

Overview PDP3 Part 1

Retirement Policy proposals

ccNSO PDP 3 RET WG

April 2020

Topics

- Trigger event
- End of Process: removal of ccTLD
- Duration of Retirement Process
- Structure of Retirement Process
- Oversight and Review
- Stress testing
- Observations & Next steps

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General Trigger Event: when does retirement process start?

The trigger event for the ccTLD retirement process is
**The removal of the country code (2-letter code) from the
list of country names in ISO3166-1**

- This is about the removal of the **country code, NOT the ccTLD**
- Reflects the basic principle of RFC 1591 that IANA is not in the business of determining what is and not is a country and ISO has a process to determine this

Special case

Exceptionally Reserved

- Exceptionally reserved: two letter codes reserved by the ISO3166 MA of which 4 are currently ccTLDs.
- Trigger event: If MA makes a change to one of these two- letter codes the IFO will consider if the change requires retirement of such a ccTLD. Except fo the trigger the same retirement process is applicable.

Special case: IDN ccTLDs

- Trigger event(s) for retirement IDN ccTLDs will be identified under ccPDP4.
 - IDN ccPDP4 to be launched shortly.
- Once the Retirement of IDN ccTLD is triggered: The retirement process, as defined under the ccPDP retirement mechanism, applies.

Do you consider this a reasonable
approach?

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End of Process:

Removal ccTLD from IANA DNS Rootzone

Once a country code is removed from the ISO 3166-1 list, the country code Top Level Domain MUST be removed from the DNS rootzone database (The actual removal process from the Root is considered out of scope for the policy)

Rationale: The ISO 3166 MA should be able to assign a two-letter code to a country, its subdivision or other significant geopolitical area. By doing so that cc is eligible as a new ccTLD

Example CS: was re-assigned 5 years after being removed from the ISO3166-1 list of assigned codes

Do you consider this a reasonable
approach?

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Duration of Retirement Process

- **The Retirement Process starts** with the official notification from PTI (IFO) to the ccTLD manager
 - This implies the triggering event has occurred.
 - Triggering events are not in the remit of ccNSO's policy developing scope as they are controlled by ISO 3166.
- **The Retirement Process ends** at a specific time or when retirement plan has been completed.
 - The removal of the ccTLD from the Root Zone is not part of this process as removal of a ccTLD from the DNS Root Zone File is an administrative/operational process managed by PTI (IFO).

Basic Duration

The basic duration of the retirement process cannot exceed 5 years

- No hard and fast rule for duration: Depends on circumstances and what is considered reasonable
- If no arrangement is made a 5-year period is considered reasonable.
 - Retirement experiences to date have shown that 3-4 years is too short and that extensions had to be granted.

Absolute, Maximum Duration

The maximum duration of the retirement process cannot exceed 10 years

- Extension to 10 years only if there is an arrangement between the ccTLD Manager and the IFO.
 - Such an arrangement must include a Retirement Plan.
 - No hard and fast rule for the length of the extension, this depends on circumstances and what is considered reasonable.

Does basic duration of 5 years sound reasonable?

Does absolute maximum duration of 10 years sound reasonable?

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Structure of Retirement Process

How does Retirement Process look like?

Trigger Event: removal country code

- Notice of Retirement
 - Removal in 5 years
- Invitation to discuss retirement plan

Arrangement ccTLD/PTI

- Retirement Plan
- End date /removal date (max 5 + 5 yrs)

- Execution of plan
- Conclusion of plan

No Arrangement (maximum 5 years)

Removal ccTLD from DNS Rootzone file

Structure of Retirement Process: Retirement Plan

- Producing a Retirement Plan is optional, but strongly advised
 - Ensures the stability and interoperability of the DNS and an
 - Orderly and predictable retirement process for all relevant stakeholders
 - Even without extension
- Retirement impacts registration policies and domain names under management within the ccTLD: this is out of scope for the policy.
- A Retirement Plan required to extend duration beyond 5 years up to a maximum of 10 years.

Do you consider this a reasonable
approach?

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Oversight...

- Policy is directed at ICANN and IFO
- Not intended to amend the way ICANN interacts with the IFO
- Does not change role of the ICANN Board with respect to individual cases of
 - Delegation
 - Transfer
 - Revocation
 - Removal of ccTLD from the Root Zone

Does the *oversight* look reasonable to
you?

Review Mechanism...

- Review Mechanism to be developed by 2nd WG under this PDP
- In the retirement policy specific decisions have been identified which may be subject to Review Mechanism

Is this a reasonable approach?

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Stress Test: what is it?

- Test the process as developed by applying the process to “corner case” situations to see whether such cases result in an unwanted outcome or side effects.
- If the stress testing results in an unwanted outcomes or side effects the Policy/Process may need to be adjusted/refined.

Stress tests identified (1)

- Significant name change of country (resulting in change of ccTLD)
- Domain Names under management at removal date
- The ccTLD Manager goes bankrupt after Notification of Retirement
- Breach of Retirement Plan: various situations

Stress tests identified (2)

- Request for Transfer after the Retirement Notice is sent
- ccTLD Manager ends membership of the ccNSO and claims policies (Retirement & RFC1591/FoI) are therefore not applicable
- Country Code was removed from list of Assigned codes because country dissolved and Code was re-assigned shortly afterwards (within 10 years) to another country added to the list
- Uncertainty about authoritativeness of lines of communication between ccTLD Manager and IFO
- Island state disappears, but interests intend to keep ccTLD “alive”

Stress tests identified (3)

- Unforeseen technical consequences/significant consequences for other affecting other TLDs/DNS in general
- Country disappears/ however there is a clear successor state
- Decision by ISO 3166 MA to remove country code is completely out of line, in breach of ISO 3166 or ISO rules
- Assets of the ccTLD go to other party during retirement process
- Does the retirement policy apply to pending retirement case?

Results Stress testing

- Extensive set of cases
- Assessment of the results of stress tests take into account other policy documents (RFC 1591 and the related Framework of Interpretation) which remain relevant during retirement process
 - Example: during retirement transfer or revocation of management remain an option
- Outcome: No need to adjust proposed policy

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Applicability of ccNSO PDP

Issue: Does policy apply to all ccTLDs?

If lack of applicability, the ccNSO lacks authority to develop policy over such TLDs

Consensus of theWG:

It has long been established that there is no existing policy (on retirement) to guide the orderly retirement of ccTLDs, and that the ccNSO is the appropriate body to develop such policy

In addition, the policy is directed at ICANN (hence within scope of ANNEX C of the Bylaws)

Bylaws Article 10.4(a)

Issue membership ccNSO

Issue: Does membership in the ccNSO end when a ccTLD is the subject of an active retirement process?

- Current definition of membership is unclear in this situation.
- Change of the definition of ccNSO membership was part of a major Bylaw change completed in 2016.

This issue is considered outside the remit of the Working Group

- ccNSO Council has been informed of the WG's concerns
- Issue to be resolved in an upcoming change to Article 10 of the Bylaws to include IDNccTLDs in ccNSO

Public comment on Interim Paper & Next steps

- Public comment will start early May
- Focus is on policy proposals: your response on the questions are welcome!!

WG will review comments received and update proposals if needed

Final proposals will be part of the ccPDP 3 output