



# Welcome

Jeff Neuman & Avri Doria | Geo Names Webinar | 25 April 2017

# Geographic Names Webinar

**1**

Co-Chair  
Introduction  
(10 mins)

**2**

Presentations  
(8 mins each)

**3**

Questions  
(10 mins)

# Purpose

- Several efforts are separately looking at this issue, each focusing on different elements
- The topic of reserved names in general, and geographic names specifically, at the top level is within the scope of work for this PDP, and must be resolved for the PDP to meet its objectives
- The Working Group is promoting dialogue to:
  - Collaborate
  - Understand the various needs
  - Discuss proposals to address geographic names at the top level in future new gTLD procedures
- This webinar will feed into sessions at ICANN59

# Background

- **IDN-WG outcomes report (2007)**

- **GAC Principles Regarding New gTLDs (2007):**

*2.2 ICANN should avoid country, territory or place names, and country, territory or regional language or people descriptions, unless in agreement with the relevant governments or public authorities.*

- **Reserved Names Working Group (2007):** Recommendation 20 stated that there should be no reserved geographic names:

*The proposed challenge mechanisms currently being proposed in the draft new gTLD process would allow national or local governments to initiate a challenge, therefore no additional protection mechanisms are needed. . .*

# Background

- **PDP on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains Final Report (2007)** - included language from the Reserved Names Working Group analysis on geographic names:

*Final Report Recommendation 5: Strings must not be a Reserved Word.*

- **The Applicant Guidebook** incorporated Recommendation 5 of the PDP Final Report and the supporting RN-WG analysis, providing the top-level reserved names, string composition for ASCII and IDN strings, and geographic names requirements.
- The Applicant Guidebook went through a series of comment periods and revisions. Ultimately, the ICANN Board, at the urging of the ccNSO and GAC, directed staff to exclude country and territory names from delegation in version four of the Draft Applicant Guidebook.
- The GNSO has not developed any additional policy recommendations. Inconsistency remains between GNSO policy and the 2012 AGB.

# Background

## 2012 round applications:

- 66 self-identified as geographic names pursuant to AGB Section 2.2.1.4.3
- Geo Names Panel determined 6 of these did not fit geo names criteria: VEGAS, ZULU, RYUKYU, SCOT, IST, FRL
- 3 applicants did not self-identify but met AGB criteria: TATA, BAR, TUI
- Of the 63, 56 had acceptable documentation of support or non-objection from the relevant applicable governmental authority
- Of those, 54 have been delegated
  
- Strings subject of one or more GAC Early Warnings that mentioned concerns related to the geographic nature of the string: ROMA, AFRICA, SWISS, PERSIANGULF, PATAGONIA, CAPITAL, CITY, TOWN, VIN, YUN, 广州 [GUANGZHOU], SHANGRILA, 香格里拉 [SHANGRILA], 深圳 [SHENZHEN], ZULU, AMAZON, DELTA, INDIANS

# Next Steps

- Share additional materials with participants:
  - Transcripts, including translations in the UN languages
  - Supplemental materials provided by presenters
  - Questions from the webinar that were not answered due to time constraints, along with responses from presenters
- Announce details about the ICANN59 Sessions, including structure and anticipated outcomes

Forgot to RSVP for the webinar? Please email to [Geo-Names-Session@icann.org](mailto:Geo-Names-Session@icann.org) so we can send you a follow-up materials and information about next steps.

# Ground Rules

- Please be mindful of ICANN Standards of Behavior:  
<https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/expected-standards-2016-06-28-en>.
- Questions will only be addressed during the Q & A portion at the end of the webinar
- Participants may ask clarifying questions in two ways:
  - Type the question into the chat, starting and ending your question with <QUESTION>
  - Activate your microphone during the Q & A portion of the webinar and raise your hand in the Adobe Connect room to speak
- If there is not enough time to address all clarifying questions during the webinar, any remaining questions will be posted with responses from the presenters on the wiki following the webinar