Internationalized Domain Names Expedited Policy Development Process

B4a, B5, A7, A10

IDN-EPDP Team Meeting #28 | 31 March 2022

Agenda

1. Roll Call & SOI Updates (2 min)
2. Welcome & Chair Updates (5 min)
3. **B4a** - Continued discussion (20 min)
4. **B5** - Introduction (25 min)
5. **A7 Part 2** - Suggested approach to outreach to CJK GPs (25 min)
6. **A10** - Status/general agreement (10 min)
7. AOB (3 min)

B4a - Continued Discussion

Charter Question B4a & Context

B4a: For the variant labels with status "**withheld for the same entity**" (i.e. not requested for allocation in the application process), **what role do they play**?

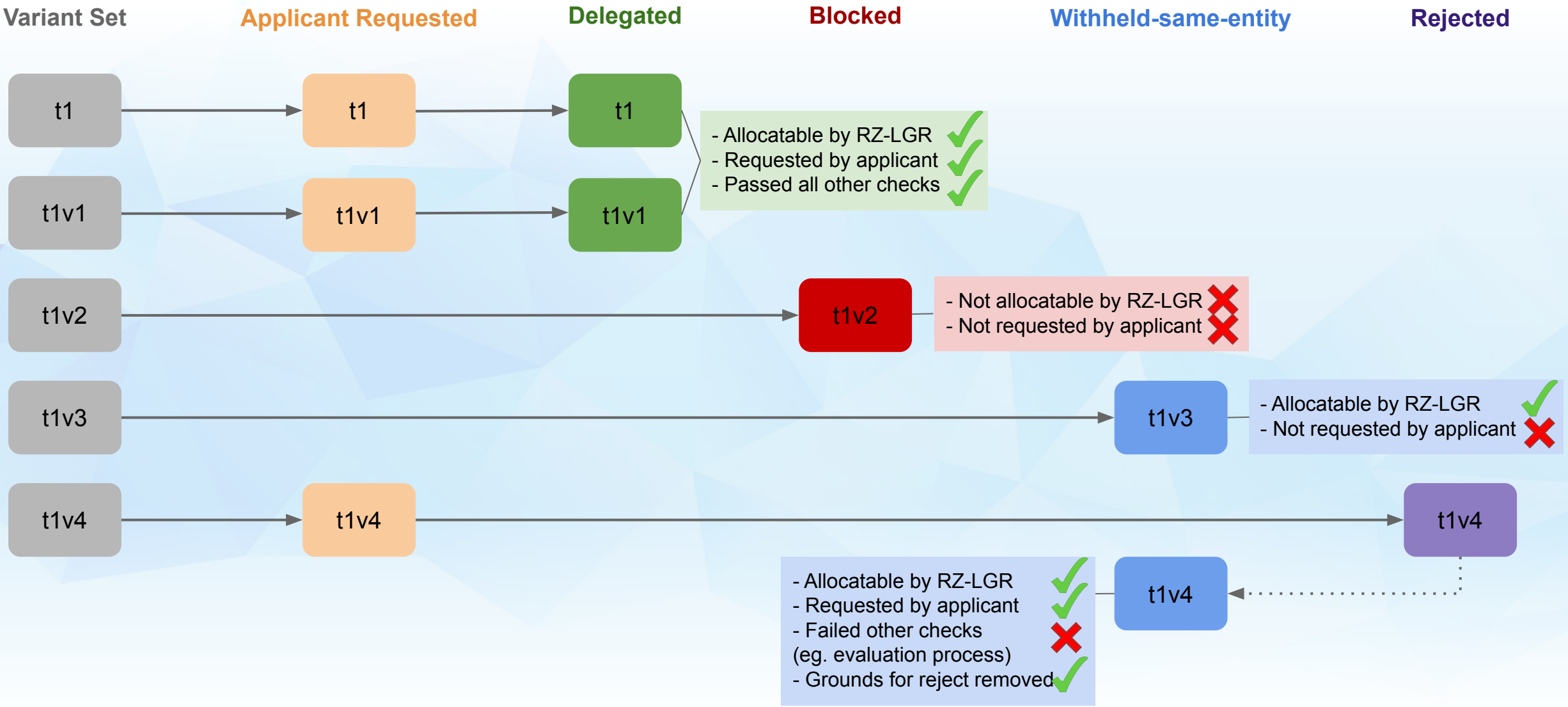
Summary of Discussion

- Should the "withheld same entity" variant labels be set aside in the initial "application" or "request for activation" step?
- Applicants / ROs do not have rights to "withheld same entity" labels outside of approved application / request process
  - Applicants / ROs may have legal claims to such labels that have gone through an evaluation process?
- Discuss possibly three scenarios:
  - 1) existing ROs - allocatable variant labels not being requested for activation;
  - 2) future applicants - allocatable variant labels not being applied for;
  - 3) future applicants - grounds for rejection removed for previously "rejected" labels

Staff Paper Definition

***Withheld-same-entity**: A Withheld label is set aside for possible allocation only to the same entity of the other labels in the variant set. Note that this status does not guarantee that the label in question will in fact be allocated (because the label is also subject to other application conditions).*

Example


Variant Set
Applicant Requested
Delegated
Blocked
Withheld-same-entity
Rejected
t1
t1
t1
- Allocatable by RZ-LGR
- Requested by applicant
- Passed all other checks
t1v1
t1v1
t1v1
t1v2
t1v2
- Not allocatable by RZ-LGR
- Not requested by applicant
t1v3
t1v3
- Allocatable by RZ-LGR
- Not requested by applicant
t1v4
t1v4
t1v4
- Allocatable by RZ-LGR
- Requested by applicant
- Failed other checks
(eg. evaluation process)
- Grounds for reject removed
t1v4

B5 - Introduction

Charter Question B5 & Context

B5: Do restrictions that apply to a TLD (e.g., community TLDs, dot brand TLDs) also apply to its variants? Are these labels equally treated as different versions of the same string, or completely independent strings not bound by the same restrictions?

Context

What types of gTLDs does this charter question refer to?

