



ICANN NO. 51 | 12-16 OCTOBER 2014
LOS ANGELES

#ICANN51

About the C&T Names SG

1. Established by ccNSO Council - December 2010.
V1 of this slidedeck is from SF 2011...
2. Acknowledgement that study is required into use of Country and Territory names within the ICANN environment.
3. Provide ccNSO Council and broader community an “**overview**” of issues

Purpose and scope

1. Look at current (and proposed) policy & procedural landscape
2. Look at the different representations of Countries and Territories
3. Provide an overview of what happens when we apply ICANN policies to these names

Outside of purpose & scope

- Defining what is and isn't a ccTLD
- C&T names at the second level
- Any other geographical names
- Intervening in first round of new gTLDs process
- Judging previous policy approaches
- Making recommendations for additional protections for C&T names

The policies

- New gTLD applicant guidebook
- IDN ccTLD fast-track process
- Overall IDN ccTLD policy
- Existing rules for delegation and transfer of ccTLDs

The Typology

- 1. Country's ISO-3166-1 Alpha 2 code.**
- 2. Country's ISO-3166-1 Alpha 3 code.**
- 3. Other common abbreviations / acronyms**
- 4. Country's Long form name**
- 5. Country's Short form name**
- 6. Country's Name in 6 UN languages**
- 7. Name of other survey respondents' C&T**
- 8. Other commonly used / local names**
- 9. Name in minority / indigenous languages**
- 10. "Other" representations**

An example

IDN ccTLD fast-track

РФ - RF

Selected “RF” over direct
transliteration of RU - PY

What of Российская Федерация
(Russian Federation)?

A current example

- Non-Latin characters ✓
- Meaningful string ✓
- IDN ccTLD X

The number of strings that a country or territory can apply for is not limited to a specific number. However, the following maximum limitation applies:

- *One string per official language or script per country or territory.*

Another example

Dissolution of Netherlands Antilles - Oct 2010

“Future
names”

- Constitutional change in Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Two new countries and three islands as municipalities
- Fairly prompt addition of Curaçao:
 - “CW” and “CUW”
- Retirement of “.AN”

Another example

“Future
names”

- If new gTLDs launched pre-Dec 2010: CUW = valid application. It would pre-date the country code
- .ANT? - Provisionally reserved for 50 years
- Curaçao? - IDN ccTLD
- Curacao? - Generic term for liquor

Pre-2011 - SSD - South Sudan or Solid State Drive?

Yet another example

“Historical Names”

- Same problems as for future names - extent of protection and unpredictability.
- New gTLDs:
 - historical names NOT included in definition of C&T names (list of 7)
 - Becomes “Government objection”
 - Must be considered by GAC
 - How expansive will it be?
 - Advice filed before end of Objection Filing Period
 - Untested process - Board can reject advice

Yet another example

“Historical Names”

- “Republic of the 7 provinces” - Netherlands
- “Catai / Cathay” - China
- “Siam” - exonym for Thailand
- “Tonkin” - French protectorate - then Nth Vietnam
- Lankadweepa, Lakdiva, Lakbima, Salike, Simoundou, Heladiva, Tâmrarnî, Serendib, Ceylon - Sri Lanka

SG observations - Part 1

- Incredible complexity in definitively categorising C&T names, especially when such an effort includes multiple languages or scripts.
- Lists cant provide comprehensive, consistent or universal guidance.
- ICANN's current policies and procedures (as they may relate to ccTLDs, IDNs or current and potential new gTLDs) do not afford consistent treatment of C&T names. This may give rise to stakeholder and end-user confusion and uncertainty.

SG observations - Part 2

- New gTLDs - applicant guidebook affords an unprecedented level of protection for C&T names - but protections are only confirmed for the first and current round of new gTLD applications.
- The current Fast Track and IDN ccTLD policy are restricted. The major restrictions are the requirements that:
 - the IDN ccTLD string is a meaningful representation in a designated language of the territory, and
 - only one string per designated language

SG recommendations

- Establish a cross community working group to:
- Further review the current status of representations of country and territory names, as they exist under current ICANN policies, guidelines and procedures;
- Provide advice regarding the feasibility of developing a consistent and uniform definitional framework that could be applicable across the respective SO's and AC's; and
- Should such a framework be deemed feasible, provide detailed advice as to the content of the framework.