

# Policy Development at ccTLD:

Experiences from Around the World

# Background

- **Operations of core internet were managed by individuals involved in Internet development.**
- **In Africa Internet introduced through initiatives supported by organisations such as Leyland initiatives, NSRC and Internet Society**
- **They provided the resources, technical support and capacity building to those coming from the region to enable them deploy the Internet.**
- **These initiatives lead to awareness about ccTLDs, IXPs, IP resources, amongst others**
- **The end result was the delegation of ccTLD to managers & individuals who were at the time at the forefront of internet development in their respective countries and deemed representative of local internet community**

# Present Day

- **The growth and development of Internet in our region has lead to an emerging interest in the way Internet resources are managed**
- **The interest is shared across all stakeholders i.e relevant**
  - **Government agencies,**
  - **private sector (ISPs,Telco's, Web companies, etc)**
  - **Academia, Research and education Networks**
- **The question is what is best way to develop ccTLD Policies ?**

# ccTLD Sponsoring Organization

- **ccTLDs from around the world have different process and procedures on policy development.**
- **The policy development process and procedures are dependent on existing ccTLD ownership, operating structure, location, etc.**
- **A study done in 2008 on the status of African ccTLDs showed that there was an ongoing transition in the sponsoring organizations between 1999 and 2008.**
- **The study showed that there was an increased number of ccTLDs that had Governments as sponsoring organisations.**
- **The study showed that most of the ccTLDs were sponsored by Private organizations, Telco's or Universities**

## ccTLD Sponsoring Organization ..

- **The ccTLD sponsoring org. type and structure is likely to have an impact on the policy development process.**
- **Where the sponsoring organization is an established institution such University, Government, Private company, etc – it will inherit the orgs policy process and procedures**
- **To overcome this challenge a number of countries have created specific not-for-profit organization as the sponsoring entity of the ccTLD**
- **The composition of the not-for-profit organization consists of members that are perceived to be stakeholders or the local internet community**

# Defining the Local Internet Community

- **Defining the local Internet community involves initiating a consultative process**
- **It requires identifying the stakeholders groups and reaching consensus on their roles/contributions to the ccTLD**
- **The consultative process should result in;**
  - **A well defined stakeholder representation grouping**
  - **Well defined roles for each of the groups represented**
  - **Consensus on the process and procedures for future engagements and policy development**