Existing and future gTLDs that have different application questions, evaluation processes, contractual requirements, post-delegation activities, and other non-standard treatments, including but not limited to:

- **Community-based TLDs** - *application questions, evaluation process, contractual requirements*
- **Brand TLDs** - *application questions, contractual requirements*
- **TLDs Subject to Category 1 Safeguards** - *evaluation process, contractual requirements*
- **GeoTLDs** - *application questions, evaluation process*

What does this charter question focus on?

Discuss the principle for treatment of variant labels, not the detailed policies and procedures regarding those types of gTLDs

Examples of Existing gTLDs with “Restrictions”

Community-based TLDs
Examples: .كاثوليك .天主教 .政务

A gTLD operated for the benefit of a clearly delineated community

- Submit written endorsement by established institution(s) representing the community
- Community Priority Evaluation to resolve contention
- Specification 12

Brand TLDs
Examples: .アマゾン .微博 .電訊盈科

A gTLD using a brand name and operated by a corporation that owns the brand

- Submit proof that the applied for string is identical to a registered trademark of the Registry Operator
- Cannot be a Generic String
- Specification 13

GeoTLDs
Examples: .ابوظبي .深圳, .广东

A gTLD denoting geographical, geopolitical, ethnic, social or cultural representation

- Provide a documentation of support or non-objection from relevant governments or public authorities
- Applications evaluated by the Geographic Names Panel (GNP)

TLDs Subject to Category 1 Safeguards
Examples: .クラウド .健康 .書籍

A gTLD deemed applicable to highly sensitive or regulated industries

- Adopt relevant Category 1 Safeguards as contractually binding requirements in Specification 11 (mandatory PIC)
- For future gTLDs, a specific evaluation panel to confirm whether applied-for gTLDs fall into the category

A7 Part 2 - Suggested Approach to Outreach to GPs

Charter Question A7 Part 2

A7: What mechanism or criteria should be used to identify the scripts/languages appropriate for single-character TLDs? **Once those scripts/languages are identified, what mechanism or criteria should be used to identify a specific list of allowable characters which can be used as a single-character TLD within such scripts/languages? Should any specific implementation guidance be provided?** Furthermore, should the relevant GP tag these code points in the RZ-LGR for a consistent analysis and to ease their identification and algorithmic calculation?

