of new generic TLDs, well known and famous country, territory or place names; well known and famous country, territory or regional language or people descriptions; or ISO 639 Codes for representation of languages unless in agreement with the relevant governments or public authorities.

9. GUIDELINES FOR A COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT OR PUBLIC AUTHORITY AND THE ccTLD REGISTRY

9.1. Depending on the needs in individual national circumstances, it may be appropriate for the relevant government or public authority to establish a communication with its newly designated Registry. Any such communication could include the following provisions:

9.1.1 Term, performance clauses, applicable law, opportunity for review and process for revocation.

9.1.2 A commitment by the Registry to operate the ccTLD in the interest of the relevant local Internet community and the global Internet community.

9.1.3 Confirmation that the ccTLD is operated in trust in the public interest and that any claim of intellectual property rights in the two-letter code in itself shall not impede any possible future change of Registry.

9.1.4 Conditions to ensure the transfer of all relevant DNS data to the new Registry, if, for any reason, a reassignment of delegation to a new Registry is necessary, taking all interests into account.

9.1.5 References to ensure the safety and integrity of the Registry databases.

9.1.6 Conditions for the efficient and effective resolution of disputes arising from domain name registration.

10. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ICANN AND THE ccTLD REGISTRY

10.1 Principle

A Registry should not sub-contract part or all of the technical operations of the ccTLD Registry affecting the global stability of the DNS without ensuring that the sub-contractor has the appropriate technical capability, and informing ICANN accordingly.

10.2 Guidelines

10.2.1. The communication between ICANN and the Registry should as a minimum contain ICANN's commitment to:

10.2.1.1 Maintain, or cause to be maintained, a stable, secure, authoritative and publicly available database of relevant information for each ccTLD (see below);

10.2.1.2. Ensure that authoritative and accurate root zone information is generated in a timely manner from such database and contribute to the root servers' operating in stable and secure manner. Also, ensure that changes to the root zone database are made on the basis of reliable authentication procedures confirming the authority and identity of the requesting party;

10.2.1.3. Maintain, or cause to be maintained, authoritative records and an audit trail regarding ccTLD delegations and records related to these delegations; and

10.2.1.4. Inform the Registry in a timely manner of any changes to ICANN's contact information.

10.2.2. The communication between ICANN and the Registry should contain the Registry's commitment to:

10.2.2.1. Cause to be operated and maintained in a stable and secure manner the authoritative primary and secondary name servers for the ccTLD, adequate to resolve names within the ccTLD for users throughout the Internet, and any sub-domains over which they retain administrative authority;

10.2.2.2. Inform ICANN in a timely manner of any changes to the ccTLD's contact information held by ICANN;

10.2.2.3. Set out clear conditions and parameters for any payment by the ccTLD. ♦

Mar del Plata, 5 April 2005

GAC PRINCIPLES REGARDING gTLD WHOIS SERVICES

Presented by the Governmental Advisory
Committee
March 28, 2007

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to identify a set of general public policy issues and to propose principles related to generic top level domain (gTLD) WHOIS services, in line with the recommendations of the Tunis Agenda of the World Summit on the Information Society in November, 2005.
- 1.2 These principles are intended to guide the work within ICANN and to inform the ICANN Board of the consensus views of the GAC regarding the range of public policy issues associated with WHOIS services.

Public Policy Aspects of WHOIS Data

2.1 The GAC recognizes that the original function of the gTLD WHOIS service is to provide a look up service to Internet users. As the Internet has evolved, WHOIS data is now used in support of a number of other legitimate¹ activities, including:

1. Supporting the security and stability of the Internet by providing contact points for network operators and administrators, including ISPs, and certified computer incident response teams;
2. Allowing users to determine the availability of domain names;
3. Assisting law enforcement authorities in investigations, in enforcing national and international laws, including, for example, countering terrorism-related criminal offences and in supporting international cooperation procedures. In

¹ Subject to applicable national law.

some countries, specialized non governmental entities may be involved in this work;

4. Assisting in combating against abusive uses of ICTs, such as illegal and other acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance, hatred, violence, all forms of child abuse, including paedophilia and child pornography, and trafficking in, and exploitation of, human beings.
5. Facilitating enquiries and subsequent steps to conduct trademark clearances and to help counter intellectual property infringement, misuse and theft in accordance with applicable national laws and international treaties;
6. Contributing to user confidence in the Internet as a reliable and efficient means of information and communication and as an important tool for promoting digital inclusion, e-commerce and other

legitimate uses by helping users identify persons or entities responsible for content and services online; and

7. Assisting businesses, other organizations and users in combating fraud, complying with relevant laws, and safeguarding the interests of the public.

2.2 The GAC recognizes that there are also legitimate concerns about:

1. the misuse of WHOIS data, and

2. Conflicts with national laws and regulations, in particular applicable privacy and data protection laws.

Principles Applicable to WHOIS Services

3.1 The definition, purpose, and operation of gTLD WHOIS services should reflect and respect the different interests and concerns outlined in Section 2 above.

3.2. gTLD WHOIS services must comply with applicable national laws and regulations.

3.3 gTLD WHOIS services should provide sufficient and accurate data about domain name registrations and registrants subject to national safeguards for individuals' privacy in a manner that:

1. Supports the stability, reliability, security, and global interoperability of the Internet, from both a technical and public trust perspective; and

2. Facilitates continuous, timely and world-wide access.

3.4 Ongoing collaboration among all relevant stakeholders who are users of, affected by, or responsible for, maintaining WHOIS data and services is essential to the effective implementation of these principles.