# ccTLD Policy Development Areas

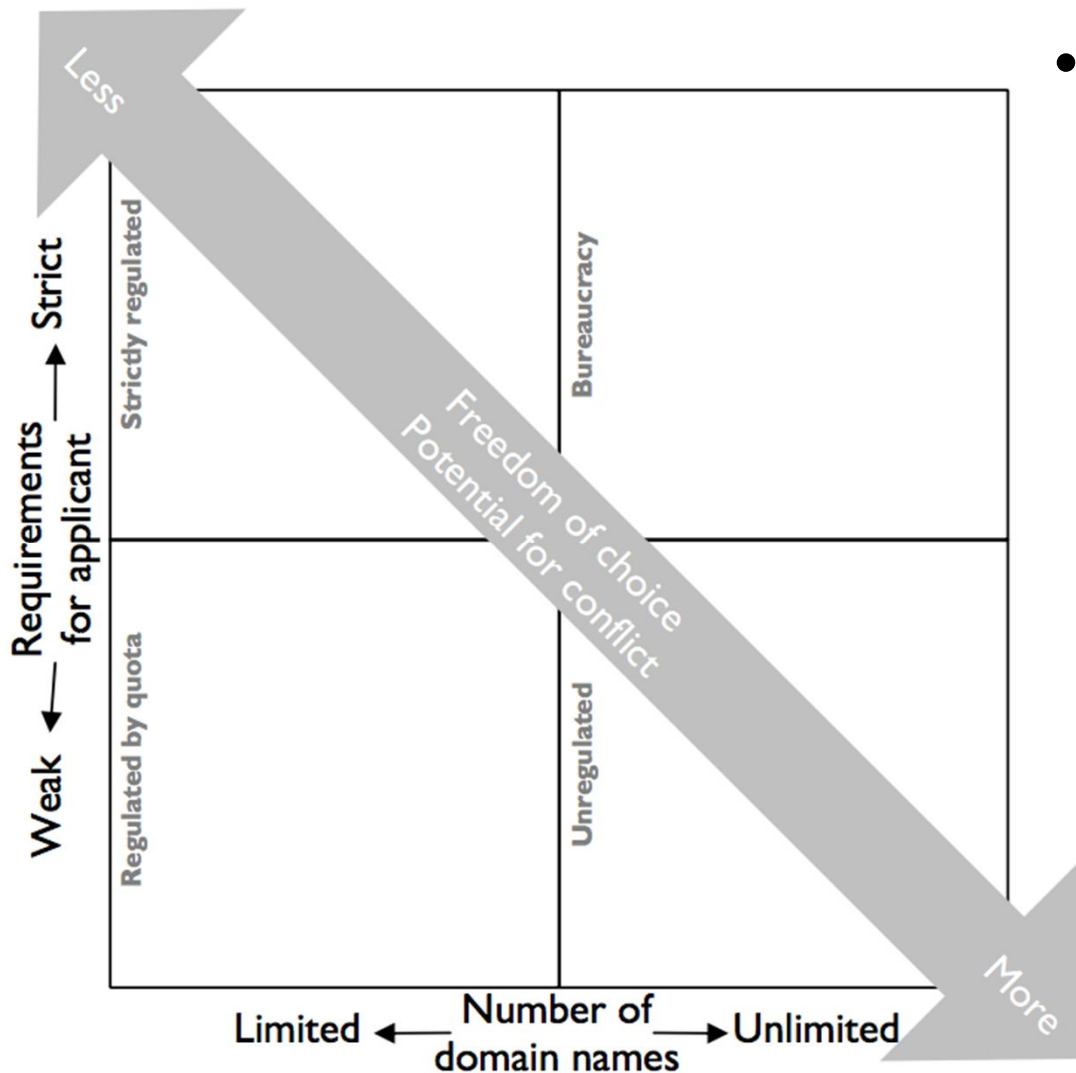
- **The following areas require policy development**
  - **ccTLD Governance Structure**
  - **Dispute Resolution Policy**
  - **Registry model & Relationship (2 R vs. 3R)**
    - Registry Registrant or Registry, Registrar, Registrant Model
    - Registry Registrar Relationship
  - **Registry Technical Operations**
    - WHOIS
    - Registry Automation & Technologies

# ccTLD Policy Development Areas

- **Domain name pricing, discounts and invoicing cycles**
  - Domain name pricing and pricing review
  - Discounts on bulk registrations
  - Annual and multi-year renewals
- **Domain registration categories and registration requirements**
  - Restricted and open categories categories
  - Supporting documentation and bureaucracy
  - Trademarks and reserved names
  - DNSSEC implementation
- **Domain marketing Strategies**
  - Sunrise, Land-Rush and auctions
  - Domain monetization Techniques (parking, speculation, wildcards, etc)



# Categorizing the Policies of ccTLDs\*



- There are two central aspects to ccTLD domain name policies
  - Requirement for the domain name applicant
    - Document a right to the name
    - Local presence in the area of the ccTLD
    - Be an organization
  - Number of domains allowed per applicant

\* Courtesy of UNINETT Norid

# ccTLD Policy Development Process

- **New Policy proposal submission procedure**
  - Well defined procedures to receive new policy proposals
- **Discussion & Engagement Mechanisms**
  - Defined spaces, tools and forums for discussing new policy proposals
- **Policy approval & implementation process**
  - Well documented and communicated approval process and procedures

# Conclusion

- **The process should ensure inclusivity of all stakeholders**
- **The ccTLD policy development process should be consistent, continuous and progressive**
- **The goal of any ccTLD should be to achieve a “win-win” solution for all stakeholders**

# References

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2. **Domain name Policy Models -**  
[https://www.norid.no/regelverk/rammer/regelverksmo  
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**THANK YOU**

Questions Welcome

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