

Specific terminology derived from the ISO 3166 Standard

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Included is basic terminology included in the ISO3166 Standard, which was identified by the ccPDP3 Retirement WG in the context of developing the process for the retirement of ccTLDs. Some of these terms are also used in the context of ccPDP4.

Notes with respect to the terminology derived from the ISO 3166 Standard:

- In this overview a distinction is made between terminology defined in the 2013 and 2020 editions of the Standard and the ISO Online Browsing Platform (OBP). The terminology defined in the Standard is included in the table in normal font. The terminology used in the Online Browsing Platform is *emphasized*.
- The definitions contained in the Standard are considered to take precedent. Terminology from the Online Browsing Platform is only included for informational purposes. It is strongly advised not to use or refer to the informational terms in Policy and policy related documents.
- A new version of ISO 3166 was published very recently (2020). The major change is that the table of country codes is no longer part of the printed standard but online as part of the ISO Open browser Platform (iso.org/obp). The text of the standard reflects this change with some additional definitions. Also, there are non-substantial changes to other definitions to abide to the new ISO guidelines for writing and publishing standards.

Term/Practice	Definition/Description	Defined in:	Comment	ISO 3166: 2020 terminology
Assigned (or allocated) code elements	The result of applying the principle of visual association between the country names (in English or French, or sometimes in another language) and their corresponding code elements.	ISO Standard Section 5.1		<p>Section 5.2: The principle behind the alphabetic codes in the code corresponding to this document is a visual association between the country names (in English or French, or sometimes in another language) and their corresponding code elements. In applying this principle, the code elements have generally been assigned on the basis of the short names of the countries, thus avoiding, wherever possible, any reflection of their political status.</p> <p>The distinguishing signs for road vehicles reported by the contracting parties to the Conventions on Road Traffic (1949 and 1968; see Reference [21]) provided the major source for code elements for the code corresponding to this document.</p>
Unassigned	NOT DEFINED IN THE STANDARD			<p>Mentioned in 3.10. status of alpha-2 country code element (in the OPB)</p> <p>information whether the code element is assigned, unassigned or reserved transitionally, exceptionally, or for an indeterminate period</p>
Unassigned	<i>Code Elements that have not been assigned to country names.</i>	ISO Online Browsing Platform	Defined in OBP. As this is not defined in the Standard it is only included for	

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			informational purposes and use in Policy rules should be avoided.	
Deletions from the list of country names	Deletions from the list of country names shall be made on the basis of information from the United Nations Headquarters, or upon the request of a member of ISO 3166/MA. The ISO 3166/MA shall decide upon deletion, on the basis of the information given. ISO3166-3 provides the list of country names deleted in this part of ISO 3166 since its first edition in 1974.	ISO Standard Section 7.3		Deletions from the list of country names shall be made on the basis of information from the United Nations Headquarters, or upon the request of a member of ISO 3166/MA. The ISO 3166/MA shall decide upon deletion, on the basis of the information given. ISO3166-3 provides the list of country names deleted in this part of ISO 3166 since its first edition in 1974.
Reservation of Code Elements	Some code elements are reserved. For a limited period when their reservation is the result of the deletion or alteration of a country name. For an indeterminate period when the reservation is the result of the application of international law or of exceptional requests.	ISO Standard Section 7.5 & 7.5.1		Now in Section 7.6 & 7.6.1
Reallocation Period	Some code elements are reserved. For a limited period when their reservation is the result of the deletion or alteration of a country name.	ISO Standard Section 7.5.2		<i>Section 7.6.2 New text</i> Country code elements that the ISO 3166/MA has altered or deleted should not be reassigned during a period of at least