Recommendations for Action

4.1 Consistent with the above principles, stakeholders should work to improve the accuracy of WHOIS data, and in particular, to reduce the incidence of deliberately false WHOIS data.

4.2 The ICANN community, working with other stakeholders, should gather information on gTLD domain name registrations and registrants and how WHOIS data is used and misused. This information should be publicized and used to inform future debate on this issue.

GAC PRINCIPLES REGARDING NEW gTLDs

Presented by the Governmental Advisory Committee
March 28, 2007

1. Preamble

- 1.1 The purpose of this document is to identify a set of general public policy principles related to the introduction, delegation and operation of new generic top level domains (gTLDs). They are intended to inform the ICANN Board of the views of the GAC regarding public policy issues concerning new gTLDs and to respond to the provisions of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process, in particular “*the need for further development of, and strengthened cooperation among, stakeholders for public policies for generic top-level domains (gTLDs)*”¹ and those related to the management of Internet resources and enunciated in the Geneva and Tunis phases of the WSIS.
- 1.2 These principles shall not prejudice the application of the principle of national sovereignty. The GAC has previously adopted the general principle that the Internet naming system is a public resource in the sense that its functions must be administered in the public or common interest. The WSIS Declaration of December 2003 also states that “*policy authority for Internet-related public policy issues is the sovereign right of States. They have rights and responsibilities for international Internet-related public policy issues.*”²
- 1.3 A gTLD is a top level domain which is not based on the ISO 3166 two-letter country code list³. For the purposes and scope of this document, new gTLDs are defined as any gTLDs added to the Top Level Domain name space after the date of the adoption of these principles by the GAC.
- 1.4 In setting out the following principles, the GAC recalls ICANN’s stated core values as set out in its by-laws:

- a. Preserving and enhancing the operational stability, reliability, security, and global interoperability of the Internet.*
- b. Respecting the creativity, innovation, and flow of information made possible by the Internet by limiting ICANN’s activities to those matters within ICANN’s mission requiring or significantly benefiting from global coordination.*
- c. To the extent feasible and appropriate, delegating coordination functions to or recognizing the policy role of other responsible entities that reflect the interests of affected parties.*

¹ See paragraph 64 of the WSIS Tunis Agenda, at <http://www.itu.int/wsis/docs2/tunis/off/6rev1.html>

² See paragraph 49.a) of the WSIS Geneva declaration at <http://www.itu.int/wsis/docs/geneva/official/dop.html>

³ See: <http://www.icann.org/general/glossary.htm#G>

- d. Seeking and supporting broad, informed participation reflecting the functional, geographic, and cultural diversity of the Internet at all levels of policy development and decision-making.*
- e. Where feasible and appropriate, depending on market mechanisms to promote and sustain a competitive environment.*
- f. Introducing and promoting competition in the registration of domain names where practicable and beneficial in the public interest.*
- g. Employing open and transparent policy development mechanisms that (i) promote well-informed decisions based on expert advice, and (ii) ensure that those entities most affected can assist in the policy development process.*
- h. Making decisions by applying documented policies neutrally and objectively, with integrity and fairness.*
- i. Acting with a speed that is responsive to the needs of the Internet while, as part of the decision-making process, obtaining informed input from those entities most affected.*
- j. Remaining accountable to the Internet community through mechanisms that enhance ICANN's effectiveness.*
- k. While remaining rooted in the private sector, recognizing that governments and public authorities are responsible for public policy and duly taking into account governments' or public authorities' recommendations.*

2. Public Policy Aspects related to new gTLDs

When considering the introduction, delegation and operation of new gTLDs, the following public policy principles need to be respected:

Introduction of new gTLDs

2.1 New gTLDs should respect:

a) The provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁴ which seek to affirm "*fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women*".

b) The sensitivities regarding terms with national, cultural, geographic and religious significance.

2.2 ICANN should avoid country, territory or place names, and country, territory or regional language or people descriptions, unless in agreement with the relevant governments or public authorities.

⁴ See <http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>

- 2.3 The process for introducing new gTLDs must make proper allowance for prior third party rights, in particular trademark rights as well as rights in the names and acronyms of inter-governmental organizations (IGOs).
- 2.4 In the interests of consumer confidence and security, new gTLDs should not be confusingly similar to existing TLDs. To avoid confusion with country-code Top Level Domains no two letter gTLDs should be introduced.

Delegation of new gTLDs

- 2.5 The evaluation and selection procedure for new gTLD registries should respect the principles of fairness, transparency and non-discrimination. All applicants for a new gTLD registry should therefore be evaluated against transparent and predictable criteria, fully available to the applicants prior to the initiation of the process. Normally, therefore, no subsequent additional selection criteria should be used in the selection process.
- 2.6 It is important that the selection process for new gTLDs ensures the security, reliability, global interoperability and stability of the Domain Name System (DNS) and promotes competition, consumer choice, geographical and service-provider diversity.
- 2.7 Applicant registries for new gTLDs should pledge to:
 - a) Adopt, before the new gTLD is introduced, appropriate procedures for blocking, at no cost and upon demand of governments, public authorities or IGOs, names with national or geographic significance at the second level of any new gTLD.
 - b) Ensure procedures to allow governments, public authorities or IGOs to challenge abuses of names with national or geographic significance at the second level of any new gTLD.
- 2.8 Applicants should publicly document any support they claim to enjoy from specific communities.
- 2.9 Applicants should identify how they will limit the need for defensive registrations and minimise cyber-squatting that can result from bad-faith registrations and other abuses of the registration system

Operation of new gTLDs

- 2.10 A new gTLD operator/registry should undertake to implement practices that ensure an appropriate level of security and stability both for the TLD itself and for the DNS as a whole, including the development of best practices to ensure the accuracy, integrity and validity of registry information.
- 2.11 ICANN and a new gTLD operator/registry should establish clear continuity plans for maintaining the resolution of names in the DNS in the event of registry failure.

These plans should be established in coordination with any contingency measures adopted for ICANN as a whole.

- 2.12 ICANN should continue to ensure that registrants and registrars in new gTLDs have access to an independent appeals process in relation to registry decisions related to pricing changes, renewal procedures, service levels, or the unilateral and significant change of contract conditions.
- 2.13 ICANN should ensure that any material changes to the new gTLD operations, policies or contract obligations be made in an open and transparent manner allowing for adequate public comment.
- 2.14 The GAC WHOIS principles are relevant to new gTLDs.

3. Implementation of these Public Policy Principles

- 3.1 The GAC recalls Article XI, section 2, no. 1 h) of the ICANN Bylaws, which state that the ICANN Board shall notify the Chair of the Governmental Advisory Committee in a timely manner of any proposal raising public policy issues. Insofar, therefore, as these principles provide guidance on GAC views on the implementation of new gTLDs, they are not intended to substitute for the normal requirement for the ICANN Board to notify the GAC of any proposals for new gTLDs which raise public policy issues.
- 3.2 ICANN should consult the GAC, as appropriate, regarding any questions pertaining to the interpretation of these principles.
- 3.3 If individual GAC members or other governments express formal concerns about any issues related to new gTLDs, the ICANN Board should fully consider those concerns and clearly explain how it will address them.
- 3.4 The evaluation procedures and criteria for introduction, delegation and operation of new TLDs should be developed and implemented with the participation of all stakeholders.

N.B. The public policy priorities for GAC members in relation to the introduction of Internationalised Domain Name TLDs (IDN TLDs) will be addressed separately by the GAC.

Update on Whois TF

March 25, 2007

Objectives of the Task Force

- 1) Define the purpose of the Whois service. [complete]
- 2) Define the purpose of the Registered Name Holder, technical, and administrative contacts.
- 3) Determine what data should be available to the public. Determine how to access the data that is not available for public access.
- 4) Determine how to improve the process of notifying registrants of inaccurate Whois data, and the process of investigating and correcting inaccurate Whois data.
- 5) Determine how to resolve conflicts between contractual Whois obligations and local/national privacy laws. [complete]

Current Status

- Final report of the TF recently published and sent to GNSO council
- OPOC proposal accepted as the majority (7-6) position
- Also included: special circumstances, supported by 3 of 6 constituencies

OPOC Proposal

- Removes registrant street and city address from open unrestricted access
- Admin and tech contacts no longer available for open unrestricted access at the registrar or registry via WHOIS protocol and Web access
- Registries display information as currently for com/net
- a new "operational point of contact" which will be made available for open unrestricted access via registrars via WHOIS protocol and Web access
- Requires registrars to do more verification of new contact information if old information is found to be incorrect

Opposition to OPOC

- Unclear on the scope responsibilities of the operational contact
- No job description for operational contact
- Timeframes on when to respond
- What happens if OPOC fails to meet responsibilities
- Circumstances where admin and tech and full registrant information held by the registrar would be provided, and no standard way to access
- Need more accurate admin and tech and full registrant

Example : jordyn.info

Registrant:

Jordyn A. Buchanan



California, US

Domain name: jordyn.info

Operational Contact

Register.com domain-registrar@register.com

575 Eighth Avenue

New York, NY 10018

US

+1.9027492701 Fax: +1.2125949876

Special Circumstances Proposal

- Allows registrants to remove their contact information from Whois
 - Only if you have a reasonable belief that publishing the information will threaten your safety
 - General privacy concerns do not qualify
 - Your claim is evaluated by a neutral third party
- Prohibits “proxy services” currently offered by some registrars

Opposition to Special circumstances

- Natural persons not engaging in commercial activity by default should not have their personal data displayed
- Not require third parties to make decision on special circumstances – registrars make that decision
- Want a charging model to cover costs of administration
- Proxy services may be appropriate

Next Steps

- Council to consider policy--can vote, modify or approve further work (e.g. implementation work)
- ICANN staff prepared notes for the GNSO Council on the Task Force Recommendations to:
 - Identify issues for clarification
 - Identify issues for further discussion
 - Identify potential implementation issues
 - Suggest a framework for further development of the proposal

ccNSO-GAC IDN Working Group
DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

ISSUES PAPER
Selection of IDN ccTLDs associated with
the ISO 3166-1 two letter codes

Background

A ccTLD string (like .jp, .uk) is deemed to represent a territory in the DNS and by extension on the World Wide Web.

Currently, a ccTLD string is a 2 letter (ASCII character) representation of the territory where the 2 characters are 'mandated' by ICANN and the actual characters used are taken from the ISO 3166 list¹. [Essentially, therefore, the current ccTLD strings are mandated and each ccTLD accepts the 2 letter code assigned by ICANN from the ISO list.] The decision to use this list was made with the knowledge that the ISO has a procedure for determining which entities should be or should not be on that list (RFC 1591, pg 6).

The introduction of Internationalized Domain Names ccTLDs requires the use of non-ASCII character sets (such as cyrillic, chinese, arabic, etc). These character sets have to respect the two following conditions :

- be included in the Unicode tables and,
- be included in the list of characters that are valid IDN characters pursuant to the IDNA protocol requirements.

For more information on these conditions see <http://www.icann.org/general/idn-guidelines-22feb06.htm> and the references therein to RFCs 3454, 3490, 3491, and 3492.

