Internationalized Domain Names Expedited Policy Development Process
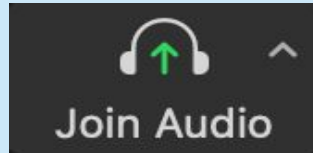
Progress Update

ICANN74 Session 1 | 13 June 2022

Virtual Participants

1
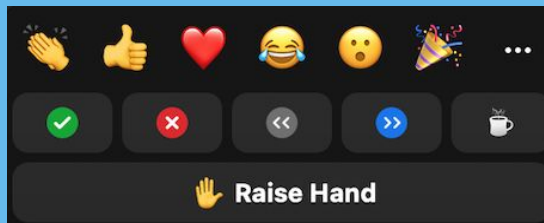Connect your **Zoom Audio** to listen to the meeting.

2
Turn on your **Zoom Video** to be seen by other participants.
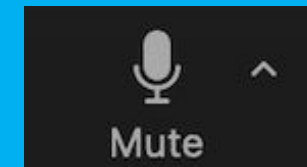
3
Raise your hand in **Zoom Reactions** to join the speaking queue.

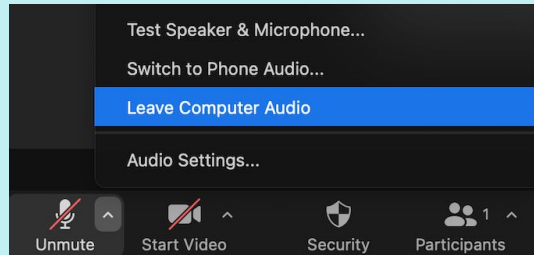### 4
Unmute your **Zoom Audio** when called upon to speak.

On-Site/In-Room Participants

1

Do **not** connect your **Zoom Audio**. To disconnect your audio, click on the **Up Arrow** and select **Leave Computer Audio**.

2

Raise your hand in **Zoom Reactions** to join the speaking queue.
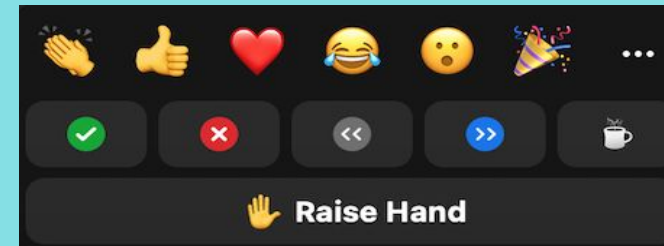
3

Use the physical microphone at your seat or in the aisle when called upon to speak.

Agenda

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

2. IDN-EPDP Team General Progress Update (20 min)

3. ccPDP Progress Update (20 min)

4. String Similarity Review Small Group Progress Update

5. AOB

IDN-EPDP Team General Progress Update

Project Tracking

Project Information

05/20/21
Current Start

08/18/23
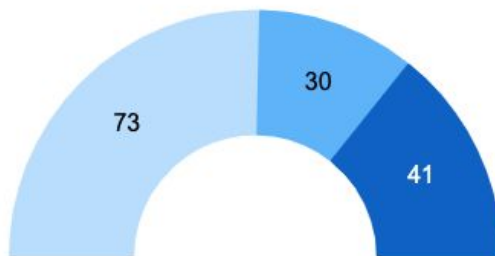Current Finish

43%
% Complete

Project Status & Health

Project_Status	Project_Health
On-Schedule	On-Target

Tasks by Status

73 — Not_Started
30 — Complete
41 — In_Progress

● Not_Started ● Complete ● In_Progress

Project Contacts

Donna Austin
Chair

Justine Chew
Vice_Chair

Farell Folly
Liaison

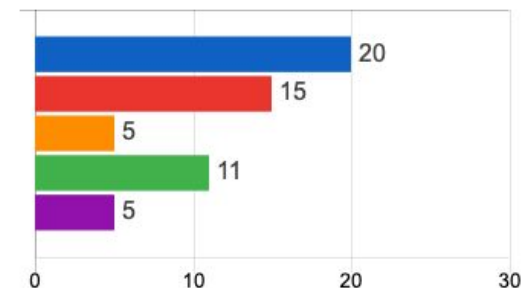**Ariel Liang**
Staff_Lead

Steve Chan
Project_Manager

Participant Summary

20
15
5
11
5

0 10 20 30

● Member ● Participant_Count
● Observer_Email_Only ● Staff_Assigned
● Staff_Not_Assigned

