At-Large Workspace: Study on Technical Use of Root Zone Label Generation Rules

Public Comment Close	Statement Name	Status	Assignee (s)	Call for Comments Open	Call for Comments Close	Vote Open	Vote Close	Date of Submission	Staff Contact and Email	Statement Number
30 June 2019	Study on Technical Use of Root Zone Label Generation Rules	**No Statement**							Sarmad Hussain sarmad.hussain@icann.org	

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Brief Overview

Purpose: Third version of the Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR-3) was released for public comment on 25 April 2019, integrating 16 script proposals out of the 28 scripts identified. As the RZ-LGR is being incrementally developed by the community, the RZ-LGR Study Group (SG) was constituted on the request of the ICANN Board to study technical considerations for utilizing the RZ-LGR to determine valid top-level domains (TLDs) and their variant labels in a harmonized manner.

Current Status: The Root Zone Label Generation Rules Study Group (RZ-LGR-SG) has completed its work and is releasing the Recommendations for the Technical Utilization of the Root Zone Label Generation Rules to seek feedback from the community.

Next Steps: RZ-LGR-SG will take into account the community input to finalize the recommendations. The final recommendations will be presented to the ICANN Board for further consideration.

Section I: Description and Explanation

The community has completed Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR) for 18 scripts. The third version, RZ-LGR-3, has been recently released for public comment, which integrates rules for 16 scripts, including Arabic, Devanagari, Ethiopic, Georgian, Gujarati, Gurmukhi, Hebrew, Kannada, Khmer, Lao, Malayalam, Oriya, Sinhala, Tamil, Telugu and Thai, based on the proposals submitted by the respective GPs. The Armenian and Cyrillic script proposals, which have also been completed, will be considered for integration when LGRs of related scripts, including Greek and Latin, are also finalized.

With the incremental development of the RZ-LGR, the ICANN Board has asked ICANN's Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees and Internet Architecture Board to study and provide recommendations on the technical use of the RZ-LGR in a harmonized way for IDN TLDs, as a prerequisite to determine possible IDN variant TLD management mechanisms.

Section II: Background

IDN TLDs have been a priority for the ICANN Board for several years, based on the input from the community. The variant labels for IDN TLDs have been an important component for some script communities. Therefore, in September 2010, the ICANN Board asked the ICANNorganization and the community to investigate feasible approaches for variant labels of IDN TLDs, while putting the variant TLDs on hold until the work was completed.

In February 2012, the community examined the case studies done for six scripts and noted in the Integrated Issues Report that there were two issues to be addressed: (1) there was no universally acceptable definition of what may constitute a variant relationship between IDN TLDlabels at the time; and (2) there was no variant management mechanism defined. Following this report, the ICANN organization and the community developed the RZ-LGR Procedure. This procedure instructed how to build RZ-LGR to define what constitutes a variant relationship between IDN TLD labels. In April 2013, the ICANN Board endorsed this procedure and asked the ICANN organization and community to undertake it, based on which the RZ-LGR is currently being developed.

In addition, in March 2019 ICANN Board also approved the Recommendations for Managing the IDN variant TLDs, finalized by ICANN org after public consultation, and asked the GNSO and ccNSO to take these into account in their policy development process. These recommend using RZ-LGR for determining valid TLDs and their variant labels.

Section III: Relevant Resources

Recommendations for the Technical Utilization of the Root Zone Label Generation Rules

Section IV: Additional Information

- RZ-LGR Procedure
- RZ-LGR-3
- IDN variant TLD management mechanisms

Section V: Reports

FINAL VERSION SUBMITTED (IF RATIFIED)

The final version to be submitted, if the draft is ratified, will be placed here by upon completion of the vote.

FINAL DRAFT VERSION TO BE VOTED UPON BY THE ALAC

The final draft version to be voted upon by the ALAC will be placed here before the vote is to begin.

DRAFT SUBMITTED FOR DISCUSSION

The first draft submitted will be placed here before the call for comments begins. The Draft should be preceded by the name of the person submitting the draft and the date/time. If, during the discussion, the draft is revised, the older version(S) should be left in place and the new version along with a header line identifying the drafter and date/time should be placed above the older version(s), separated by a Horizontal Rule (available + Insert More Content control).