To help clarify the issues related to IDNs in ccTLD space, the ICANN Board has asked the ccNSO and the GAC to produce an issues paper relating to the introduction and selection of IDN ccTLDs associated with the ISO 3166-1 two letter codes.

The ccNSO and the GAC have formed a joint working group and on 5 February 2007, ccNSO Chair Chris Disspain emailed a non-exhaustive list of questions for the joint GAC/ccNSO IDN Working Group to consider. Set out below is an expansion of some of those questions which form the starting point of the requested issues paper. The original questions appear in Appendix A. Note that a number of the issues below are interrelated and potentially the answer to one may be dependant on the outcome of another.

¹ URL for the ISO list

To facilitate understanding and further discussion, the different questions are grouped in four major clusters, following the logical order : 1) General issues, 2) Introduction, 3) Delegation and 4) Operation of IDN ccTLDs.

1. General issues regarding IDN ccTLDs

Should an IDN ccTLD string be meaningful?

Given that a ccTLD string represents the territory, is there an obligation to make the IDN ccTLD string 'meaningful' as a representation of the territory or is it sufficient for it to be in the character set and to accept that the 'meaning' will be learned? For example, whereas .uk is 'meaningful' because it is a commonly used abbreviation for United Kingdom, .au is not 'meaningful' because the commonly used abbreviations for Australia are Oz or Aus.

How many IDN ccTLDs per character set?

Apart from some exceptions, there is one single ASCII ccTLD per territory. Should there similarly be a single or several IDN ccTLDs for a given character set for each territory? For example, should there be only one equivalent of .cn in chinese characters or .ru in cyrillic? Or could there be several IDN strings for China in a chinese character set?

Number of character sets per territory?

Should there be limitations on the number of IDN ccTLD strings a territory can have and should there be a requirement for some level of status for a character set in the territory? In particular, can a territory apply for an IDN ccTLD string even if the character set is not used in a language with any official status in the territory? For example, if the Kanji character set is accepted under the IDNA protocol, can Australia apply for something representing Australia in that character set even though neither the character set nor any language deriving from it has any 'official' status in Australia?

Number of characters in the string?

Currently, ccTLD strings are limited to 2 characters and gTLDs to 3 or more. The underlying nature of the Internationalized Domain Names makes the actual string inserted in the DNS always longer than two characters when expressed in Unicode : [xn--?]; however, it is how the string appears in its non-ASCII character set that is important. In that respect :

- a) Is there any reason to maintain the 2 character string restriction for IDN ccTLD strings?
- b) Is limiting IDN ccTLD strings to 2 characters workable across all character sets?
- c) Does moving outside the current 2 character limitation create any security, stability or integrity issues?

Are there any rights attached to a given character set?

In purely technical terms, a character set is merely a collection of symbols. However, each of those collections of symbols when put together in particular ways produce the languages of groups of people sometimes defined by borders, although very often not. Should these groups (or their governments) have special rights regarding those character sets? Examples of related questions include :

- a) Can anyone get acceptance of a character set under the IDNA protocol or are there restrictions? For example, can a gTLD registry get the Kanji character set accepted under the IDNA protocol? Does that need to be vetted/approved by Japan?
- b) Are there any ownership rights over a character set? For example, once the Korean character set is accepted under the IDNA protocol, should Korea be entitled to restrict its use or be required to consent to its use by another ccTLD?
- c) Is it possible that two or more versions of a character set with only minor differences could be accepted under the IDNA protocol and are there issues or concerns in that event?

2. Introduction of IDN ccTLDs

Should a list of IDN ccTLD strings be mandated?

In the ASCII case, ccTLD strings are mandated based on the ISO 3166 list. If the same methodology were applied for IDN ccTLDs, some authoritative body would, for each character set approved under the IDNA protocol, mandate a ccTLD string in that character set to represent each territory currently on the ISO list. This would mean that every territory would have a mandated ccTLD string to represent it in every character set and such string would, presumably remain reserved until delegated to the territory.

Examples of related questions include :

- a) Should such a list be mandated? (If no, see below)
- b) If yes, by whom? (NOTE that it is understood that ISO has been previously asked and declined such a role)
- c) Under what policy?
- d) If new policy is required, who is responsible for formulating that policy?

Who picks a string for a territory in the absence of a mandated list?

If IDN ccTLD strings are not going to come from a mandated list then, once a character set is accepted, how does an IDN ccTLD string become designated as the string for a particular territory?

Examples of related questions include :

- a) Who will formulate the policy for this process?
- b) Who can 'apply' for a string to be designated as a ccTLD for the territory (this is different to applying for the delegation or to be the manager). For example, does such an application have to come from the government of the territory? If so, which department of the government? What happens if there are competing 'claims'?
- c) Should the string applied for be meaningful? (see above) with respect to the territory? if so, how is it to be determined that it does?

What coordination between the different actors?

Irrespective of the methodology employed, some coordination questions must be addressed, such as :

- a) What should be the balance between general common rules and autonomous responsibilities by the territory level?
- b) How to organize interaction between actors using a same character set?

3. Delegation of IDN ccTLDs

Once a string has been designated as an IDN ccTLD for a territory, by whatever method, the processes for delegation raise, among others, the following questions :

Who can apply to have the IDN ccTLD delegated or to be the delegate for that ccTLD?

Who decides on the delegation?

In particular :

- a) Is consent/involvement/knowledge of government required?
- b) Is consent/involvement/knowledge of incumbent ccTLD manager required?
- c) Is there any presumptive right of the ASCII ccTLD manager over the IDN ccTLD?

