INITIAL CONSENSUS DESIGNATIONS ON POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Prepared by ICANN staff based on mailing list discussions and related Work Track calls and feedback

Preliminary Notes:

- The consensus call was initiated on [DATE], with a closing date of [DATE].
- It is the role and responsibility of the Working Group chair(s) to designate each recommendation/proposal with a consensus level based on the definitions in the Working Group Guidelines. These initial designations may be challenged by members, following discussion of which the chair(s) should reevaluate and publish an updated set of designations (see Section 3.6 of the Guidelines: https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/file/field-file-attach/annex-1-gnso-wg-guidelines-30jan18-en.pdf).
- Consensus level designations are not based on formal voting but rather are made by the chair(s) based on participation by members in raising and discussing the issues for which policy recommendations are being considered.
- The following initial designations are made based substantially on specific feedback provided via the Working Group mailing list (as recommended by the Working Group Guidelines) by members. Consideration is also given to Working Group deliberations conducted via conference calls and mailing list discussions.

RECOMMENDATION #1:

The Work Track recommends reserving all two-character letter-letter ASCII combinations for existing and future country codes.
- The starting point of this recommendation is Section 2.2.1.3.2 String Requirements, Part III, 3.1 of the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, which states, **"**Applied-for gTLD strings in ASCII must be composed of three or more visually distinct characters. Two-character ASCII strings are not permitted, to avoid conflicting with current and future country codes based on the ISO 3166-1 standard."
- The Work Track's recommendation specifically addresses letter-letter combinations because the focus of the Work Track is on geographic names. The Work Track considers letter-letter combinations to be within scope of this subject area.
- The Work Track notes that Work Track 2 of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group is considering two-character letter-number combinations.

This recommendation is consistent with the GNSO policy contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains policy recommendations from 8 August 2007. It is consistent with provisions in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.

Recommendation #1 initial consensus level designation:

RECOMMENDATION #2:

The Work Track recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.i:

- alpha-3 code listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.

This recommendation is a revision to the GNSO policy contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains policy recommendations from 8 August 2007. It is consistent with provisions in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.

The ICANN community may want to consider whether a future process should be established to determine if, when, and how specific interested parties, such as relevant government authorities, may apply for country and territory names.

<mark>Recommendation #2 initial consensus level designation:</mark>

RECOMMENDATION #3:

The Work Track recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.ii:

- long-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.
- in the 2012 AGB, a translation of the long-form name in any language was also reserved. The Work Track recommends narrowing reserved names to official languages of the country and the official UN languages.

This recommendation is a revision to the GNSO policy contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains policy recommendations from 8 August 2007. This recommendation includes a modification to the existing provisions in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.

The ICANN community may want to consider whether a future process should be established to determine if, when, and how specific interested parties, such as relevant government authorities, may apply for country and territory names.

<mark>Recommendation #3 initial consensus level designation:</mark>

RECOMMENDATION #4:

The Work Track recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.iii:

- short-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.
- in the 2012 AGB, a translation of the short-form name in any language was also reserved. The Work Track recommends narrowing reserved names to official languages of the country and the official UN languages.

This recommendation is a revision to the GNSO policy contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains policy recommendations from 8 August 2007. This recommendation includes a modification to the existing provisions in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.

The ICANN community may want to consider whether a future process should be established to determine if, when, and how specific interested parties, such as relevant government authorities, may apply for country and territory names.

<mark>Recommendation #4 initial consensus level designation:</mark>

RECOMMENDATION #5:

The Work Track recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.iv:

- short- or long-form name association with a code that has been designated as "exceptionally reserved" by the ISO 3166 Maintenance Agency.

This recommendation is a revision to the GNSO policy contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains policy recommendations from 8 August 2007. It is consistent with provisions in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.

The ICANN community may want to consider whether a future process should be established to determine if, when, and how specific interested parties, such as relevant government authorities, may apply for country and territory names.

<mark>Recommendation #5 initial consensus level designation:</mark>

RECOMMENDATION #6:

The Work Track recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.v:

- separable component of a country name designated on the "Separable Country Names List." This list is included as an appendix to the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.
- in the 2012 AGB, a translation of a name appearing on the list, in any language was also reserved. The Work Track recommends narrowing reserved names to official languages of the country and the official UN languages.

This recommendation is a revision to the GNSO policy contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains policy recommendations from 8 August 2007. This recommendation includes a modification to the existing provisions in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.

The ICANN community may want to consider whether a future process should be established to determine if, when, and how specific interested parties, such as relevant government authorities, may apply for country and territory names.

<mark>Recommendation #6 initial consensus level designation:</mark>

RECOMMENDATION #7:

The Work Track recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.vi:

Deleted: 2

Formatted: Font color: Auto

Deleted: existing 2007 policy recommendations.¶

Deleted: 2

Deleted: existing 2007 policy recommendations.

Deleted: 2

- permutation or transposition of any of the names included in items (i) through (v). Permutations include removal of spaces, insertion of punctuation, and addition or removal of grammatical articles like "the." A transposition is considered a change in the sequence of the long or short–form name, for example, "RepublicCzech" or "IslandsCayman."

The Work Track recommends clarifying language regarding permutation and transposition of country and territory names to specifically state categories of country and territory names for which permutations are reserved and categories of country and territory names for which transpositions are reserved. Many members of the Work Track found the language of this provision confusing as written in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook. For example, transpositions of three character codes appears to have been permitted in the 2012 round, but this was not clear from the AGB language.

The ICANN community may want to consider whether a future process should be established to determine if, when, and how specific interested parties, such as relevant government authorities, may apply for country and territory names.

Recommendation #7 initial consensus level designation:

RECOMMENDATION #8:

The Work Track recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.2.vii:

- name by which a country is commonly known, as demonstrated by evidence that the country is recognized by that name by an intergovernmental or treaty organization.

This recommendation is a revision to the GNSO policy contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains policy recommendations from 8 August 2007. It is consistent with provisions in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.

The ICANN community may want to consider whether a future process should be established to determine if, when, and how specific interested parties, such as relevant government authorities, may apply for country and territory names.

Recommendation #8 initial consensus level designation: