Sub group findings - Criteria, trigger events and retirement of IDNccTLDs

Version6, 17 December 2021

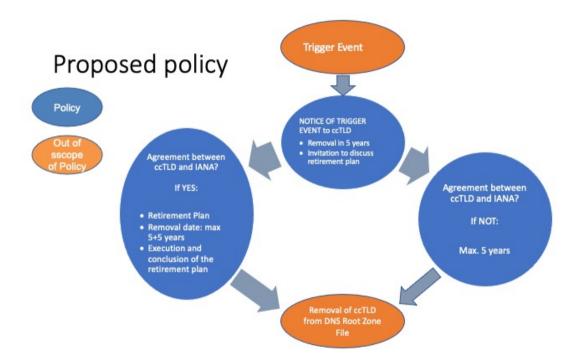
1. Introduction.

8 9 10

12

13

- The sub-group is tasked to propose what it considers trigger event(s) for the removal of IDNccTLD (and its variants) from the root-zone database, and hence trigger the (IDN)ccTLD retirement process.
- The retirement process itself, excluding the triggering event, and excluding the removal of the IDNccTLD string from the root zone database, has been developed under ccPDP3.



- To determine the trigger event or events that would cause the start of ccTLD retirement process the following method will be used:
- 1. The IDNccTLD selection criteria as agreed upon to date by the ccPDP4 WG is listed
 - 2. The subgroup determines, whether an externally (external to ICANN or IDNccTLD Manager) caused change with respect to the specific criteria should be considered a trigger event.

5

3. The sub-group provided rationale / the sub-groups deliberations and observations why the subgroup believes the trigger event should cause the removal of the IDNccTLD i.e why it considered a "trigger for the retirement process"

Overview of criteria, and potential events

Item #	Criteria	Brief description	Section Consolidat ed paper	Event	Conclusion
1	Association of IDNccTLD to a territory in ISO3166	Only IDN ccTLD strings associated with a Territory are eligible to be delegated as a ccTLD	Section 0, Principle I	Removal of "territory" from ISO 3166-1 list,	Conclusion: The sub group proposes that if a the name of a Territory is removed from the ISO3166 because it is divided into two or more new ones or two or more countries have merged, the removal is considered a "trigger event" and causes the initiation of the process for the retirement of all the selected IDNccTLD(s) (and their variants), which are a meaningful representation of the name of the Territory.

Item #	Criteria	Brief description	Section Consolidat ed paper	Event	Conclusion
2	IDN ccTLD string MUST be a meaningful representation of the name of the Territory	Principle of association of IDNccTLD string with the name of the territory	Section 1.2.1 sub a	Change of name of the country	
2.1		If IDNccTLD is part of name of the country	Section 1.2.1 sub b	Change of this part of the name of the country	
2.2		If IDNccTLD is a short-form designation for the name of the Territory, recognizably denoting the name	Section 1.2.1 sub c	Change of short-form designation for the name of the Territory	
3	String MUST be in designated language	Meaningful Representation of the name of the Territory MUST be in a Designated Language of the Territory	Section 1.2.2	The language loses its legal status in the Territory or is no longer considered as a language of administration	
4	Designated Language/Script combination	the script or scripts in which the Designated Language is expressed	Section 1.2.7	The script in which the Designated language is expressed is changed	
5	The support for the selected string	Required endorsement / support/non-objection for selected string by	Section 2.2.2	The Significantly Interested Parties no longer support the IDNccTLD.	

Item #	Criteria	Brief description	Section Consolidat ed paper	Event	Conclusion
		Significantly Interested Parties			
6	The IDNccTLD must abide to Technical criteria	The selected IDN ccTLD string must abide by all Technical Criteria for an IDN TLD string.	Section 4.1.1	By a change of the general technical criteria, the IDNccTLD string does not abide anymore to the general requirements.	
6.1			Section 4.1.1	Following a change of the normative parts of RFC 5890, RFC 5891, RFC 5892 and RFC 5893the IDNccTLD string does not abide anymore to the general requirements.	
6.2				By a change of the RZ-LGR (some of) the IDNccTLD (and some of the delegated variants) is (are) not allocatable according RZ-LGR	
7	Other?				

1 2

2. Initial questions/Issues raised by Sub-group call 12 October 2021

- Comment: Instability in earlier times in unicode. There could be other triggering events of the underlying technology. e.g. introduction of new characters.
- 5 Question: does this fit in item #6, #6.1 or #6.2?
- 6 Comment: We can discuss it there.

8 Comment:

2

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16 17

18

19

- The variant TLDs may actually not be in the designated language-script combination. The original label is. Is that something we want to capture here? Or discuss with the VM-sub group. It is not captured here.
- Number 5. This looks reasonable. But, it can potentially cause instability for the registrars. E.g. if SIP decides to change the string for a particular cc for a country. Name of the country has not changed, that could be arbitrary, and generally ok. But could impact existing registrations

Response:

- Valid arguments. To be captured in the rationale.
 - Support is one of the criteria. But if the group decides so, it could NOT be a trigger event
 - Regarding the first point: the starting point is that one of the questions the VM-group needs to answer is whether every IDN ccTLD string variant should be allocatable for policy reasons? Is there a limitation in policy? This has not been discussed. Awaiting the conclusion about variants

2021 Comment/Question:

Comment/Question: support SIP?

Response: Keep this question for all the events. It will drive the process/procedures, and maybe even the feasibility.

2324

22

- Question/Comment:
- Also, can there be a trigger event which can impact a variant TLD even if it does not impact the original string? We will develop some criteria that say that certain variant TLDs are allowed, and some or not. If one of those gets invalidated, it could act as a trigger event for that TLD

262728

29

30

31

25

From the 9 November 2021 call

Comment: Not sure we arrived at a guiding principle? 2-letter strings to be allocated. If the 2-letter string goes away, anything attached to it should go away too. What is the need?

15

16

17

18

19 20

21

22

23

24

25

2627

28

29

In this wider space, we need in these complicated cases better arguments. Or more consideration on what we try to save here.

Response: what needs to be preserved?