Who will formulate the policy for these processes?

Should there be a mandated policy/process for dealing with multiple applications, objections to applications or disputes?

4. Operation of IDN ccTLDs

Is the operation and management of an IDN ccTLD different to that of an existing ccTLD such thatd there be specific global technical requirements related to running the IDN ccTLD?

APPENDIX A

Questions for consideration re IDN ccTLDs

1. How is it determined that the string represents the territory?
2. Does there have to be a connection with existing "ASCII TLD".
3. Who is responsible for picking the string?
4. Should there be a mandated process for picking the string?
5. Should there be a certain status of the use of the character set in the corresponding territory? For example does the character set have to be an official language?
6. Who can apply for a string (sponsoring organization, government, others)?
7. Should there be a requirement that the manager of the new idn ccTLD be connected to the entity that runs the existing TLD?
8. Are there any requirements on the number of characters in the string?
 - guidance on 63 character maximum length.
 - connection to current 2-character limited ccTLDs.
 - consideration of existing TLD acceptance issue where internet service providers need to "accept" the introduction of a new string in order for it to be useful to market. ICANN have previously provided information to various companies, but cannot require ISPs or other internet service companies to adopt the use of new strings.
9. How many idn ccTLDs can a territory have?
10. Should there be specific technical requirements related to running the idn ccTLD?
11. Should there be a policy/process for handling disputes between parties such as incumbent ccTLD manager, government, other applicant?
12. Should there be a policy/process for dealing with multiple applications or objections to applications?

ISO 3166-1 based solutions for Internationalised Domain Names

Gérard Lang, Convener of ISO/TC46/WG2,
Chairman of ISO3166/MA
Elisabeth Porteneuve, AFNOR

Joint GAC-ccNSO IDN WG

Lisbon, Portugal, 26 March 2007

What is ISO 3166?

<http://www.iso.org>

- **ISO 3166 Maintenance agency (ISO 3166/MA)** is the **ISO's focal point for country codes**.
- ISO 3166 is the **International Standard for country codes**.
- The purpose of ISO 3166 is to establish **codes for the representation** of names of countries, territories or areas of geographical interest, and their subdivisions.
- It does **not** establish:
 - the names of countries, territories or areas of geographical interest which are taken from the relevant UN sources;
 - the names of subdivisions of countries, territories or areas of geographical interest, which are taken from relevant official national information sources.



ISO 3166/MA members

- Of the ten experts with voting rights on the ISO 3166/MA five are representatives of the following national standards organizations:
 - Association française de normalisation AFNOR (France)
 - American National Standards Institute ANSI (United States)
 - British Standards Institution BSI (United Kingdom)
 - Deutsches Institut für Normung DIN (Germany)
 - Swedish Standards Institute SIS (Sweden)
- The other five are representatives of major UN or other international organizations who are all users of ISO 3166-1:
 - International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
 - International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
 - Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
 - Universal Postal Union (UPU)
 - United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)



ISO 3166 ISO/TC46

Codes for country names and related entities

- **ISO 3166-1:2006 Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions - Part 1: Country codes** which is what most users know as ISO's country codes. First published in 1974, it has since then become one of the world's most popular and most widely used standard solution for coding country names. It contains a two-letter code which is recommended as the general purpose code, a three-letter code which has better mnemonic properties and a numeric-3 code which can be useful if script independence of the codes is important.
- **ISO 3166-2:1998 Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions - Part 2: Country subdivision code** which gives codes for the names of the principal subdivisions (e.g provinces or states) of all countries coded in ISO 3166-1. This code is based on the two-letter code element from ISO 3166-1 followed by a separator and a further string of up to three alphanumeric characters.
- **ISO 3166-3:1999 Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions - Part 3: Code for formerly used names of countries** which contains a four-letter code for those country names which have been deleted from ISO 3166-1 since its first publication in 1974. The code elements for formerly used country names have a length of four alphabetical characters (alpha-4 code elements).
- **Project: Codes for the representation of names of oceans and seas** ⁴

Who does what, when and how?

ISO standards

ISO 3166 - *Codes for the representation of names of countries and related entities*

ISO 639 - *Codes for the representation of names of languages*

ISO 15924 - *Codes for the representation of names of scripts*

ISO works are coordinated by Technical Committees

ISO 3166: is a product of ISO/TC 46, information and documentation

- TC 46/WG 2 Coding of country names and related entities, *The convener can be reached through: AFNOR [French Organization for Standardization]*
- TC 46/WG 3 Conversion of written languages, *The convener can be reached through: ELOT [Hellenic Organization for Standardization]* (uses ISO 15924, *Codes for the representation of names of scripts*)

ISO 639: is a joint product of ISO/TC 37, Terminology and other language and content resources, and ISO/TC 46

The Convener of ISO/TC46/WG 2 is an ISO liaison officer and coordinator from TC 46 to TC 37

5

ISO 3166-1:2006 (15 Nov 2006)

ROMANIZED ITEMS

1. The short form of the country name in capital letters;
2. The short form of the country name in English, in lower case;
3. The full name, if different from the short form, of the country name, in lower case;
4. The alpha-2 country code element, in bold;
5. The alpha-3 country code element;
6. The numeric-3 country code element;
7. Remarks, such as other widely-used country names and names of geographically separated territories covered by the main entry in the list (the latter are indexed in Annex A);
8. The indication, with a sharp sign, as to whether the country is independent;
9. (informative) The alpha-2 ISO 639 code element of each administrative language of the country (with a dash when the code element is missing);
10. (informative) The alpha-3 (terminological version) ISO 639 code element of each administrative language of the country (with a dash when the code element is missing);
11. (informative) The short form of the country name according to the common use.