Part 2 Summary of Discussion

- Some support consulting with Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Generation Panels and Integration Panel to gain a better understanding of this issue
- Should not make the instructions too prescriptive

Proposal for Consultation Letter to GPs

Background & Context for Inclusion:

- **EPDP-IDN** background and charter question A7
- SAC052 suggests that if a script is allowed for single character TLDs, a distinct and explicit specification of which subset of the script is available for single-character TLDs should be required prior to the acceptance of a single-character TLD application.
- SubPro PDP recommends that single character gTLDs may be allowed for limited script/language combinations where a character is an ideograph (or ideogram) and do not introduce confusion risks that rise above commonplace similarities. SubPro PDP also welcomes the identification of potentially a specific list of allowable single-character gTLDs to increase the predictability of the evaluation process.

Proposed Questions to Ask GPs:

1. What is the **definition of ideograph / ideogram**? Based on this definition, are all Han characters ideograph / ideogram? If not, does the definition clearly provide a way to identify which Han characters are ideograph / ideogram.
2. Is it possible for GPs to coordinate and develop criteria for the **evaluation of future single-Character gTLD applications in Han script, particularly in the context of string confusion**, to ensure they are introduced to the root-zone in a conservative manner?
3. Is it possible for GPs to coordinate and develop criteria by which to **identify a subset of the Han script allowed for single-character TLDs** that present no risk of user confusion? Alternatively, is it possible to develop criteria by which to identify a list of Han characters that may introduce confusion risks that rise above commonplace similarities? What is the estimated level of effort required to conduct such work?

Further Points for Setting Expectations:

Should the GPs agree to reconvene to develop criteria and/or a specific list of allowable characters, how will their work outcomes be treated?

- Should the outcomes become an input to the EPDP Team's deliberation, or should the outcomes automatically become EPDP Team's recommendation?
- Should the outcomes be encoded in the RZ-LGR, or should they be published as a document for reference?

A10 - Status / General Agreement

A10 Recap

A10: What is the procedure to change the label status for individual variant labels?