I. Association of the (IDN) country code Top Level Domain with a territory. For purposes of this policy "Territory" or "Territories" are defined as a country, a sub-division, or other area of particular geopolitical interest listed in Section 3 of the 'International Standard ISO 3166, Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions – Part 1: Country Codes' [ISO 3166-1:2020] or, in some exceptional cases, e.g. grandfathered-in delegations, a country, a sub-division, or other area of particular geopolitical interest listed for an exceptionally reserved ISO 3166-1 code element.

Under the current policy for the delegation of (ASCII) ccTLDs¹, the country codes associated with **Territories** are eligible for delegation as a ccTLD. Only IDN ccTLD strings associated with a **Territory** are eligible to be delegated as a ccTLD.

ii. (ASCII) ccTLD and IDN ccTLDs are all country code Top Level Domains. (ASCII) ccTLD and IDN ccTLDs are all country code Top Level Domains and as such are associated with a **Territory**. Whilst there may be additional, specific provisions required for IDN ccTLDs, due to their nature (for example criteria for the selection of an IDN ccTLD string) all country code Top Level Domains should be treated in the same manner.

The principles work two ways: First, the principle of one (1) IDNccTLD per Designated Language/script combination. This principle was derived from the basic rule that only the two-letter country codes were used to denote and designate ccTLDs. The full WG reconfirmed these principle as expressed in the basic rule 1.2.3 Only one (1) IDN ccTLD string per Designated Language. In the event that there is more than one Designated Language in the Territory, one (1) unique IDN ccTLD for each Designated Language may be selected, provided the Meaningful Representation in one Designated Language cannot be confused with an existing IDN ccTLD string for that Territory.

And the related principle that **Criteria determine the number of IDN ccTLDs per Territory and**. The criteria to select the IDN ccTLD string should determine the number of eligible IDN ccTLDs per **Territory**, not an arbitrarily set number

¹ RFC 1591 as interpreted by the Framework of Interpretation (https://ccnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/filefield 46435/foi-final-07oct14-en.pdf)

l	To date no arguments to differentiate between IDNccTLD and ASCII ccTLDs.
2	
3	To maintain this principle, and to ensure that IDNccTLDs meet and comply with the criteria, it is inevitable that at an IDNccTLD string
1	should be retired due to change in external circumstances/real world to ensure that IDN ccTLD strings associated with a Territory are
5	delegated. At the same time if circumstances change causing the removal of an IDNccTLD, a new IDNccTLD that meets the
6	requirements may always be selected and requested.
7	
3	Observation: Assume country A has in the past selected 2 IDN cctld strings. 1 is still in a designated language and related script, for the
)	other one that is no longer the case. Now, what if another country or territory B applies for an IDN cctld string that does not meet the
)	criteria? Could one still reject the application legitimately by arguing that he application of B does not meet the criteria?
2	QUESTION FOR ALL: Should the subgroup advice the full WG to stick with basic premise that the selected IDN ccTLD string MUST continuously
3	meet all criteria"? Or doesn't it matter anymore once you are in the root zone?
1	If one of the criteria is no longer met, should this result in retirement? Should such an IDN ccTLD be removed from the rootzone at one point?

From the 7 December meeting

- 2 Going back to 9 Nov meeting. Comment raised by Peter Koch. Fundamental question. In the context of the removal of a name of the country from ISO3166.
- 3 Once the name of a country is removed from iso3166 or no longer exceptionally reserved, the ascii country code will be removed. That triggers retirement.
- 4 Impossible, when you look at the meaningfulness criteria.
- If you look at the other criteria, what would be the rationale for the retirement of the IDN ccTLD? At all times, the IDN ccTLD must meet the criteria? Is the SG of another opinion?

8

Response: Depends. If the technical criteria change, the IDN ccTLD can no longer exist. If other criteria are impacted, such as the significantly interested party, do not support the idn, but it is still in use? Perhaps better to keep it in existence? Different criteria, different considerations.

9 10 11

12

Comment: distinction is not about being more important, but about being more "objective" perhaps. If the technical feasibility of a domain disappears, there is no use in continuing. Rare occasion we need to plan for. This is about the idn standard and surrounding areas. If there was a reason to change that, it probably came from outside the community.

13 14 15

Staff Note: discuss the distinction between various criteria. Could it be that some are necessary to be valid for us and be included in the DNS? Other are administrative in nature requirements. For example: the selected string only valid if less then 63 characters.

16 17 18

Issue of internal consistency of the policy. If a selected string is no longer supported, and you do not retire the idn cctld and instead also allow the new one, you end up with 2 idn ccTLDs. Why allow that exception, if you do not allow that for ASCII ccTLDs?

19 20 21

- Observation: difficult. "Objective" is not the ideal word here. Criteria for defining what a designated language is were a bit softer than the others.
- Argue in favour of maintaining, since there is no collision. Icann does not want to decide what a country is. Always refer to iso standard. What is a
- language? That is decided locally. The LIC is always a combination of "cats and dogs". Harder criterias (externally influenced), versus the locally defined ones.

24 25

- Note: a significant name change of the country, may result in the change of the country code. Change in designated language, both done locally. It it difficult to distinguish between the 2.
- Response: that name change is only indirectly influenced from the local community. The external element is that the code changes. Would be good to use whiteboard here and see people.

