

Introduction VM ccPDP4

# Variant and Variant Management

- **How are Variants of the selected IDNccTLD string defined?**
- **How should variants of the selected IDNccTLD string be managed?**

# What are Variants?

Extract of Variant Labels overview for ابو ظبي (Abu Dhabi) in Arabic Script  
Using Root Zone –Label Generation Rule for the Arabic script, 80 variant label(s) have been generated of which:

- 78 are “blocked”,
- 1 variant is “allocatable” and
- 1 is “valid”.

## Examples

ابو ظبي	-> xn--mgbca7dzdo	is	valid (meets all criteria)
ابو ظبي	-> xn--lgbda3fte	is	“blocked” (can not be used according to Rz-LGR)
ابو ظب	-> xn--mgbca7dzdi	is	“blocked”
ابو ظبي	-> 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 IDNccTLD Variant Management: 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 TLD Variant Management: 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.

# References

- Information on ccPDP4 WG:

<https://ccnso.icann.org/en/workinggroups/idn-cctld-strings.htm>

- Wikispace: here you can find all documents, recordings, and notes:

<https://community.icann.org/display/ccnsowkspc/Policy+Development+Process+%28ccPDP4%29+-+%28de-%29selection+of+IDN+ccTLD+Strings>

- IDNccPDP2 (2013) Recommendations:

<https://ccnso.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-26sep13-en.htm>

## Fast Track Implementation Plan:

<https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/fast-track-2012-02-25-en>

- General IDN material:

<https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/idn-2012-02-25-en>

# References

- SAC 060: SSAC Comment on Examining the User Experience Implications of Active Variant TLDs Report  
<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/sac-060-en.pdf>
- SAC 120: Input to GNSO IDN EPDP on Internationalized Domain Name Variants (28 April 2022)  
<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/sac-120-en.pdf>