

Implementation Plan

Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information

Status of this document

This is an Implementation Plan for the 7 recommendations of the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Working Group (TTWG), prepared by ICANN staff for consideration by the Translation and Transliteration Implementation Review Team (IRT).

This is a living document that may be amended to incorporate the evolving circumstances of the project.

Project	Implement 7 recommendations from Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Final Report
Coordinating Entities	ICANN Global Domains Division (GDD) and Translation and Transliteration Implementation Review Team (IRT)
Project Lead's Department	Domain Name Services and Industry Engagement

Project Implementation Overview

Background

This implementation project is addressing GNSO recommendations presented in the [final report](#) on the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information Policy Development Process (PDP). The goal of the PDP was to determine how to best facilitate the entry of contact information into domain name registration data and directory services by non-English speakers and users of non-ASCII scripts.

The recommendations from the final report are as follows:

1. It is not desirable to make transformation of contact information mandatory. Any parties requiring transformation are free to do so on an ad hoc basis outside WHOIS or any replacement system, such as the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP). If not undertaken voluntarily by registrar/registry (see Recommendation #5), the burden of transformation lies with the requesting party.
2. Whilst noting that a WHOIS replacement system should be capable of receiving input in the form

of non-ASCII script contact information, its data fields should be stored and displayed in a way that allows for easy identification of what the different data entries represent and what language(s)/script(s) have been used by the registered name holder.

3. The language(s) and script(s) supported for registrants to submit their contact information data may be chosen in accordance with gTLD- provider business models.
4. Regardless of the language(s)/script(s) used, it is assured that the data fields are consistent to standards in the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA), relevant Consensus Policy, Additional WHOIS Information Policy (AWIP) and any other applicable policies. Entered contact information data are validated, in accordance with the aforementioned Policies and Agreements and the language/script used must be easily identifiable.
5. If the transformation of contact information is performed, and if the WHOIS replacement system is capable of displaying more than one data set per registered name holder entry, these data should be presented as additional fields (in addition to the authoritative local script fields provided by the registrant) and that these fields be marked as transformed and their source(s) indicated
6. Any WHOIS replacement system, for example RDAP, should remain flexible so that contact information in new scripts/languages can be added and expand its linguistic/script capacity for receiving, storing and displaying contact information data.
7. These recommendations should be coordinated with other WHOIS modifications where necessary and are implemented and/or applied as soon as a WHOIS replacement system that can receive, store and display non-ASCII characters, becomes operational.

In sum, no party is required to perform transformations. But those who do choose to perform them will be required to adhere to the policies emerging from the Recommendations.

Implementation Plan

The Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information (T/T) IRT convened in July 2016. The IRT began work via a series of calls and a public email list, and has provided feedback regarding the implementation of the recommendations.

As of November 2016, the IRT has been engaged in discussions around language and script tags, which appear to be a minimum requirement to meet the standards set by the T/T Recommendations. The policy language discussed with the IRT can be found on the [T/T community wiki](#). The latest summary updates on the project can be found on the [T/T implementation page](#).

The timeline for the implementation of the T/T Recommendations has been extended into 2018 as a result of emerging complexities relating to the implementation of the Recommendations. A tentative implementation announcement is currently scheduled for August 2017—with a tentative policy effective date of 1 February 2018—pending further discussion with the IRT.

TIMELINE	DATE
Recruit Implementation Review Team (IRT) via email community-wide (by staff)	July 2016
Share preliminary implementation plan with IRT via email (by staff)	15 July 2016
IRT Call #1: Introduction, discuss implementation plan and potential new policy language, schedule next calls	19 July 2016
Share revised implementation plan with IRT by email (by staff)	22 July 2016
Share first draft of new consensus policy language as discussed with IRT and ICANN Legal and Compliance staff (by staff)	29 July 2016
IRT Call #2: Discuss draft new consensus policy language and technical updates to RDAP profile	2 August 2016
Share draft new consensus policy language/red-line document with IRT	12 August 2016
IRT Call #3: Discuss “WHOIS replacement system” vs “RDAP”	25 August 2016
Share draft new consensus policy language/red-line document with IRT	30 September 2016
IRT Call #4: Review T/T recommendations in context of RDAP implementation	27 October 2016
Share latest consensus policy language document with IRT	31 October 2016
IRT Face to Face/Call #5 in Hyderabad, ICANN57: Discuss updated new consensus policy language	8 November 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share latest consensus policy language document with IRT • Update on implementation plans for 2017 	7 December 2016
IRT Call #6: Discuss revised policy language on language and script tags	15 December 2016
Share revised policy language with IRT	16 January 2017
IRT Call #7: Discuss revised policy language on language and script tags	26 January 2017
Share revised policy language with IRT	10 February 2017

IRT Call #8: Discuss revised policy language on language and script tags	16 February 2017
Share revised policy language with IRT	3 March 2017
IRT Call #9: Discuss revised policy language with aim to publish for public comment	10 March 2017
(Tentative) Public comment period for T/T policy	10 March 2017 – 14 April 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review policy language as necessary in light of public comments • Share updates with IRT via email and scheduling additional calls as required 	14 April 2017 – 1 July 2017