30 31

Further, although the change of the name of the country is locally initiated, it results in the change of the iso code. Therefore it is an external event

32

33 Question: how to interpret external?

1 2	Isn't that outside of what this groups develops as a policy? Synonym to what happens in a country. What happens locally. External from icann org and us developing the policy
3	
4 5	Comment: language and script is not that external to the policy. When there is a change there, iana is dependent on someone to actively inform them
6 7	Comment: 22 combinations in India. ICANN org to validate whether the old one is still valid, and meets the criteria. Providing relevant documentation
8	Comment: many criteria. We can not easily decide which criteria we should follow. What is a must? If we discuss them one by one, then we can decide. This
9 10 11	is a ccTLD. Strong related to a country, territory, government. Be cautious about the retirement process. Treat the criteria one by one. This is my suggestion.
12 13	Note: same question will resurface. But fine to proceed like that. Easiest way out: all criteria are equally important. But that is an extreme point.
14	Conclusion: park general question for now, and suggest to proceed criteria by criteria
15	

16

3. Detailed discussion of events

2 3

1. Association of IDNccTLD with a territory listed in ISO3166

4 5

Criteria: Only IDN ccTLD strings associated with a Territory are eligible to be delegated as a ccTLD

6

Section: Section 0, Principle I

8

10

11

12

I. Association of the (IDN) country code Top Level Domain with a territory. For purposes of this policy "Territory" or "Territories" are defined as a country, a sub-division, or other area of particular geopolitical interest listed in Section 3 of the 'International Standard ISO 3166, Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions – Part 1: Country Codes' [ISO 3166-1:2020] or, in some exceptional cases, e.g. grandfathered-in delegations, a country, a sub-division, or other area of particular geopolitical interest listed for an exceptionally reserved ISO 3166-1 code element.

13 14 15

Under the current policy for the delegation of (ASCII) ccTLDs², the country codes associated with **Territories** are eligible for delegation as a ccTLD. Only IDN ccTLD strings associated with a **Territory** are eligible to be delegated as a ccTLD.

16 17 18

19

Event: Removal/striking the "territory" from ISO 3166-1 list. Under the maintenance of the standard, code elements are added, deleted or altered.

202122

According to the ISO3166 Glossary (which is non-normative? TBC'ed) Country names might be removed from ISO 3166-1 for various reasons

2324

• A country might change a significant part of its name, for example Burma (BU) was changed to Myanmar (MM) in 1989. This specific case is discussed below item 2. The code element for the formerly used country name is therefore BUMM.

25 26 • A country may divide into two or more new ones, for example Czechoslovakia was divided into Czech Republic and Slovakia in 1993. The code element for the formerly used country name Czechoslovakia is CSHH, HH meaning that no single successor country exists.

² RFC 1591 as interpreted by the Framework of Interpretation (https://ccnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/filefield 46435/foi-final-07oct14-en.pdf)

- Two or more countries may merge for example Democratic Yemen (YD) and Yemen Arab Republic (YE) merged into the Republic of Yemen (YE) in 1990. The code element used for the formerly used country name Democratic Yemen is YDYE.
- This specific case looks at the removal from the country name as a result the division of a country or the merging of two countries.

45 Rationale / deliberations and observations:

1 2

3

8

13

17 18

19 20

25

29

Question: Does this item also include significant name change? See Jaap's presentation? Removal not a clear cut case. Response: it is clear. See DDR removal. You refer to point 2. Here it is "striking" the entry.

Question: In most of the cases the IDNccTLD and the ccTLD follow the same route regarding the retirement process. If the name of the country changes, but no change in local script, and in local challenge, and idn cctld does not change, would such an event cause the retirement of the IDNccTLD?

- 12 Comment: Interesting case to be discussed under number 2. Various options
- 14 Comment/Question: If two different managers run the ccTLD and IDN-TLD, tshould the process of retirement should be split into different processes?
- 16 Comment: That is most likely the outcome.
 - Question: deletion is deletion. What is the process of reassociation? Alterations, see number 2.

From the 23 November call

- once a name of a name of a country is deleted from iso 3166, that is a trigger event. That implies that the country does not exist anymore. The meaningfulness criteria does not make sense anymore, therefore the IDN ccTLD is subject to the retirement mechanism.
- 23 Is the conclusion correct? Are there any issues from an iso perspective, on the conclusion-bit?
- 24 Line 20-28
- Reference to Part 3 is not needed. Is a consequence of not being assigned. Part -3 Internal to the iso committee. More for historical reasons.
- 27 suggests to strike line 23 to 28.
- 28 Question: Any objections to strike this, as Jaap suggested?

Comment: I do not think the references to -3 are helpful at all, the trigger event here should be the very same as for two character TLDs the point, again, is that we're not using ISO3166-1 language when referencing 3166-1. Line item goes away. Removing the country code could mean it is replaced, it could mean the same for the name

Bart to further discuss this with Jaap

5

- 6 Comment 1: removing USSR. state does not exist. But check registration numbers, and who uses these names. If they are used only by 1
 7 country, this could be a reason for removal from the list. Comment 2: asked russian colleagues about the status of .su domain name. They
 8 mention that .su has a special status. What does that mean?
- 9 Response: understanding that if you look at iso 3166-1, SU has an "exceptionally reserved"-status. It is in use. See online browsing platform.
- 10 This policy is about defining the trigger events for IDN ccTLDs. SU is not an IDN ccTLD. Issue discussed in a different WG. Out of scope for this
- 11 WG. ccPDP3-RET policy is adopted by the ccNSO, and now up for public comments by the ICANN BoD.
- 12 Question: is it a ccTLD? Response: yes, see iana database
- 13 Further discussion, see public comment on retirement policy
- 14 Questions: are there other exceptions?
 - Response: .uk, .eu, .ac are also exceptionally reserved list

15 16 17

18

Question: all ccnso members need to pay a membership fee. Who pays the fee for SU? Response: out of scope for this group. However, note there are no membership fees. There are voluntary contributions to ICANN. Some ccTLDs contribute, others don't. That does not impact the ccTLD status.

19 20 21

For reference the full WG agreed to following text:

22 23 24 **I. Association of the (IDN) country code Top Level Domain with a territory.** For purposes of this policy "Territory" or "Territories" are defined as a country, a sub-division, or other area of particular geopolitical interest listed in Section 3 of the 'International Standard ISO 3166, Codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions – Part 1: Country Codes' [ISO 3166-1:2020] or, in some exceptional cases, e.g. grandfathered-in delegations, a country, a sub-division, or other area of particular geopolitical interest listed for an exceptionally reserved ISO 3166-1 code element.

262728

29

25

Under the current policy for the delegation of (ASCII) ccTLDs³, the country codes associated with **Territories** are eligible for delegation as a ccTLD. Only IDN ccTLD strings associated with a **Territory** are eligible to be delegated as a ccTLD.