Summary Gantt & Key Milestones

Health	Primary Task	Current Start	Current Finish	% Complete	Status	2021–2023 Gantt
	EPDP: Internationalized Domain Names	05/20/21	08/18/23	43%	In Progress	EPDP: Internationalized Domain Names
	PROJECT CONTROL	05/20/21	07/10/23	63%	In Progress	PROJECT CONTROL
	GROUP DELIBERATIONS	08/11/21	03/16/23	48%	In Progress	GROUP DELIBERATIONS
🔴	Group 1	08/25/21	02/17/22	87%	In Progress	Group 1
🔴	Group 2	02/04/22	03/31/22	65%	In Progress	Group 2
🔴	Group 3	03/18/22	06/02/22	33%	In Progress	Group 3
🔴	Group 4	05/20/22	08/04/22			Group 4
🔴	Group 5	07/22/22	09/16/22			Group 5
🟡	Group 6	09/05/22	10/24/22			Group 6
🟡	Group 7	10/11/22	11/11/22			Group 7
	INITIAL REPORT	09/20/21	02/03/23	24%	In Progress	INITIAL REPORT
	Publish Initial Report	12/16/22	12/16/22			◆ Publish Initial Report
	Public comment forum on the Initial Report (40 days)	12/19/22	02/03/23			Public comment forum on the Initial Report (40 days)
	FINAL REPORT	02/06/23	04/07/23		Not Started	FINAL REPORT
	Review of public comments	02/06/23	03/17/23			Review of public comments
	Submission of Final Report to the GNSO Council	04/07/23	04/07/23			◆ Submission of Final Report to the GNSO Council

Group 1: Definitions of All gTLDs Using RZ-LGR

Current Status: **87% Completion**

❏ Draft outcome language reviewed for A1, A3, A5, A6, A7 (Part 1), A9, A10
❏ No recommendations needed for A2, A4
❏ Deliberation not started for A8 (catch-all question)

Draft Recommendation Sample

❏ **RZ-LGR be the sole source** to calculate the variant labels and disposition values for existing delegated gTLDs

❏ **No ceiling value is necessary** to keep the number of activated top-level variant labels conservative

❏ **Best practice guidelines** be developed for managing a gTLD and its variant labels by registries and registrars

❏ Generation Panels (GPs) and the Integration Panel must make best effort to **retain full backward compatibility**

❏ **Single character gTLDs** may only be allowed for limited script and language where a character is an **ideograph**

Outstanding Items

❏ Scope additional work on single character TLDs for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean GPs - A7 (Part 2)
❏ Confirm updated draft outcome language as stable for A7 (Part 1), A9, A10

Group 2: "Same Entity" at the Top-Level

Current Status: 65% Completion

❑ Draft outcome language developed for B1, B2, D1a, D1b (Part 2), B5
❑ No recommendations needed for B3, D1
❑ Deliberation on hold for D1b (Part 1), B4, B4a

Draft Recommendation Sample

❑ Registry operator of an existing gTLD must use the **same back-end registry service provider** for operating all delegated variant labels of that gTLD

❑ Each gTLD and its variant labels be **subject to one Registry Agreement** with the same registry operator

❑ **One application** covers the primary new gTLD and allocatable variant label(s) the applicant wishes to activate

