ICANN
POLICY FORUM 65

MARRAKECH
24–27 June 2019

Agenda

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Welcome!

Agenda Item 1

Background to Work Track 5

Agenda Item 2

Background

○ WT5 focuses exclusively on the topic of <u>geographic names at the top level</u>, including both ASCII and IDN forms.

○ WT5 is tasked determine what, if any, changes may need to be made to existing policy. That includes (a) 2007 GNSO Policy Recommendations on the Introduction of New gTLDS & (b) relevant rules contained in the 2012 AGB, such as the Geographic Names Review procedure, Geographic Names Extended Evaluation, & Objection Procedures.

Background

- New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG Co-Chairs: Cheryl Langdon-Orr & Jeff Neuman

- With a goal of creating a consensus-driven and inclusive outcome WT5 is structured to encourage broad and balanced participation from different parts of the community and includes a joint community Work Track leadership structure (ALAC, ccNSO, GAC, and GNSO):
  - Annebeth Lange (ccNSO)
  - Olga Cavalli (GAC)
  - Martin Sutton (GNSO)
  - Javier Rúa-Jovet (ALAC)

Background

- All truly interested are welcome and encouraged to participate in WT5 as a member (e.g., participate during meetings, send messages on list, etc.) or observer (i.e., receives emails sent to the list).
- Only an SOI is required. Membership in the overall PDP WG is not required.
- Find all important WT-5 info (including links to join WT-5) here:

https://community.icann.org/display/NGSPP/Work+Track+5%3A+Geographic+Names+at+the+Top-Level

Background, Scope

- ⊙ **Scope - Geographic Names at the top-level only**
  - ○ **Country & Territory Names** (alpha-3 on 3166-1, short and long-form on 3166-1, additional categories in section 2.2.1.4.1 of AGB; translations, permutations, transpositions, separable components, exceptionally reserved strings & commonly known names as evidenced by treaty or int. gov org.) –**currently unavailable as gTLDs-**.
  - ○ **Capital Cities** in 3166-1, city names, sub-national place names (e.g., county, province, state on 3166-2); -**Currently requires support/non-objection from relevant governments or public authorities-**.
  - ○ **UNESCO** region; appearing on the "Composition of macro geographical (continental) regions, geographical sub-regions, and selected economic and other groupings" list). **-Currently require support/non-objection from at least 60% of the respective national governments in region-**.
  - ○ Geographic names not in AGB (such as **geographic features** (rivers, mountains, valleys, lakes, etc.) & **culturally significant terms related to geography- no current requirements.**

Background: interests -> policies

Governments

◉ Protect national identity + important subnational places

◉ Avoid confusion between "government/national" TLDs and gTLDs

◉ Maintain consent/non-objection authority on strings with such protections

ccNSO

◉ Avoid confusion between ccTLDs and gTLDs and maintain market for ccTLDs

New gTLD applicants

◉ Expand range of potentially available strings

◉ Ensure a clear, fair, predictable + timely decision making process
  o Brand Applicants: Enable, protect and use strings that support brand identity, including those that coincidentally match geographically significant terms
  o Peoples/communities associated with a geographic location or feature: should a people/community associated with a non-AGB geoname have rights of 1st refusal or priority evaluation for that string? Is that issue even within WT5 scope or is it WT3?
  o Other concerns: freedom of expression?

Where are we now?

Agenda Item 3

Where are we now?

Supplemental Initial Report published for public comment on 5 December 2018, with the (extended) period closing on 1 February 2019.

A total of 42 comments were received, with many of the GNSO SG/Cs responding, as well as SO/ACs (with some governments and ccTLD managers responding individually).

Public comments were compiled into the Public Comment Review Tool, attempting to provide an initial assessment of Agreement, Concerns, New Idea, Divergence in relation to WT5's report.

Work Track 5 categorized every comment, seeking to ensure that it understands the comment and asked questions where it may not be clear. Transition - now undertaking substantive deliberations to determine if change is needed.

Baseline: WT5's Preliminary Recommendations and/or 2012 implementation and Applicant Guidebook.

Change from that baseline requires consensus.