³ RFC 1591 as interpreted by the Framework of Interpretation (https://ccnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/filefield 46435/foi-final-07oct14-en.pdf)

- - ICANN is advised to monitor ISO3166-3 for this matter
- 12 7 December call: Agreement to strike
- 14 Proposed text

11

13

- 15 **Conclusion:** The sub group proposes that if a the name of a **Territory** is removed from the ISO3166 because it is divided into two or more new
- ones or two or more countries have merged, the removal is considered a "trigger event" and causes the initiation of the process for the
- 17 retirement of all the selected IDNccTLD(s) (and their variants), which are a meaningful representation of the name of the Territory.

2. Introduction IDN ccTLD string loses its meaning as meaningful representation

2.1 General introduction

One of the core requirements under the proposed IDNccTLD selection policy is that the IDNccTLD must be a meaningful representation of the name of the Territory. However, names of Territories do change over time, in the language of the Territory, in English and/or French, significantly (however defined), in part, the referenced abbreviation or otherwise.

5

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

As a general rule one could argue that if the selected IDNccTLD string is no longer a meaningful representation of the name of the Territory, the selected IDNccTLD (and its variants should be retired and ultimately removed from the Root Zone Database. However, at a minimum the general rule needs to be specified for the various cases to ensure clarity for all parties involved and the predictability and legitimacy of the proposed policy.

Various scenarios or cases need to be distinguished and assessed. These cases are:

- The name change is a significant name change of the name of the **Territory** in English or French and results in a change of the code element.
- The name change is a change in the Designated Language, but does NOT result in the change of the code element associated with the name of the Territory as listed in ISO3166-1.
- If the IDNccTLD is part of name of the country in the Designated Language, and the change of the name results in a results in the change of the part the name to which the IDNccTLD refers.

Does it matter if such a change in the name of the Territory results in:

- No change in ISO3166 entry?
- Change in ISO3166-1 entry?
- If the IDNccTLD is a short-form designation for the name of the Territory, recognizably denoting the name ca short-form designation or abbreviation (two or three-letter code) in the designated language for the name of the Territory, the name change is a change of the short-form designation for the name of the Territory recognizably denoting the name.

Does it matter if such a change in the name of the Territory results in:

- No change in ISO3166 entry?
- Change in ISO3166-1 entry?
- Other?

272829

30

General discussion

A change of the country name, in English or French, should that result in a change of the retirement of the IDN ccTLD?

1	Comment 1: look into the matter. Depends on the type of change.
2	Comment 2: "meaningful" is the key here, there have been numerous changes to the English representation that would not essentially
3	change the name, really; maybe we should dig out some of those examples.
4	Updates to 3166-1 (e.g. articles or proposition changes in English). Checking whether it is still a meaningful representation.
5	
6	Observation: Normally, the idn cctld string is motivated by the name in the local language. Not necessarily in EN or FR.
7	Comment: This is one of the cases indeed dealt with. (scrolling up). Captured in the doc
8	Comment: trigger looking into the issue, but not necessarily changing it.
9	
10	Observation: local name can be quite long (Kingdom of). When a name changes in a country or territory, it could change in a part that
11	is not relevant to the idn ccTLD string. A country name could change in a different place.
12	
13	Question: not sure I understand: the IDN ccTLD has to represent the full country name, not only that of a subset of that country? i.e.,
14	you cannot have "cats and dogs island" being represented by "cats" in Klingon, say
15	Response: Various cases where the IDN ccTLD is deemed to represent the name of the country. Cats and dogs island. Is it United
16	States? Or is America a meaningful representation?
17	If the full name of the country is represented in the idn string, and even part of it would change, that would affect the meaningful
18	representation. Example United Arab Emirates. Serbia is number c. Some ccTLDs refer to 2 or 3-letter code, and this is considered a
19	meaningful representation
20	Examples: For Serbia only .srb in Cyrillic script, Fullname of country: Kingdom of Thailand —> 'Thai' for IDN ccTLD
21	
22	For information. This is place to look up a full name of a country in official
23	language https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/geonames/ [unstats.un.org]
24	
25	Note: if an idn cctld string refers to the geo-names document, it is clear that no additional documentation is needed see section 1.2.7
26	of full document
27	
28	If part of name that changes is not a trigger event, but is an alert, and a need for clarification and additional information. Suggestion is
29	to discuss on the next call whether this results in the retirement.
30	

Question need to introduce a notification? 2 Response: good point. At the start there is one doc. Language is a designated language, direction needed from this sub-group on how you foresee notification, alert and/or confirmation happens. Designated language is called "official language" under the fast track. It created confusion, because in some countries "official languages" have a different meaning. What is or what is not a designated language is an internal process. From 7 December 2021 call: 9 No longer a meaningful representation in the name of the territory 10 Various sub-criteria: Name of territory changes, or part of the name of the territory. 11 12 Note: some countries might prefer to keep the original ccTLD. They are familiar with it. Problem if icann enforces the removal, against the will. 13 Comment: removal of previous one, once the new proposal is there 14 15 Comment: this is a decision by the SIP whether or not the change is meaningful or not. Republic of, or Federated state. Follows domestic declaration of the 16 state. Significant change, but perhaps the old name is not banned. Some triggers need to be further investigated. 17 18 Note: if there is a significant change in the name, because of a change in the designated language, and there is an application for a new IDN ccTLD. As soon 19 as there is an application, what happens to the existing IDN ccTLD in the designated language? Is it still the designated language? 20 21 Comment: if all interested parties that took part in the first delegation are also involved. They need to agree that the old IDN ccTLD should be retired and 22 the new one should be installed. That moves the decision from icann or iana to the SIP. 23 24 Comment: request a new idn cctld 25 Bart: if the designated language changes 26 27 Action item 28 Staff tol provide some languages for the next call, to be discussed at that meeting 29 30 change of language" as an atomic event (rather than one language removed, the other added) appears a bit artificial to me, but I understand that might 31 happen under "certain" circumstances, agree with the proposed way forward 32

Proposed text

2 The general policy requirement is that an IDN ccTLD string must be a Meaningful Representation of the name of a

Territory. The principle underlying the representation of Territories in two letter (ASCII) code elements is the visual

association between the names of **Territories** (in English or French, or sometimes in another language) and their

5 corresponding code elements.