6

9 List one: Alphabetical list of country names in English and their code elements

ISO 3166-1:2006(E/F)

9 Première liste: Liste alphabétique des noms de pays en anglais avec leurs codets

COUNTRY NAME English short name	English short name lower case	English full name	Alpha-2 code	Alpha-3 code	Numeric code	Remarks	Independent	Additional information		
								Administrative language(s) alpha-2	Administrative language(s) alpha-3	Local short name(s)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
AFGHANISTAN	Afghanistan	the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan	AF	AFG	004		#	fa; ps	fa; ps	Afghānistān; Afghānistān
ÅLAND ISLANDS	Åland Islands		AX	ALA	248			fi; sv	fi; swe	Ålänningar; Åland
ALBANIA	Albania	the Republic of Albania	AL	ALB	009		#	sq	sq	Shqipëria; Shqipëri
ALGERIA	Algeria	the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria	DZ	DZA	012		#	ar	ara	Al Jaza'ir
AMERICAN SAMOA	American Samoa		AS	ASM	015	Principal island: Tutuila; includes Swain's Island		en	eng	American Samoa
ANDORRA	Andorra	the Principality of Andorra	AD	AND	020		#	ca	cat	Andorra
ANGOLA	Angola	the Republic of Angola	AO	AGO	024	Includes Cabinda	#	pt	por	Angola
ANGUILLA	Anguilla		AI	ATA	560			en	eng	Anguilla
ANTARCTICA	Antarctica		AQ	ATA	010	Territories south of 60° south latitude				
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	Antigua and Barbuda		AG	ATG	028	Includes Redonda Island	#	en	eng	Antigua and Barbuda
ARGENTINA	Argentina	the Argentine Republic	AR	ARG	032		#	es	esp	Argentina (la)
ARMENIA	Armenia	the Republic of Armenia	AM	ARM	051		#	hy	hye	Hayastan
ARUBA	Aruba		AW	ABW	533			nl	nld	Aruba
AUSTRALIA	Australia		AU	AUS	036	Often referred to as the Commonwealth of Australia Includes Lord Howe Island, Macquarie Island, and also Ashmore and Cartier Islands, and Coral Sea Islands which are Australian external territories	#	en	eng	Australia
AUSTRIA	Austria	the Republic of Austria	AT	AUT	040		#	de	deu	Österreich
AZERBAIJAN	Azərbaycan	the Republic of Azerbaijan	AZ	AZE	031		#	az	aze	Azərbaycan

ISO 3166-1:2006(E/F)

COUNTRY NAME English short name	English short name lower case	English full name	Alpha-2 code	Alpha-3 code	Numeric code	Remarks	Independent	Additional information		
								Administrative language(s) alpha-2	Administrative language(s) alpha-3	Local short name(s)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
SOUTH AFRICA	South Africa	the Republic of South Africa	ZA	ZAF	710	Includes Marion Island, Prince Edward Island	#	af; en; nr; st; ts; ve; xh; zu	af; eng; nld; nso; sot; swa; tso; tsi; ven; xho; zulu	South Africa; South Africa; Suid-Afrika; Afrika; Soweto Afrika; Afrika-Borwa; Afrika-Borwa; Nindzizwe Afrika; Afrika-Ozongu; Afrika-Borwa; Afrika Tshipembe; Mzantsi Afrika; Ningizimu Afrika
SOUTH GEORGIA AND THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands		GS	SGS	239			en	eng	South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
SPAIN	Espana	the Kingdom of Spain	ES	ESP	724		#	es	esp	España
SRI LANKA	Sri Lanka	the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka	LR	LKA	144		#	si; ta	sin; tam	Sri Lanka; Ruhuna
SUDAN	Sudan (the)	the Republic of the Sudan	SD	SDN	736		#	ar	ara	As Sūdān
SURINAME	Suriname	the Republic of Suriname	SR	SRB	740		#	nl	nld	Suriname
SVALBARD AND JAN MAYEN	Svalbard and Jan Mayen		SJ	SJM	744	Includes Bear Island		nb; nn	nob; nno	Svalbard og Jan Mayen
SWAZILAND	Swaziland	the Kingdom of Swaziland	SZ	SWZ	748		#	en; ss	eng; ssw	Swaziland; eSwatini
SWEDEN	Sweden	the Kingdom of Sweden	SE	SWE	752		#	sv	swa	Sverige
SWITZERLAND	Switzerland	the Swiss Confederation	CH	CHE	756		#	de; fr; it; rom	deu; fra; ita; roh	Schweiz (dia); Suisse (fr); Svizzera (ita); Svizzera
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	Syrian Arab Republic (the)	the Syrian Arab Republic	SY	SYR	760	Often referred to as Syria	#	ar	ara	Al Jamhūriyah al Arabiyyah al Suriyyah
TAIWAN (PROVINCE OF CHINA)	Taiwan (Province of China)		TW	TWN	158	Includes Penghu (Pescadoreas) Islands		zh	zho	Taiwan
TAJIKISTAN	Tajikistan	the Republic of Tajikistan	TJ	TJK	762		#	tg	tjk	Tojikiston
TANZANIA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF	Tanzania, United Republic of	the United Republic of Tanzania	TZ	TZA	834	Often referred to as Tanzania	#	en; sw	eng; kwa	United Republic of Tanzania; Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania
THAILAND	Thailand	the Kingdom of Thailand	TH	THA	764		#	th	tha	Prueet Thai