Summary of Discussion

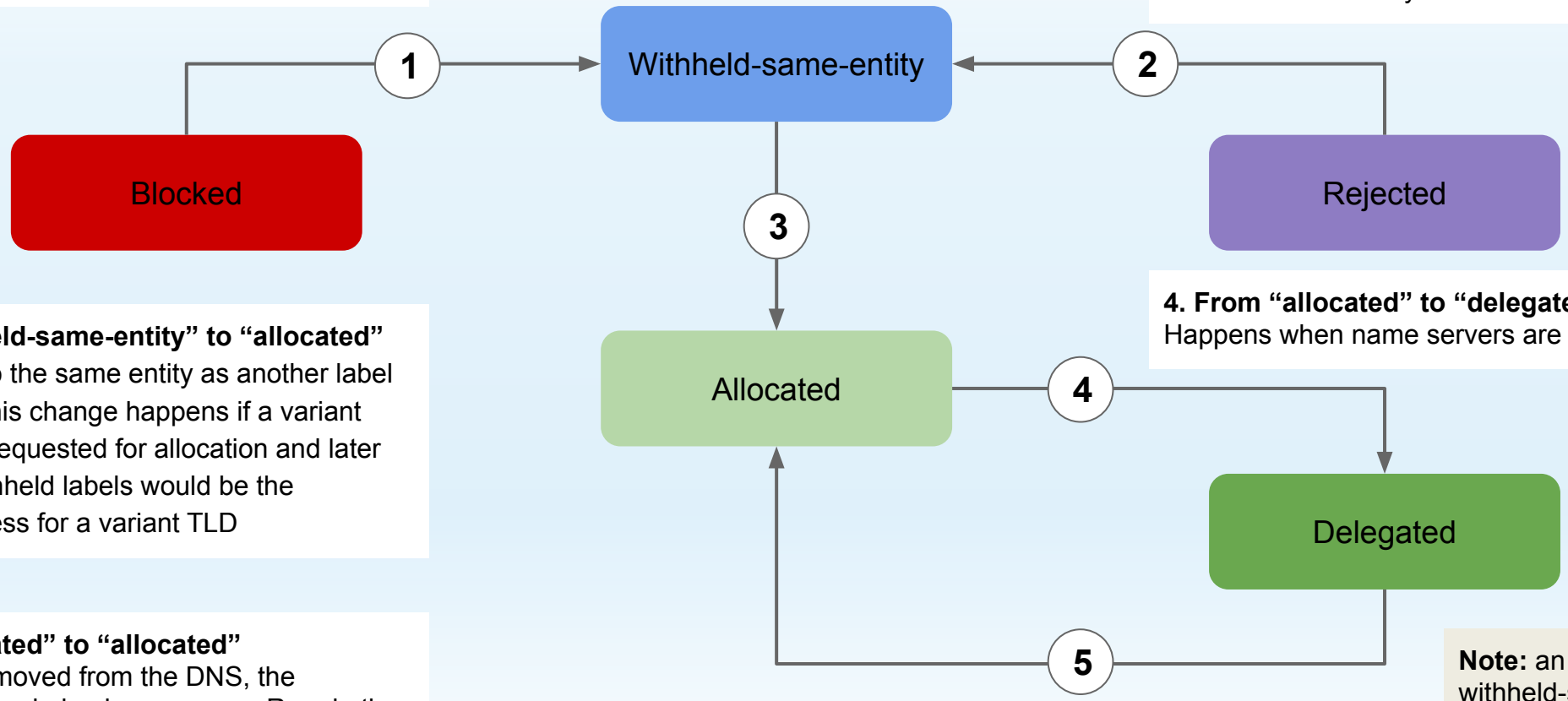
- The EPDP Team agreed to accept the five label states (i.e., “delegated”, “allocated”, “withheld same entity”, “blocked”, “rejected”) proposed in the Staff Paper as a preliminary agreement (A9).
- The EPDP Team agreed with the the label transition paths defined in the staff paper at this time.
- Revisit after the EPDP Team addresses other charter questions and examines potential implications.

Initial state	State may change to	Remarks
Withheld-same-entity	Allocated	Allocation only to the same entity as another label in the IDL set. This change happens if a variant was not initially requested for allocation and later is.
Blocked	Withheld-same-entity	A later LGR may broaden the available labels in the IDL set. Such possible labels automatically become Withheld-same-entity.
Allocated	Delegated	Happens when name servers are added. (Not new.)
Delegated	Allocated	If a domain is removed from the DNS, the allocation can remain in place anyway. Rare in the root zone, but not new.
Rejected	Withheld-same-entity	Every Rejected label is automatically Withheld-same-entity as well. If the Rejected status comes off, the label can be handled as any other Withheld-same-entity label.

Possible Label State Transitions in Staff Paper

1. From “blocked” to “withheld-same-entity”
A later LGR may broaden the available labels in the IDL set. Such possible labels automatically become withheld-same-entity

2. From “rejected” to “withheld-same-entity”
Every Rejected label is automatically Withheld-same-entity as well. If the Rejected status comes off, the label can be handled as any other Withheld-same-entity label.



3. From “withheld-same-entity” to “allocated”
Allocation only to the same entity as another label in the IDL set. This change happens if a variant was not initially requested for allocation and later is. Allocating withheld labels would be the application process for a variant TLD

4. From “allocated” to “delegated”
Happens when name servers are added (Not new.)

5. From “delegated” to “allocated”
If a domain is removed from the DNS, the allocation can remain in place anyway. Rare in the root zone, but not new.

Note: an allocated or withheld-same-entity label cannot become blocked