

Internationalized Domain Names Expedited Policy Development Process

D1b & B4



IDN-EPDP Team Meeting #55 | 20 October 2022

Agenda

1. Roll Call and SOI Updates (2 mins)
2. Welcome and Chair Updates (10 min)
 - a. Request to Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Generation Panels regarding single-character labels
 - b. Update on responses to Charter Questions D2 and D3
3. Charter Question D1b (40 mins)
4. Charter Question B4 (35 mins)
5. AOB (3 mins)

Continued Discussion of D1b & B4

Strawman Process Flow - Observations

1. Understand which elements in the New gTLD Program will be impacted by variant implementation

- The same stages/steps in the New gTLD Program are applicable to an application for an IDN gTLD variant label, just like a regular gTLD application

***Definition of “Applicable”:** Some elements of the program will be largely unimpacted as a result of variant labels, but variant labels still need go through those stages or steps just like a regular gTLD application. For instance, in performing a completeness check, the variant label related questions will also be validated, but there is no specific change to the process envisioned. The EPDP Team likely does not need to develop recommendations or implementation guidance for those elements.*

2. Consider how such elements will need to be modified to accommodate variant gTLDs

- Around half of the elements in the New gTLD Program will require specific consideration/modification, in accordance with the recommendations proposed by the EPDP Team, to accommodate variant gTLD applications

***Definition of “Specific”:** Some elements of the program will require “Specific” consideration and modification of process to accommodate variant labels. For example, when submitting an application that also requests allocatable variant labels, there will presumably be additional application questions/responses and additional fees paid (based on preliminary outcomes). The process will need to be specifically designed to accommodate these changes. Evidently the EPDP Team likely has developed or may develop recommendations and/or implementation guidance to cater to the “specific” changes.*

Strawman Process Flow - Observations (cont.)

3. Analyze the level of efforts of evaluating variant applications and the associated cost/fees

- Only 44 existing gTLDs (35 Chinese gTLDs and 9 Arabic gTLDs) have allocatable variants
- Most Chinese gTLD ROs and two Arabic gTLD ROs who responded to the survey indicated interest in applying for variants
- It may be expensive and impractical to develop a standalone round to accommodate these registries, given the observations related to items 1-2 above.

Discussion Questions

D1b: What should be the process by which an existing registry operator could apply for a variant for its existing gTLD?

1. Based on the observations, is there a compelling reason to create a standalone round for existing Chinese and Arabic TLD registry operators to apply for variant gTLDs?

B4: What should an application process look like in terms of timing and sequence for an existing and future Registry Operator with respect to applying their allocatable variant TLD labels?

1. During an application round, are all these options allowed?
 - a. A new applicant applies for a primary IDN gTLD only.
 - b. A new applicant applies for a primary IDN gTLD AND one or more of its allocatable variant label(s).
 - c. A registry operator applies for one or more variant label(s) of its existing IDN gTLD.
2. Based on the observations, is there a compelling reason to allow applications for variant gTLDs of existing gTLDs between application rounds?