6

8

9

The IDN ccTLD will be considered de-selected and should be retired when it is evidenced that a selected (and /or delegated IDNccTLD string is no longer (de-selected) a Meaningful Representation of:

- a) The name of the **Territory** in the **Designated language of the Territory**,
- 10 b) Part of the name of the **Territory** in the **Designated language** of the **Territory** that denotes the **Territory**, or
 - C) The short-form designation for the name of the Territory in the **Designated language** of the **Territory** (for example the two-letter or three-letter **country code** transliterated in to the **Designated Language**)

1213

14

15

16

11

The de-selection of an IDNccTLD string is evidenced as follows:

1. If the meaningfulness requirement at the time of the delegation of the string was verified by listing of (part of the name) in the **Designated Language** of the **Territory** in the **UNGEGN** Manual, the name of the **Territory** in the **Designated Language** is no longer included.

171819

20

2. If the meaningfulness was substantiated by providing documentation from an internationally recognized expert or organization⁴, by documentation or a statement of an internationally recognized expert or organization that

⁴ Note already included): ICANN should recognize and accept documentation from one of the following experts or organizations as internationally recognized:

[•] National Naming Authority – A government recognized National Geographic Naming Authority, or other organization performing the same function, for the **Territory** for which the selected string request is presented. The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) maintains such a list of organizations at: https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/publications.html [unstats.un.org]

National Linguistic Authority – A government recognized National Linguistic Authority, or other organization performing the same function, for the **Territory** for which the selected string request is presented. In the exceptional circumstance where there is no access to a National Naming Authority nor to a National

the selected string no longer denotes the name nor is a short-form designation for the name of the **Territory** in the **Designated language** of the **Territory** (hereafter: **Statement of (dis-)association** or if such a statement cannot be provided within a reasonable time (3-4 months?) upon request of ICANN.

4

2

Confirmation of association or dis-association.

ICANN is not expected to actively seek confirmation of association or dis-association of an IDNccTLD string with the name of the Territory.

7 8 9

10

11

However, if ICANN receives a valid request⁵ for an IDNccTLD string for a **Territory** which is in the same Designated Language and related script as an IDNccTLD string associated with the same **Territory** that is either in the verification process or has been delegated, ICANN shall require a **Statement of (dis-)association** from the requester or IDNccTLD Manager of the first IDNccTLD string for the name of the Territory.

121314

15

If such a **Statement of (dis-)association** cannot be provided within a reasonable time frame (3-4 months upon notification by ICANN), the first IDNccTLD string is deemed to be de-selected and shall be retired. During this time, the processing of the requested IDNccTLD stringa for that Territory shall be put on hold.

161718

19 20 If according to the Statement of (dis-) association the first IDNccTLD string is still associated with the name of the Territory as required, the requested IDNccTLD string shall be considered invalid and the requester and the related government will be informed accordingly.

21

Linguistic Authority for the **Territory**, assistance may be requested from ICANN to identify and seek reference to an expert or organization to provide the required documentation. This documentation will be considered acceptable and sufficient to determine whether a string is a **Meaningful Representation** of a **Territory** name.

⁵ Note this includes documentation of support by the SIP!!

- 1 ICANN should include in the implementation plan an example of the documentation required to demonstrate the support
- 2 for the De-Selection of the selected string(s).

2.1 IDN ccTLD string is a meaningful representation of the name of the Territory 2 3 **Event:** Change of name of the country in English or French, which are included in ISO 3166-1). Criteria: Principle of association of IDNccTLD string with the name of the territory 5 Section: 1.2.1 sub a 1.2.1 The IDN ccTLD string must be a Meaningful Representation of the name of a Territory. The principle underlying the representation of Territories in two letter (ASCII) code elements is the visual association between the names of Territories (in English or French, or 9 sometimes in another language) and their corresponding code elements. The principle of association between the IDN country code string and the name of a **Territory** should be maintained. A selected IDN 10 11 ccTLD string MUST be a meaningful representation of the name of the Territory. A country code string is considered to be a Meaningful 12 Representation if it is: 13 a) The name of the **Territory** 14 15 16 Rationale / deliberations and observations: 17 It is required that the selected IDNccTLD string MUST be a meaningful representation of the name of the Territory in a Designated 18 Language. It is further required that the selected IDNccTLD string MUST contain at least one non-ASCII character. 19 20 21 This specific case looks at the change in the listing of the name in ISO3166. 22 Staff Note: Unless the name of the country includes at least one non-ASCII character, the French or English name of the Territory are 23 not relevant. 24 25 1.1 Minimal Number of non-ASCII characters 26 An IDN country code Top Level Domain must contain at least one (1) non-ASCII character (i.e a character that is not included in 27 ISO/IEC 646 Basic Character Set). To illustrate this criterion: For example, españa would qualify under this specific requirement and

italia would not. Note that españa contains at least one (1) non-ASCII charater (i.e a character that is not included in ISO/IEC 646 Basic Character Set⁶.
For more formal definitions of these terms, see RFC 5890.
Conclusion:
Not relevant in this context.

⁶ https://www.iso.org/standard/4777.html

2.2 Criteria: Principle of association of IDNccTLD string with the name of the territory **Event:** Change of name of the country in the Designated Language Section: 1.2.1 sub a 1.2.1 The IDN ccTLD string must be a Meaningful Representation of the name of a Territory. The principle underlying the representation of Territories in two letter (ASCII) code elements is the visual association between the names of Territories (in English or French, or sometimes in another language) and their corresponding code elements. 8 The principle of association between the IDN country code string and the name of a **Territory** should be maintained. A selected IDN ccTLD string 9 MUST be a meaningful representation of the name of the **Territory**. A country code string is considered to be a **Meaningful Representation** if it is: 10 The name of the **Territory** a) 11 12 13 Rationale / deliberations and observations: 14 15 **Conclusion:** 16 17

2.3 Criteria: The IDNccTLD string is part of name of the country **Event:** Change of the related part of the name of the country 3 Section: 1.2.1 sub b 1.2.1 The IDN ccTLD string must be a Meaningful Representation of the name of a Territory. The principle underlying the representation of Territories in two letter (ASCII) code elements is the visual association between the names of Territories (in English or French, or sometimes in another language) and their corresponding code elements. The principle of association between the IDN country code string and the name of a Territory should be maintained. A selected IDN ccTLD string 9 MUST be a meaningful representation of the name of the **Territory**. A country code string is considered to be a **Meaningful Representation** if it is: 10 11 b) Part of the name of the **Territory** that denotes the **Territory** 12 13 14 Rationale / deliberations and observations: 15 16 **Conclusion:** 17 18 19 20

Criteria: The IDNccTLD string is a short-form designation for the name of the Territory, recognizably denoting the name.