❑ **Fee structure** associated with applications that include variants must adhere to the principle of **cost recovery**

Outstanding Items

❑ Review draft outcome language for B1, B2, D1a, D1b (Part 2), B5
❑ Review responses from Arabic and Chinese TLD Registry Operators (survey deadline: 24 June 2022) - D1b (Part 1)
❑ Review updated strawman proposal of process flow - D1b (Part 1), B4

Group 3: Variants' Impact on New gTLD Process

Current Status: 33% Completion

- ❏ Draft outcome language developed for E2, E5 (Part 1), D2, D3
- ❏ Deliberation on hold for E1 (B4a), E3, E3a, E4 - pending String Similarity Review Small Team input
- ❏ Deliberation to be continued for E5 (Part 2), E7

Draft Recommendation Sample

- ❏ All allocatable variants that applicants request to activate must be subject to **objection process**

- ❏ The Reserved Names list be **maintained "as is"**; variants of Reserved Names be **blocked from application**

- ❏ Emergency transition of a gTLD to an EBERO provider must **trigger an emergency transition of all allocated and delegated variants** of that gTLD to the **same EBERO provider**

- ❏ **Same data escrow provider** be contracted for the primary gTLD and its allocated and delegated variants

Outstanding Items

- ❏ Review draft outcome language for E2, E5 (Part 1), D2, D3
- ❏ Discuss input from String Similarity Review Small Group - E1 (B4a), E3, E3a, E4
- ❏ Continue deliberation of E5 (Part 2), E7

Upcoming Work

Group 4: "Same Entity" Principle at Second-Level
C1, C2, C3, C3a, C4, C4a, C5, C6

Group 5: Domain Name Lifecycle
D4, D5, D6, D6a, D7, D7a, D8, E6

Group 6: Registration Dispute Resolution and Trademark Protection
F1, F2

Group 7: IDN Implementation Guideline
G1, G1a

ccPDP4 Progress Update

ccPDP4 Progress to Date

Full Work Group

- ❑ Update basic policy document from 2013 (completed)
- ❑ Update basic policy with recommendations of the sub-groups
    - ▪ Deselection (completed)
    - ▪ Variant Management by full WG (underway)
    - ▪ CS discussion full WG
    - ▪ Stress Testing to start at ICANN74

Sub-Group on Variant Management

- ❑ Definition & validating variants of IDN ccTLDs and requirements for the delegation of variant IDN ccTLDs
- ❑ Area coordination with GNSO IDN EPDP.
- ❑ From IDN ccPDP4 perspective:
    - ▪ Use results to date SubPro, SAC 060, SAC 120 and other basic documentation
    - ▪ coordination at leadership level with GNSO EPDP
    - ▪ Partial joint membership, partial joint staff support GNSO EPDP

Sub-Group on De-Selection of IDN ccTLDs

- ❑ Deselection (retirement) of IDNccTLDs (Completed)

Sub-Group on Confusing Similarity

- ❑ Review & update review process (underway)
- ❑ Standard for Review, Base for Comparison completed

Sub-Group on Variant Management

Questions to Address

❏ How are Variants of the selected IDNccTLD string defined?

❏ How should variants of the selected IDNccTLD string be managed?

Examples of ccTLD Variant Strings

ابوظبي (Abu Dhabi) in Arabic script has 80 variant label(s) generated by RZ-LGR

- 78 are "blocked"
- 1 variant is "allocatable"
- 1 is "valid" (original primary label)

ابوظبي	xn--mgbca7dzdo	is	"valid" (meets all criteria)
ابوظبئ	xn--lgbbda3fte	is	"blocked" (can not be used according to RZ-LGR)
ابوظب	xn--mgbca7dzdi	is	"blocked"
ابوظب	xn--mgbca7dzd84b	is	"allocatable" (can be used according to RZ-LGR)

How Are Variants Generated?

