

At-Large Workspace: String Similarity Review Guidelines

Public Comment Close	Statement Name	Status	Assigned Working Group	Assignee (s)	Call for Comments Open	Call for Comments Close	Vote Open	Vote Close	Date of Submission	Staff Contact and Email
10 April 2024	String Similarity Review Guidelines	ADOPTED	CPWG	Bill Jouris Alan Greenberg	13 March 2024	20 March 2024	04 April 2024	09 April 2024	05 April 2024	pitinan.koo@icann.org

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Background

As recommended in the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) [Final Report](#) on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process, the String Similarity Review is a part of the Initial Evaluation of the New gTLD Program: Next Round application evaluation. The objective of this review is to prevent user confusion and loss of confidence in the Domain Name System (DNS) resulting from delegation of similar strings.

The guidelines outline the issues affecting the visual similarity of strings that are applied for in the next round. These include details based on the recommendations provided by the GNSO Phase 1 Final Report on the Internationalized Domain Names Expedited Policy Development Process (IDN EPDP Phase 1 Report), currently published for [Public Comment](#). The guidelines provide details on preparing for, and organizing, the review of applied for strings with respect to other applied for strings, previously delegated TLDs, and reserved words or their variant strings.

Next Steps

After the Public Comment proceeding is closed, ICANN org will review the comments and prepare a Public Comment summary report. Taking into account the input received, ICANN org will finalize and proceed with the next phase of the work to gather data and develop tools as per the methodology proposed in the String Similarity Review Guidelines.

The ICANN Board is yet to consider the IDN EPDP Phase 1 Report. Following the ICANN Board's consideration and the completion of subsequent work on String Similarity Review, ICANN org will update the guidelines and publish them for another Public Comment for finalization.

Supporting Information

This additional information from ICANN org provides more context for this Public Comment Proceeding and may help you review the proposals for input and publish a submission.

FINAL VERSION SUBMITTED (IF RATIFIED)

The final version to be submitted, if the draft is ratified, will be placed here by upon completion of the vote.



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FINAL DRAFT VERSION TO BE VOTED UPON BY THE ALAC

The final draft version to be voted upon by the ALAC will be placed here before the vote is to begin.



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DRAFT SUBMITTED FOR DISCUSSION

The first draft submitted will be placed here before the call for comments begins. The Draft should be preceded by the name of the person submitting the draft and the date/time. If, during the discussion, the draft is revised, the older version(S) should be left in place and the new version along with a header line identifying the drafter and date/time should be placed above the older version(s), separated by a Horizontal Rule (available + Insert More Content control).

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FEUBq0x4KfVZ92FooNZD9Xo4zgsYxMDnoql27-sFfys/edit?usp=sharing>