Event: Change of short-form designation for the name of the Territory (for example the country code: some IDN ccTLD refer to the country code)

Section: 1.2.1 sub c

Rationale / deliberations and observations:

Conclusion:

3. String MUST be in Designated Language

Criteria: Meaningful Representation of the name of the Territory MUST be in a Designated Language of the Territory

3

Event: The language loses its legal status in the Territory or is no longer considered as a language of administration

5

Section: 1.2.2

1.2.2 A Meaningful Representation of the name of the Territory MUST be in a Designated Language of the Territory. The selected IDN ccTLD string should be a Meaningful Representation of the name of the territory in a Designated Language of that Territory. For this purpose, a Designated Language is defined as: a language that has a legal status in the Territory or that serves as a language of administration⁷.

10 11 12

13

14

15

16

18

9

The language is considered to be a **Designated Language** if one or more of the following requirements is/are met:

- a) The language is listed for the relevant **Territory** as an ISO 639 language in Part Three of the "Technical Reference Manual for the standardization of Geographical Names", United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (the UNGEGN Manual) (https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/11th-uncsgn-docs/E-conf.105 13 CRP.13 15 UNGEGN%20WG%20Country%20Names%20Document.pdf).
- 17 b) The language is listed as an administrative language for the relevant **Territory** as defined in section 3.7 of ISO 3166-1 standard [2020].
 - c) The relevant public authority in the **Territory** confirms that the language is used in official communications of the relevant public authority and serves as a language of administration.

19 20 21

Specific requirements regarding documentation of **Designated Languages** are included in the procedures and documentation sections (section of 1.2.7 basic policy doc).

2223

⁷ The definition of **Designated Language** is based on: "Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names", United Nations Group of Experts on Geographic Names, United Nations, New York, 2002 https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/pubs/documents/Glossary of terms rev.pdf. Note that in the Glossary the term "Official Language" is used. Experience has shown that, depending on the specific Teritory, "Official Language" has a specific connotation, which sometimes creates confusion with the term "Official Language" as defined in the Glossary.

1.2.7 Documentation Designated Language. The requirements for allowable languages and scripts to be used for the selected IDN ccTLD string is that the language must be a **Designated Language** in the **Territory** as defined in section (see above`). The language requirement is considered verified if one of the following conditions is met: 1. If the language is listed for the relevant **Territory** as an ISO 639 language in Part Three of the *Technical Reference Manual for the* standardization of Geographical Names, United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names ("UNGEGN Manual") 5 (http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/default.htm); or 2. If the language is listed as an administrative language for the relevant **Territory** in ISO 3166-1; 8 9 or 10 3. If the relevant public authority of the **Territory** confirms that the language is used or serves as follows, (either by letter or link to the 11 relevant government constitution or other online documentation from an official government website): 12 a. Used in official communications by the relevant public authority; 13 or 14 b. Serves as a language of administration. 15 16 Further, the documentation MUST include a reference to the script or scripts in which the **Designated Language** is expressed and which MUST 17 be listed in the script charts of the latest version of UNICODE. 18 19 20 Rationale / deliberations and observations: 21 22

- 1 Conclusion:
- 2 The general policy requirement is that to be considered a Meaningful Representation of the name of the Territory
- 3 MUST be in a Designated Language of the Territory. The selected IDN ccTLD string should be a Meaningful
- 4 Representation of the name of the territory in a Designated Language of that Territory. For this purpose, a
- 5 **Designated Language** is defined as: a language that has a legal status in the **Territory** or that serves as a language of
- 6 administration⁸.

7

The IDN ccTLD will be considered de-selected and should be retired when it is evidenced that a selected IDNccTLD string that is being validated or a delegated IDNccTLD is no longer a Meaningful Representation in a **Designated Language** of the **Territory**.

101112

13

9

A language is evidenced to be no longer Designated:

14 der 15 **Lar** 16 (sec

• If at the time at the time of the request of the IDNccTLD string the Designated Language requirement was demonstrated and verified by a reference to the listing of (part of the) name of the Territory in the **Designated Language** in the UNGEGN Manual, the name of the **Territory** is no longer included in the **Designated Language** (see for the relevant **Territory** as an ISO 639 language in Part Three of the "Technical Reference Manual for the standardization of Geographical Names", United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (the UNGEGN Manual) (https://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/ungegn/docs/11th-uncsgn-docs/E Conf.105 13 CRP.13 15 UNGEGN%20WG%20Country%20Names%20Document.pdf).

1920

18

⁸ The definition of **Designated Language** is based on: "Glossary of Terms for the Standardization of Geographical Names", United Nations Group of Experts on Geographic Names, United Nations, New York, 2002 https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/pubs/documents/Glossary of terms rev.pdf. Note that in the Glossary the term "Official Language" is used. Experience has shown that, depending on the specific Teritory, "Official Language" has a specific connotation, which sometimes creates confusion with the term "Official Language" as defined in the Glossary.

• If at the time at the time of the request of the IDNccTLD string the Designated Language requirement was demonstrated and verified by referencing it as an administrative language for the relevant **Territory** as defined in section 3.7 of ISO 3166-1 standard [2020], the language is no longer referenced as such.

