Reserved Names in SubPro: Background

• What is the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (“SubPro”?)
  ❖ The set of rules and mechanisms applicable to the next round for New gTLDs, i.e. they DO NOT apply to legacy TLDs, ccTLDs, or delegated new gTLDs or those still unresolved from the 2012 application round
  ❖ “An update” to the 2012 Round rules and mechanisms

• Recap of Reserved Names Policy & Implementation in 2012 Round
  ❖ Certain names were not available as gTLD strings – where strings are matched/reviewed, and application will either not be allowed to be submitted, or to proceed or approved or delegated
  ❖ “Reserved Names & Other Unavailable Strings”:
    1. Top-Level Reserved Names List: 34 names listed in AGB (eg. AFRINIC, ALAC, ICANN, NRO, ASO, GAC, TEST, EXAMPLE etc) + translation of “test” and “example” – not allowed to be submitted
    2. Where String Similarity Review determines similar to a Reserved Name – will fail review
    3. Declared Variants List (IDN Variant TLDs) – not delegated unless/until variant management solutions are developed and implemented
    4. Strings Ineligible for Delegation (outside of TL Reserved Name List or String Similarity Review): (i) International Olympic Committee (ii) International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement (sep. PDP) – will not be approved
Reminder of Key Issues in SubPro

Key Issue

Should there be proposals to alter lists of Reserved Names?

RELATED SubPro Areas/Topics include:

- Reserved Names at the Top Level:
  - IGO/INGO: subject to IGO/INGO CCWG input
  - Red Cross / Red Crescent Names: separate PDP
  - Geographic Names: subject to WT5 Report

COMPETITION, CONSUMER CHOICE & TRUST (CCT) RECOMMENDATIONS

- None
Summary of Consensus Positions

SubPro PDP WG recommendations

Affirmation #1 (3 parts):

• WG affirms the following recommendations from 2007 policy:
  - Recommendation 5: “Strings must not be a Reserved Word.”
  - Recommendation 2: “Strings must not be confusingly similar to an existing top-level domain.”

• WG supports continuing to reserve as unavailable for delegation those strings at the top level that were considered Reserved Names and were unavailable for delegation in the 2012 round per AGB s.2.2.1.2.

• WG supports continuing to reserve as unavailable for registration those strings that are currently considered Reserved Names at the second level as of the publication date of this report and as required by future Consensus Policy.

Acceptable. No further intervention.
Summary of Consensus Positions

SubPro PDP WG recommendations

Recommendation #2:

• WG recommends reserving as unavailable for delegation at the top level names associated with Public Technical Identifiers (i.e., PTI)

Question

• Should “PUBLICTECHNICALIDENTIFIER”, and “PUBLICTECHNICALIDENTIFIERS” also be reserved and unavailable for delegation at the top level? Recall that other entrants were only limited to acronyms. Should there be an exception for PTI?

• Full support for including “PTI” in the Top-Level Reserved Names List, which makes it unavailable for application.

• However, PTI is a core service that the Internet relies on. The impact of someone masquerading as PTI is immensely higher than for some, if not all, the other names on the Top-Level Reserved Names List. So we should consider also reserving “PUBLICTECHNICALIDENTIFIER”, and “PUBLICTECHNICALIDENTIFIERS” because of risk involved in misuse of those terms – whether the reservation is by way of addition to the Top-Level Reserved Names List or another appropriate method also calls for consideration.

If the risk for “PUBLICTECHNICALIDENTIFIER”, and “PUBLICTECHNICALIDENTIFIERS” are acknowledged then maybe need to revisit risks for similar names in the Top-Level Reserved Names List.
Summary of Consensus Positions

SubPro PDP WG recommendations

Recommendation #3:
• WG recommends reserving at the top level Special-Use Domain Names through the procedure described in IETF RFC 6761 \(^1\), acknowledging ICANN’s MOU with IETF.


Recommendation #4:
• WG recommends updating Specification 5 of the Registry Agreement (Schedule of Reserved Names) to include the measures for second-level Letter/Letter Two-Character ASCII Labels to Avoid Confusion with Corresponding Country Codes adopted by the ICANN Board on 8 Nov 2016 (noting that discussions on this topic are ongoing, and this recommendation is subject to the outcomes of related discussions).

Acceptable. Just a clarification needed as to whether a new category under “Reserved Names & Other Unavailable Strings” called “Special-Use Domain Names” is established by IETF RFC 6761 which for applications will not be allowed.

Acceptable. No further intervention since this is really housekeeping.
Issue #1: Two-char letter-number combinations at TL

- In IR, WG asked after the possibility of removing the reservation of two-character letter-number combinations at the top level.
- In 2012 Round, digits were disallowed entirely, so any possible move forward would be subject to removal of this restriction.
- PC raised concerns about potential confusion with ccTLD.
- WG considered possibility of addressing this potential confusion as to conduct an analysis as part of the string similarity review but did not come to a conclusion so, no recommendation to eliminate this reservation of 2-char letter-number combinations at TL.

- No further intervention necessary.
- Impact is two-char letter-number combinations at TL remain unavailable.
- So long as these are unavailable, they remain “protected”, and limits end user confusion concerns.
Issue #2: ISO 4217 Currency Codes

- WG discussed proposal to reserve at the top level currency codes included in the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 4217 list until there is a clear agreement with the international Central Banks (e.g. through IMF or BSI) as to whether these codes could be delegated and to which entities, not excluding themselves.

- WG did not come to agreement on any clear justification to recommend preventative measures for these codes because:
  - No clear risk or threat was identified in discussion
  - To the extent that an applicant applied for a string matching a currency code with the intent to use the TLD in association with the currency, there’s opportunity for concerned parties to raise objections
  - GAC members could take action through GAC Early Warning or GAC Advice

So, believe existing measures are sufficient to address potential concerns about confusion or misuse.