ISO 3166-1:2006 statistical overview of the administrative languages

- The ISO 3166-1:2006 table contains 244 lines, corresponding to 193 countries et 51 territories.
- The 244 countries and territories use 108 administrative languages (two of them specific to the territories), which sum up to 324 names, of which 268 are related to countries and 56 are related to territories.
- The 324 names use 22 different scripts, Latin with all diacritics being counted as one

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Langues administratives des 193 Etats souverains de l'ISO 3166-1

140	Etats comptent exactement 1 langue administrative	:	140 occurrences
41	Etats comptent exactement 2 langues administratives	:	82 occurrences
9	Etats comptent exactement 3 langues administratives (BA, BE, ER, LU, PE, PG, RW, SC, VU)	:	27 occurrences
2	Etats comptent exactement 4 langues administratives (CH, SG)	:	8 occurrences
1	Etat compte exactement 11 langues administratives (ZA)	:	11 occurrences
193	Etats	:	268 occurrences

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Nombre de pays utilisant chaque langue administrative

83	langues administratives sont utilisées par 1 seul pays	:	83 occurrences
13	langues administratives sont utilisées par 2 pays (el, fa, hr, ko, ro, sr, ss, st, sv, sw, ta, tr, zh)	:	26 occurrences
2	langues administratives (nl, ms) sont utilisées par 3 pays	:	6 occurrences
2	langues administratives (it, ru) sont utilisées par 4 pays	:	8 occurrences
1	langue administrative (de) est utilisée par 6 pays	:	6 occurrences
1	langue administrative (pt) est utilisée par 8 pays	:	8 occurrences
1	langue administrative (es) est utilisée par 19 pays	:	19 occurrences
1	langue administrative (ar) est utilisée par 24 pays	:	24 occurrences
1	langue administrative (fr) est utilisée par 30 pays	:	30 occurrences
1	langue administrative (en) est utilisée par 58 pays	:	58 occurrences
106	langues		268 occurrences

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Nombre de langues des entrées de l'ISO 3166-1

2	entrées de l'ISO 3166-1 (0 + 2) n'utilisent aucune langue administrative	0 occurrence
182	entrées de l'ISO 3166-1 (140 + 42) utilisent une seule langue administrative	182 occurrences
48	entrées de l'ISO 3166-1 (41 + 7) utilisent deux langues administratives	96 occurrences
9	entrées de l'ISO 3166-1 (9 + 0) utilisent trois langues administratives	27 occurrences
2	entrées de l'ISO 3166-1 (2 + 0) utilisent quatre langues administratives	8 occurrences
1	entrée de l'ISO 3166-1 (1 + 0) utilise onze langues administratives	11 occurrences
244	entrées	324 occurrences

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ISO 3166-1:2006 - next step

ROMANIZED ITEMS

1. The short form of the country name in capital letters;
2. The short form of the country name in English, in lower case;
3. The full name, if different from the short form, of the country name, in lower case;
4. The alpha-2 country code element, in bold;
5. The alpha-3 country code element;
6. The numeric-3 country code element;
7. Remarks, such as other widely-used country names and names of geographically separated territories covered by the main entry in the list (the latter are indexed in Annex A);
8. The indication, with a sharp sign, as to whether the country is independent;
9. (informative) The alpha-2 ISO 639 code element of each administrative language of the country (with a dash when the code element is missing);
10. (informative) The alpha-3 (terminological version) ISO 639 code element of each administrative language of the country (with a dash when the code element is missing);
11. (informative) The short form of the country name according to the common use.

NEXT STEP: UN-ROMANIZED ITEMS

- 12 and subsequent. Country name in its administrative languages and scripts

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ROMANIZED ITEMS

UN-ROMANIZED ITEMS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
CHINA	China	the People's Republic of China	CN	CHN	156	See also TAIWAN, PROVINCE OF CHINA	#	zh	zho	Zhongguo	中国
COMOROS	Comoros	the Union of the Comoros	KM	COM	174	Comprises Anjouan, Grande Comore, Mohéli	#	ar; fr	ara; fra	Al Qamar; Comores (les)	القمور
EGYPT	Egypt	the Arab Republic of Egypt	EG	EGY	818		#	ar	ara	Miṣr	مصر
HONG KONG	Hong Kong	the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China	HK	HKG	344			en; zh	eng; zho	Hong Kong; Xianggang	香港
IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF	Iran (the Islamic Republic of)	the Islamic Republic of Iran	IR	IRN	364	Also referred to as Iran	#	fa	fas	Jomhuri-ye Eslāmi-ye Irān	ایران
JAPAN	Japan		JP	JPN	392		#	ja	jpn	Nihon/Nippon	日本
KOREA, REPUBLIC OF	Korea (the Republic of)	the Republic of Korea	KR	KOR	410	Often referred to as South Korea	#	ko	kor	Han'guk	한국
UKRAINE	Ukraine		UA	UKR	804		#	uk	ukr	Ukraina	Україна
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Russian Federation (the)	the Russian Federation	RU	RUS	643	Includes the Kaliningrad Region	#	ru	rus	Rossiiskaja Federacija	Россия
GREECE	Greece	the Hellenic Republic	GR	GRC	300	Includes Mount Athos autonomous area	#	el	ell	Ellás/Elláda	Ελλάς Ελλάδα

ISO 3166-1 based solutions for Internationalised Domain Names

- The natural next step of ISO 3166/MA is to address an extension to ISO 3166-1 in direction of internationalized names for countries and related entities, under the umbrella of the convener of ISO/TC46/WG 2.
- The participation of ICANN to this work, as any other of ten voting members of ISO 3166/MA, is natural; those of other concerned parties (GAC, ccNSO, ccTLD/wwTLDs, ...) is desirable.
- The convener of the ISO/TC46/WG 2 will continue to coordinate the project, ensuring for well distributed effort within ISO 3166/MA, and for multilingual secretariat.