• If the relevant public authority in the **Territory** confirms that the language is no longer used in official communications of the relevant public authority or serves as a language of administration (**Statement of Designation of Language**)

If it is evidenced that a language is no longer a Designated Language in the Territory the related IDNccTLD string for the name of that Territory is considered de-selected and if delegated, the IDNccTLD should be retired.

- Confirmation of association or dis-association.
- ICANN is not expected to actively seek confirmation of change of status of a language in territory.

However, if ICANN receives a valid request⁹ for an IDNccTLD string for a **Territory** which is in the same Designated Language ript as another IDNccTLD string associated with the same **Territory** and the latter is either in the verification process or has been delegated, ICANN shall require a **Statement of Designation of Language** from the requester or IDNccTLD Manager of the IDNccTLD string already being verified or delegated (whatever the case may be).

If such a **Statement of Designated Language** cannot be provided within a reasonable time frame (3-4 months upon notification by ICANN), the first IDNccTLD string is deemed to be de-selected and shall be retired. During this time, the processing of the requested IDNccTLD stringa for that Territory shall be put on hold.

⁹ Note this includes documentation of support by the SIP, with a prominent role of the government!!

If according to the **Statement of Designated Language** the language remains to be a Designated Language, the (second) requested IDNccTLD string in the same Designated Language of the Territory shall be considered invalid and the requester and the related government should be informed accordingly. ICANN should include in the implementation plan an example of the **Statement of Designated Language.** 5 6 8 9 4. Designated Language/Script combination Criteria: The script or scripts in which the Designated Language is expressed 10 11 12 Section: 1.2.7 13 Further, the documentation MUST include a reference to the script or scripts in which the **Designated Language** is expressed and which MUST be listed in the script charts of the latest version of UNICODE. 14 15 16 Event: The script in which the Designated language is expressed is changed 17 18 Rationale / deliberations and observations: 19 20 **Conclusion:** 21 22

5. The support for the selected string Criteria: Required endorsement / support/non-objection for selected string by Significantly Interested Parties **Event:** The Significantly Interested Parties no longer support the selected IDNccTLD string Scenario 1: All/majority (including the government) Significantly Interested Parties no longer support the selected IDNccTLD string Scenario 2: One of the Significantly Interested Parties other than the relevant government no longer supports the selected IDNccTLD string Scenario 3: The relevant government no longer support the selected IDNccTLD string **Section:** 2.1 & 2.2 13 14 2.1 The selected IDN ccTLD string MUST be non-contentious within the Territory. The selected IDN ccTLD string must be noncontentious within the **Territory**. The non-contentiousness is evidenced by a statement of support/endorsement/non-objection by the 16 Significantly Interested Parties in the Territory.

17 18

19

20

21

22

15

3

5 6

8

9 10

11 12

> If during the process for selecting an IDN ccTLD string concurrent requests for the same or more IDN ccTLD strings in the same Designated Language for the same Territory are submitted, they shall be considered competing requests and are therefore deemed to be contentious within the **Territory**. Before any further steps are taken in the selection process, this issue needs to be resolved in **Territory**, before proceeding with any of the requests. If a concurrent request for an IDNccTLD string is received after the validation of the first requested IDNccTLD string has been completed and the requested IDNccTLD is published (see section 10, below), this second request shall be considered erronous and section Change, withdrawal or termination of the request (section [update nr] below) applies.

23 24 25

26

27

28

29

- 2.2 Documentation of required endorsement / support/non-objection for selected string by Significantly Interested Parties
- 2.2.1 Definition of Significantly Interested Parties. Significantly Interested Parties include but are not limited to:
 - 1. the government or territorial authority for the **Territory** associated with the IDN ccTLD string and
 - 2. any other individuals, organizations, companies, associations, educational institutions or others in the **Territory** that have a direct, material, substantial, legitimate and demonstrable interest.

30

- To be considered a **Significantly Interested Party**, any party other than the government or territorial authority for the **Territory**
- 2 associated with the selected IDN ccTLD must demonstrate that it is has a direct, material, legitimate and demonstrable interest in the
- 3 operation of the proposed IDN ccTLD(s).
- 4 Requesters should be encouraged to provide documentation of the support of stakeholders for the selected string, including an
- 5 opportunity for stakeholders to comment on the selection of the proposed string via a public process. "Stakeholders" is used here to
- 6 encompass **Significantly Interested Parties**, "interested parties" and "other parties."

2.2.2 Classification of input

For procedural purposes the following cases should be distinguished:

- Request for the full or short name of **Territory** (as defined in Section 3, reference needs to be updated in final version).
- Other cases, where additional documentation is required.

In both cases the relevant Government / Public Authority needs to be involved and at a minimum its non-objection should be documented.

12 13 14

15

16

8

10

11

- **2.2.3 Notes and Comments.** In case where additional documentation is required:
 - Unanimity should NOT be required.
 - The process should allow minorities to express a concern i.e. should not be used against legitimate concerns of minorities
 - The process should not allow a small group to unduly delay the selection process.

17 18 19

ICANN should include an example of the documentation required to demonstrate the support or nonobjection for the selected string(s) in the implementation plan.

21 22

23

24

25

20

Rationale / deliberations and observations:

- Staff Note 1: understand process for selection of IDNccTLD string
- Staff Note 2: According to the proposed Retirement policy the process to retire an (IDN)ccTLD takes at least 5 years.
- Staff Note 3: Once a country code has been assigned by the ISO3166 MA, the country code will remain to be assigned to the name of the Country, sub-division or other area of geopolitical interest, unless the name of the country changes significantly or the entry is deleted.

According to section 1.2.1 of the full text the principle of association between the IDN country code string and the name of a **Territory** should be maintained. A selected IDN ccTLD string MUST be a meaningful representation of the name of the **Territory**. Losing support from the SIP implies that the selected IDN "country code" is no longer a meaningful representation of the name of the Territory Observation: Community, manager, government. All of them are SIP. What if they have clear consensus that the string should not continue? What if there is disagreement? Comment: the SIP needs to express support the selected idn cctld string. Meaningful representation of the name of the country Question: Could there should be a way to "hand back" an IDN ccTLDs based on the consensus of the SIPs (Example the UM TLD); However, this should not be a shortcut for redelegation, just because one member of the SIP does no longer likes the registry.

Question

(lack of) support for a string, by the SIP. Please explain the process through which you went in Serbia to seek support for the IDN ccTLD string. What needs to be done, if one of the supporting parties does not support it anymore? Or if all no longer support?

Mirjana: one of 1st ccTLDs that applied, approx. 10 years ago. Application process was new to all. Decided first to promote an action, asking the community for proposals. They received approx. 15 suggestions. A commission selected the name, which best describes the country. 5 reasonable proposals in the end. A voting took place, and 2 proposals remained. About 10.000 responses. That was an usually high number. 2 proposals were presented to the government, to seek their support. Prior to that, there was contact with ICANN, to see whether there were potential conflicts, and suggestions on the steps to follow. Once all documentation was in place, the request was submitted to ICANN. Process took 2 or 4 months.

Question: if you look at the process, what needs to happen, in your view, if the governments no longer support the choice.

Response: not sure. Depends. Consult with internet community (users, registrars, internet providers, maybe others....) in some countries the communities are organised. Very complicated matter. No clear answer.

What is on the net, stays forever. But if a ccTLD ceases to exist, changes to interested parties might happen.

1 2	Observation: concerns about multi stakeholder representation in country or territory. I would like to present the case of .ykp (.укр in Cyrillic)
3	: what if SIP no longer support the IDN ccTLD.
4 5	What is on the net, stays forever. But if a ccTLD ceases to exist, changes to interested parties might happen.
6 7	Depends on country / internet community ← sometimes organized
8 9	Best way if all interested parties, changes in interested if all them IDN can be removed
10	Case .ukr
11 12	String for .ukr misusing name
13	2010 -> Ukraine received string: questions, what is concerned UKP, UKR
14	Discussed IGF UA, rejected receiving -> community the most active participants decided not to revoke string, best approach, 2015 every government.
15	Definition of SIP: Different per country
16	GAC representative, authorized agency, language expert
17 18	Eventually IDNccTLD, operator
19	Question: Do you support that full SIP should be in position to revoke their support for the IDN country code?
20	Temp of the room, yes.
21	Should this trigger the retirement process?
22 23	Again temperature was green -> support
24 25	Other parties: need to be clarified
26	Meeting 9 December 2021
27	Government is part of the SIP. in some case the only one.
28 29	Question: Would it be enough, if only the government would require a change? Or all SIP as defined? If there is no longer a support, should it be all of the SIP that no longer support the selected string?
30	Response: all SIP, which include the government.

Comment is supported 2 3 Question: is there list of SIP per country? Response: At a minimum (see line 11-12) the relevant government / public authority that needs to express its non-objection. 6 Question: should in case in case of a change of IDnccTLD string (i.e. no longer supported) the government express its support? This is a higher threshold, as implication is retirement. 9 10 Secondly, there is documentation in policy on who is expected to be involved in SIP. This however depends on the country 11 In addition, in basic document of full wg stated that support does not need to unanimous, a vast majority suffices, and this majority may change over time. 12 13 Commetn: governments must be involved. 14 15 Poll: do you agree Unanimity is not required 16 Do you agree? yes 17 18 19

Conclusion:

- If it is evidenced that the selected IDN ccTLD string is considered to have become contentious within the Territory,
- it shall be retired. The contentiousness of the IDNccTLD string is evidenced by a statement of the Significantly
- 4 Interested Parties in the Territory the IDNccTLD string is contentious (Hereafter: Statement of De-Selection?)

5

For purposes of the procedure, <u>The Definition of Significantly Interested Parties</u> (section 2.2.1) and Classification of input (section 2.2.2) apply.

8

- 9 Further, in all cases the relevant Government / Public Authority of the needs to be involved their support for the De-
- Selection i.e their objection to the originally selected IDNccTLD string must be documented in the Statement of De-
- 11 Selection.

12 13

To be effective the **Statement of De-Selection** MUST be published on the ICANN Website and before publication of the Statement, the IDNccTLD Manager shall be informed by ICANN of receipt of such a **Statement of De-Selection**.

1415

- 16 If a concurrent **SIP** statement in support of the IDN ccTLD string(s) is received by ICANN before the Notification of
- 17 Retirement is provided to the Manager of the de-selected IDNccTLD string, this statement and the Statement of De-
- Selection shall be deemed to be conflicting within the **Territory**. Before any further steps are taken in the retirement
- process, this issue needs to be resolved in **Territory**. If a request for an IDNccTLD string in the same **Designated**
- 20 **Language** for the same **Territory** is received at the same time or after the statement the IDNccTLD string is
- 21 contentious, but before the date the notification of retirement is send, this issue of contradicting statements with
- respect to the de-selection of the IDNccTLD string needs to be resolved in **Territory**, before any further steps are
- taken in the de-selection process of the delegated IDNccTLD string and validation process for the newly requested
- 24 IDNccTLD string.

25

- 1 ICANN should include in the implementation plan an example of the documentation required to demonstrate the support
- 2 for the De-Selection of the selected string(s).

ı	6. The IDNCCTED string must abide to Technical Criteria
2	Criteria: The selected IDN ccTLD string must abide by all Technical Criteria for an IDN TLD string.
3	Section: 4.1.1
4	Event: As a result of a change of the general technical criteria, the IDNccTLD string does not abide anymore to the general requirements.
5	Rationale / deliberations and observations:
6	
7	Conclusion:
8	
9	
0	
l	
2	Event: Following a change of the normative parts of RFC 5890, RFC 5891, RFC 5892 and/or RFC 5893 the IDNccTLD string does not abide
3 1	anymore to the general requirements.
4	Dationals / daliborations and absorbations.
5	Rationale / deliberations and observations:
6 7	Conclusion:
/ R	Conclusion.
))	
0	Event: By a change of the RZ-LGR (some of) the IDNccTLD (and some of the delegated variants) is (are) not allocatable according RZ-LGR
1	210111 by a sharinge of the N2 2011 (some of the introduction and interest and inte
2	Rationale / deliberations and observations:
3	
4	Conclusion:
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
0	