Compliance with Root Zone Label Generation Rules RZ-LGR-5 (or its successor) IS required for the generation of selected IDNccTLDs and its variants, including the determination of whether a variant label is blocked or allocatable.

Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR) provide a conservative mechanism to determine valid IDN TLDs and their variant labels.

Root Zone Label Generation Rules Version 5 (RZ-LGR-5, June 2022) covers twenty-six scripts.

Highlight: Limit Number of Variant that Can Be Delegated

Need to limit number of variants to be delegated. Draw a line between

Maximum usability <- --------------------- -> Maximum security and stability

Example: "Pakistan" in Arabic Script

Arabic script RZ-LGR generates 1200 variants, only 6 are allocatable. Of these 6:
- 3 are not correct spelling of the name of the country in any language
- 1 variant is meaningful representation of the name of the country in the Designated Language
- 1 variant is poetic representation of the name of the Pakistan
- 1 variant is a meaningful representation, however not in a Designated Language.

Recommendation

Only variants of the selected IDNccTLD string eligible for delegation have to be:
- **a Meaningful Representations of the name of the Territory**
- **in the Designated Language**
  - Variants of selected IDNccTLD should be requested by the requester/IDNccTLD Manager
  - Variants of the selected IDNccTLD string must meet all other selection criteria.

Highlight: Applicable Policy Aspects

All ccTLD related policies (Delegation, Transfer, Revocation & Retirement, and Selection of IDNccTLD strings) apply to variant IDNccTLDs, unless specific requirements under a policy state otherwise.

Example 1
Specific requirement: the requirement of one (1) IDNccTLD per Designated Language / script combination does not apply to variants of a selected IDNccTLD string

Example 2
Specific requirement: an IDNccTLD and its variants MUST be delegated to one and the same ccTLD Manager

String Similarity Review Small Team Progress Update

Problem Statement

EPDP-IDN Charter asks to consider any adjustment to the string similarity review due to the variant implementation:

- What role, if any, do the "withheld same entity" variants play?
- What are the potential consequences for the other allocatable variant labels in the same set of a requested variant label, which is rejected as a result of the string similarity review?

The Team discussed three possible levels of comparison among visually confusable strings, as well as analyzed the impact and potential consequences:

Level 1: Primary + only requested allocatable variants

Level 2: Primary + all allocatable variants

Level 3: Primary + all valid variants (blocked + allocatable)

Problem 1: There is a divergence of opinions regarding which level is the most appropriate

Problem 2: The discussion has been largely academic based on abstract concepts

Small Group Tasks

Facilitate a comprehensible discussion by ***developing concrete examples of variants that are visually confusable***

Task 1: Develop ***concrete examples of strings*** that have blocked and/or allocatable variant labels and may be visually confusable with other strings in the same scripts or across scripts

- Develop practical examples that could happen in reality & indicate how feasible/possible such cases could happen
- Discuss whether any existing mechanisms that could help prevent such confusingly similar strings being delegated

Task 2: Demonstrate ***how these examples would be compared against each other in the string similarity review according to the three levels***, showcasing the impact on the review and the potential consequences

Task 3: Demonstrate ***how these examples would undergo the objection process according to the three levels***, showcasing the impact on the objection process and the potential consequences

Progress Status

The group discussed eight examples and compared their **primary**, **allocatable** and, **blocked** variants calculated by RZ-LGR based on the **three levels**

Example No.	Label A	Label B	Label C
1	Latin **bıß**	Cyrillic **ʙiss**	
2	Traditional Chinese 滙豐	Simplified Chinese 汇丰	
3	Arabic بنئ	Arabic بنى	
4	Simplified Chinese 华鸟	Traditional Chinese 华島	
5	Latin **rıch**	Latin **ṅch**	
6	Arabic ركى	Arabic ركے	
7	Simplified Chinese 华为	Simplified Chinese 华鸟	Simplified Chinese 华岛
8	Japanese Kanji 一休	Traditional Chinese 一體	