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	For an indeterminate period when the result of the application of international exceptional requests.			fifty years after the change. The exact period is determined in each case on the basis of the extent to which the former code element was used.
Transitionally Reserved	NOT DEFINED IN THE STANDARD			mentioned in 3.10. status of alpha-2 country code element (in the OPB)
	<i>Codes that are reserved during a transitional period while new code elements that may replace them are taken into use. This results from changes in the standard.</i>	ISO 3166 Online Browsing Platform Glossary.	This description is not included in the Standard. It is only included in this document for informational purposes and use in Policy rules should be avoided.	
Period of Non-Use	Certain code elements existing at the time of the first publication of the ISO 3166 country codes and differing from those in this part (ISO 3166-1) should not be used for an indeterminate period to represent other country names. These code elements should be included in the list of reserved code elements and should not be	ISO Standard 7.5.3		Now section 7.6.2 Certain country code elements existing at the time of the first publication of the ISO 3166 country codes and differing from those in this part of ISO 3166 should not be used for an indeterminate period to represent other country names. This provision applies to certain vehicle designations notified under the 1949 and 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic. Code elements to which this provision applies should be

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	reallocated during a period of at least fifty years after the date the countries or organizations concerned have discontinued their use.			included in the list of reserved code elements (see 7.6.5) and should not be reassigned during a period of at least fifty years after the date when the countries or organizations concerned have discontinued their use.
Exceptionally Reserved	Code elements may be reserved, in exceptional cases, for country names which the ISO 3166/MA has decided not to include in this part of ISO3166, but for which an interchange requirement exists. Before such code elements are reserved, advice from the relevant authority must be sought.	ISO Standard 7.5.3		Now Section 7.6.4
Exceptionally Reserved	<i>Codes that have been reserved for a particular use at special request of a national ISO member body, governments or international organizations.</i>	ISO 3166 Online Browsing Platform Glossary.	This description is not included in the Standard. It is only included in this document for informational purposes and use in Policy rules should be avoided. For example, the code UK has been reserved at the	Section 7.6.4 Code elements may be reserved, in exceptional cases, for country names which the ISO 3166/MA has decided not to include in the code corresponding to this document, but for which an interchange requirement exists. Before such code elements are reserved, advice from the relevant authority should be sought.

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			request of the United Kingdom so that it cannot be used for any other country.	
Reallocation	Before reallocating a former code element or a formerly reserved code element, the ISO3166/MA shall consult, as appropriate, the authority or agency on whose behalf the code element was reserved, and consideration shall be given to difficulties which might arise for the reallocation.	ISO Standard Section 7.5.5		Section 7.6.2. See the period of non-use entry
Indeterminately Reserved	NOT DEFINED IN THE STANDARD			mentioned in 3.10. status of alpha-2 country code element (in the OPB)
Indeterminately Reserved		ISO 3166 Online Browsing Platform glossary.	This description is not included in the Standard. It is only included in this document for informational purposes and use in policies should be avoided.	

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			For example, several codes have been reserved by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) because they have been used in its Standard ST.3.	
Country Name	Name of country, dependency, or other area of particular interest	ISO Standard Part 1 Section 3.4		Section 3.4 (OBP 3.14-3.18, 3.22)
Country Code	Listing of country names with their representations by code elements	ISO 3166 Part 1 Section 3.3		Section 3.3 (OBP 3.10-3.13)
Code Element	The result of applying a code to an element of a coded set	ISO 3166 Part 1 Section 3.2		Section 3.2 (OBP 3.10-3.13)
Code	Set of data	ISO 3166 Part 1 Section 3.1		Section 3.1, changed definition: set of data transformed or represented in different forms according to a pre-established set of rules

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List of Country Names	Part of the Clause 9 list	ISO 3166 Part 1 Section 6, 6.1. In clause 6 of part 1 the content of the list is enumerated in Clause 9.		The whole clause disappeared. The list is replaced with the ISO Open Browser Platform portal. and that is therefore there are definitions 3.xx in the standard
Formerly Used Codes	NOT DEFINED IN THE STANDARD			Defined in Part 3, Section 3.3.3 alpha-4 formerly used country code element coded representation of country no longer in use
Formerly Used Codes	<i>Codes that used to be part of the standard but that are no longer in use. See alpha-4 codes.</i>	ISO 3166 Online Browsing Platform	As this is not described in the Standard it is only included for informational purposes and use in Policy rules should be avoided.	