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What is URL for ISO 3166?

<http://www.iso.org>

The screenshot shows the ISO website homepage. At the top left is the ISO logo and the text "International Organization for Standardization". Below this is a navigation bar with "ISO Store", "Catalogue online", "Search", and "All" (with a dropdown arrow). A search box is also present. Below the navigation bar is a banner for "The ISO Award for Higher Education in Standardization". Below the banner is a horizontal menu with "Français", "Copyright", "Site map", "Abbreviations", "Contact ISO", "FAQ", and "My account". The main content area is divided into several sections: "About ISO" (with links like "Overview of the ISO system", "ISO in brief", etc.), "Products and services" (with links like "ISO Store", "ISO/IEC Information Centre", etc.), "ISO 9000 / ISO 14000" (with links like "Introduction", "ISO Management Systems", etc.), "For ISO members" (with links like "Password-protected access", "Internal documents", etc.), "ISO Central Secretariat has moved!" (with details about the move to Geneva), "ISO Store" (with "Browse, search and purchase ISO Standards"), "Call for papers" (with "Beijing Olympics and ISO 14000 - Green Olympics and sustainable development"), and "Just published" (with "JTC 1 Collection on RFID" and "ISO Standards handbook: Freight Containers").

Thank you !

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Standardization of Internationalized Country Codes

Debbie Garside and Gerard Meijssen
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BSI
The World Language Documentation Centre
Stichting Open Progress

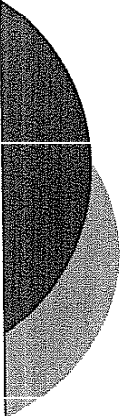
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Key Questions for Standardization

- What is required?
 - ◆ Internationalized Country Codes in the scripts of the world
- Who requires it?
 - ◆ Industry, end user communities
- When is it required?
 - ◆ Now or as soon as practicable
- How should a solution be facilitated?
 - ◆ via a trusted party adopting a process that is inclusive of key stakeholders and end user communities

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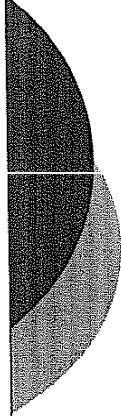


First Stage In Standardization Process

Methodology must include:

- mapping to ISO 3166-1
- provision for key stakeholder and end user participation
- a method that will take into account similarities between scripts - UNICODE
- rules for allocation of standardized codes
 - conducted on a script by script basis
 - all Country Codes completed for a script before allocation as standardized codes

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Deliverables and Timescales Fast Track Option

- Methodology
 - 2 Months from project inception
- Industry Standard Publication (BS/PAS)
 - – 6 to 9 Months from project inception
- First 3 or 4 scripts piloted and allocated
 - – 6 to 9 Months from project inception
- Publication as ISO DIS
 - 6 to 9 Months from project inception
- Publication as International Standard
 - 18 to 24 months from project inception
 - or 6 stage ISO process taking 3-5 years

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The Facilitators

- GeoLang Ltd
 - Directors have over 20 years of standardization experience working for both BSI and ISO
- BSI
 - The oldest standardization group in the world
- The World Language Documentation Centre
 - International board made up of 21 experts in fields of linguistics, technology industries, standardization
- Stichting Open Progress
 - Over 5 years experience in operating user led wikis
- ISO
 - International Standards Organisation

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An Accepted Standardization Route

- ISO 9000 developed as a British Standard initially, adopted by ISO, now most widely used industry standard in the world
- Currently The standard for Names and Codes for Oceans and Seas is a French Standard proposed as an ISO by AFNOR
- OOXML proposed by ANSI and Microsoft for Fast Track Standardization
- Could create an NWIP, BSI happy to facilitate this route, for International Standard but would take 3-5 years before publication – codes would not be stable.

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Collaboration is Key

Current liaisons sought:

- W3C – under discussion
- Unicode CLDR – under discussion
- ITU – under discussion
- IETF – still to respond
- MINC – endorses proposal liaison established

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www.thewldc.org

Project Leader and Editor - BSI BS 3166-4

ISO Convenor

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CEO – Stichting OpenProgress

<http://openprogress.org>

Executive Board Member – The World Language Documentation Centre

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Site Search:

Board Rejects .XXX Domain Application

30 March 2007

The Board of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) today voted to reject the .XXX sponsored Top Level Domain (sTLD) application from ICM Registry, Inc.

"This decision was the result of very careful scrutiny and consideration of all the arguments. That consideration has led a majority of the Board to believe that the proposal should be rejected" said Dr Vint Cerf, Chairman of ICANN.

"I thank my fellow Board members and the community for their input". Dr Cerf said.

A copy of the resolution from the Board meeting is available at <http://www.icann.org/minutes/minutes/resolutions-30mar07.htm>.

A [transcript of the Board meeting](#) is also available.

About ICANN:

ICANN is an internationally organized, public benefit non-profit responsible for the global coordination of the Internet's system of unique identifiers. These include domain names (like .org, .museum and country codes like .UK), as well as the addresses used in a variety of Internet protocols. Computers use these identifiers to reach each other over the Internet. Careful management of these resources is vital to the Internet's operation, so ICANN's global stakeholders meet regularly to develop policies that ensure the Internet's ongoing security and stability. For more information please visit: www.icann.org.

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