1. Stress testing

Stress testing was defined as:

- Test the process as developed by applying the process to “corner case” situation and understand whether such a case results in a unwanted outcome or side effects.
- If the outcome of that situation results in an unwanted outcome or side effects.
  Policy/Process may need to be adjusted/refined.

The stress testing was conducted in Montreal working through the responses on the following questions:

- What is outcome of this situation when process is invoked?
- Is the outcome of that situation/the result unwanted or are side effects unwanted/unacceptable?
- Does Policy/Process need to be adjusted/refined?

Moving forward (to ensure consistency) these questions will be used to examine each of the additional identified corner cases.

2. Identified cases

Significant names change of country (resulting in change of ccTLD).

Examples are:

- ZR (Zaire) to CD (Congo, Democratic Republic of) (1997)
- TP (East Timor) to TL (Timor-Leste) (2002)

Question: Does replacement from the former ccTLD by the new ccTLD imply a delegation of the new ccTLD or should it be considered as an exception of the regular case of delegation?

Outcome of the examination:
No exception. No additional change Operationally or transfer/ delegation
Policy no exception, no need to adjust

Domain Names under management at removal date.

At agreed end-date (date of removal from the root-zone) Second Level domain names are still under management of the ccTLD Manager, despite reasonable efforts from the ccTLD Manager to end registrations

Does it make a difference if only a few (10) or thousands (10.000 or more) SLDs are active at the time of removal?
Outcome examination:
Difference does not matter, avoid gaming the policy
Case added 3166 to accommodate new names
No Ned to adjust the process/policy

3. Breach of Retirement Agreement
Various situations:

- The ccTLD Managers continues to promote ccTLD and accepting registrations during retirement process. Does it make a difference if at removal date no SLDs under management or the number of registrations under management has not declined or has even increased compared to number at date of Retirement Notification?
- The ccTLD Manager stops all activities i.e. goes off
- The ccTLD Managers takes no action resulting in serious deterioration of the zone

Outcome Examination:
Plan continues as agreed
Compliance not applicable.
Too complicated
No need to adjust process/policy

ccTLD Manager goes bankrupt after Notification of Retirement
Outcome Examination:
Broke substantively responsibility of operator
Revocation after substantial misconduct
Security and stability issue: IFO assess on case-by case basis
Linkage active SLD -> that is not material to remove to root
No need to adjust process/policy
Request for Transfer post Retirement Notice

- Retirement result of significant name change
  Both apply

- Retirement result of dissolution country, significant interested parties cannot be identified
  GAP, but indirectly addressed, special power transfer

Outcome Examination:
Special policy requirement to transfer is considered reasonable. GAP in existing transfer / retirement policy. Proposed policy/process needs to be adjusted to accommodate specific transfer.

ccTLD Manager ends membership of the ccNSO and claims policies (Retirement & RFC1591/FoI) are therefore not applicable

- Question: does it matter if ccTLD Manager Acts with support of SIP or without support of SIP?

Outcome Examination:
Note: the ccNSO Council recently established that membership of ccNSO by definition ends when entity listed as ccTLD Manager is no longer listed as such in the IANA Root Database, implying that for the duration of the retirement process membership of the ccNSO does not end, unless it is actively terminated by the Manager.

Up to ICANN to decide whether relrevant
No need to adjust policy/process

Country Code was removed from list of Assigned codes because country dissolved.

- Code was re-assigned shortly afterwards (within 10 years) to another country added to the list

Outcome examination:
Currently impossible. No need to adjust policy/process

- After several years (during retirement process) code is exceptionally reserved, specifically as ccTLD

Outcome Examination:
No need to adjust policy/process

3. New, additional "corner cases/situations" in order to examine

In Montreal the WG identified the following additional situations to be subject to the stress testing. To organise the stress testing process, each group member was asked to identify the 5 to be tested first. Based on that ranking (see: https://nl.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-7XTTP3BW7/)

- Lines of communication between ccTLD Manager and IFO: authoritative (5 out of 6)
- Breach Agreement due to court injunction (4 out of 6)
- Breach of Agreement due to applicable national law/ Court order (4 out of 6)
- Breach of Agreement during extension period (4 out of 6)
- Island state disappears, but commercial interests keep ccTLD "alive" (3 out of 6)
- Unforeseen technical consequences/significant consequences for other affecting other TLDs/DNS in general (3 out of 6)
- Country disappears/ however there is a clear successor state (2 out of 6)
- 3166 disappears/decision of ISO 3166 MA is completely out of line, in breach of own rules (1 out of 6)
- Assets go to other party (1 out of 6)
- Does the retirement policy apply to pending retirement case? ((1 out of 6)

4. Stress testing

Lines of communication between ccTLD Manager and IFO: authoritative

Examination questions:

- What is outcome of this situation when process is invoked?
- Is the outcome of that situation/the result unwanted or are side effects unwanted/unacceptable?
- Does Policy/Process need to be adjusted/refined?

Outcome examination:

Cases Breach of Agreement

- Due to court injunction
- Due to applicable national law / Court order

- Breach of agreement during extension period

First question, specifically related to this cluster of situations: Is there a significant difference between Breach of Agreement due to court injunction and Court order/ breach of national (applicable) law?

With respect to each of the three (3) identified situations the following examination questions need to be answered:

- What is outcome of this situation when process is invoked?
- Is the outcome of that situation/the result unwanted or are side effects unwanted/unacceptable?
- Does Policy/Process need to be adjusted/refined?

Outcome examination:

Note the previously cases of Breach of Agreement that have been identified and discussed:

- The ccTLD Managers continues to promote ccTLD and accepting registrations during retirement process. Does it make a difference if at removal date no SLDs under management or the number of registrations under management has not declined or has even increased compared to number at date of Retirement Notification?
- The ccTLD Manager stops all activities i.e. goes off
- The ccTLD Managers takes no action resulting in serious deterioration of the zone

Island state disappears, but commercial interests keep ccTLD "alive"

Examination questions:

- What is outcome of this situation when process is invoked?
- Is the outcome of that situation/the result unwanted or are side effects unwanted/unacceptable?
- Does Policy/Process need to be adjusted/refined?

Outcome examination:

Unforeseen technical consequences/significant consequences for other affecting other TLDs/DNS in general

Examination questions:

- What is outcome of this situation when process is invoked?
- Is the outcome of that situation/the result unwanted or are side effects unwanted/unacceptable?
- Does Policy/Process need to be adjusted/refined?

Outcome examination:

Country disappears/ however there is a clear successor state

Examination questions:

- What is outcome of this situation when process is invoked?
- Is the outcome of that situation/the result unwanted or are side effects unwanted/unacceptable?
- Does Policy/Process need to be adjusted/refined?

Outcome examination:

3166 disappears/decision of ISO 3166 MA is completely out of line, in breach of own rules

Examination questions:

- What is outcome of this situation when process is invoked?
- Is the outcome of that situation/the result unwanted or are side effects unwanted/unacceptable?
- Does Policy/Process need to be adjusted/refined?

Outcome examination:

Assets go to other party

Examination questions:

- What is outcome of this situation when process is invoked?
- Is the outcome of that situation/the result unwanted or are side effects unwanted/unacceptable?
- Does Policy/Process need to be adjusted/refined?

Outcome examination:

Does the retirement policy apply to pending retirement case?

Examination questions:

- What is outcome of this situation when process is invoked?
- Is the outcome of that situation/the result unwanted or are side effects unwanted/unacceptable?
- Does Policy/Process need to be adjusted/refined?

Outcome examination: