Internationalized Domain Names Expedited Policy Development Process

A5 & A6 (time permitting, A7, A9, A10)

ICANN

EPDP on IDNs Team Call #20 | 20 January 2022

Revisit A5

Charter Question A5

SAC060 notes that variant code points in LGR may introduce a "permutation issue", possibly creating a large number of variant domain names, which "presents challenges for the management of variant domains at the registry, the registrar and registrant levels." SAC060 advises that "ICANN should ensure that the number of strings that are activated is as small as possible." The TSG agreed with this SSAC advice. Appendix C of the Staff Paper reviewed the factors causing numerous variant labels and suggested measures to address this issue.

Should there be a ceiling value or other mechanism to ensure that the number of delegated top-level variant labels remains small, understanding that variant labels in the second level may compound the situation? **Should additional security and stability guidelines be developed** to make variant domains manageable at the registry, registrar, and registrant levels?

Measures to Reduce Allocatable Variant Labels

No variant labels:

- Georgian
- Gujarati
- Lao
- Thai

No allocatable variant labels:

- Armenian
- Cyrillic
- Devanagari
- Ethiopic
- Gurmukhi
- Hebrew
- Japanese*
- Kannada
- Khmer
- Korean
- Malayalam
- Oriya
- Sinhala
- Telugu

Have allocatable variant labels:

- Arabic
- Bengali
- Chinese
- Greek
- Latin*
- Myanmar*
- Tamil

*RZ-LGR proposals for Japanese, Latin, and Myanmar scripts are being finalized.
Tibetan and Thaana scripts are still to be completed.

Scripts With Allocatable Variant Labels

- **Arabic**
  - Total variant labels are not bounded and will depend on code points and length of the label
  - **Allocatable variant labels for the delegated top-level domains vary from 1-9 labels**

- **Bengali**
  - A variant letterform for one of the languages is "allocatable", while the others are "blocked"
  - **Limiting allocatable variant labels to 2 labels**

- **Chinese**
  - **Allocatable variant labels for the delegated top-level domains vary from 1-3 labels**
  - Applicant is allowed to select as the original label (one specific desired mixed variant), in addition to the all-Simplified and all-Traditional variant labels

- **Greek**
  - **At most 4 labels may be allocatable**: must either contain only unaccented vowels, only non-final sigma, or both, while the original, applied for label may contain any mixture

Scripts With Allocatable Variant Labels (Cont.)

- **Latin**
  - Only allocatable variants are **ß (ss in German)** and **ı (dotless i in Turkish)**
  - "ss" is allocatable for 'ß', but 'ß' is blocked variant of "ss"; "i" is allocatable for 'ı', but 'ı' is blocked variant of "ss"
  - **At most 4 labels may be allocatable**: each of which must either contain only "ss", only dotted-i, or both, while the original, applied for label may contain any mixture

- **Myanmar**
  - **At most 3 labels may be allocatable**: an original label, which may mix code points from the two sets, and one variant label each with all code points from one of the two sets

- **Tamil**
  - Two sequences of code points which are alternate representations for the syllable /shri/ and are allocatable variants of each other
  - **Limiting allocatable variant labels to 2 labels**