
GAC Meeting with the ccNSO

Session 5

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Session Objective

The GAC and the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) meet regularly at ICANN Meetings to discuss policy matters of common interest.

At ICANN73, the session will focus on:

- ccPDP3 on Review Mechanisms Update to the GAC
- ccPDP4 on IDNs Update to the GAC
- ccNSO and DNS Abuse Discussion

Background

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) is a body within the ICANN structure created for and by ccTLD managers.

The ccNSO provides a platform to nurture consensus, technical cooperation and skill-building among ccTLDs and facilitates the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. The policy development process is managed by the [ccNSO Council](#), which consists of 18 Councilors (15 elected by ccNSO members, three appointed by the ICANN Nominating Committee).

The GAC and ccNSO have been meeting at ICANN Meetings in order to coordinate and discuss public policy issues of common interest.

The GAC has appointed a point of contact to the ccNSO, Pär Brumark (Niue) and the ccNSO has appointed Biyi Oladipo (NiRA) as point of contact to the GAC.

The role of both members is to facilitate policy and other internal community discussions among the groups, as well as meeting agenda preparations for ICANN Meetings.

Agenda

At ICANN73, the ccNSO and GAC are expected to discuss the main issues of current common interest pertaining to:

- ccPDP3 on Review Mechanisms Update to the GAC
- ccPDP4 on IDNs Update to the GAC
 - The ccNSO will provide an update on country code Policy Development Processes (ccPDP) of interest to the GAC (see *relevant developments* below)

- ccNSO and DNS Abuse Discussion
 - The ccNSO subject matter experts will share information on recent DNS Abuse activities with the objective to initiate a constructive dialogue with the GAC and share experiences for future joint discussions beyond ICANN73.

Relevant Developments

ccNSO WG ccPDP3 on Review Mechanism

Current status

To date the working group has identified which decisions should be subject to a review and explored the requirements for the review mechanism. The group is now taking a deep-dive into the various requirements and related topics.

The group divided into small sub-teams, which addressed certain topic clusters, such as the overarching principles, which set the parameters within which the policy recommendations have been developed and should be interpreted and implemented. They take into account the experiences to date pertaining to decisions relating to the delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs. They are proposed to structure, guide and set conditions for the recommended policy for a review mechanism, its implementation and future interpretation. Those overarching principles include, among others, fundamental fairness and the bindingness of decisions.

Next steps

The bindingness of decisions has been discussed, and a small ccPDP3 sub-team developed questions for ICANN legal. The full group is hopeful to receive an answer by ICANN early 2022. Pending a response by ICANN Legal, the group started exploring - as an intermediary step - a non-binding Review Mechanism for the decisions subject to a review.

What is this about

The goal of the working group (WG) is to report on and recommend a policy for a review mechanism with respect to decisions pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement of the delegated Top Level Domains associated with the country codes assigned to

countries and territories listed in the ISO 3166-1 and within the framework of the ccNSO Policy Development Process.

- Read more [here](#).

ccNSO WG ccPDP4 on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

Current status

The ccPDP4 full working group completed its review and discussion of the 2013 policy proposals for the IDN ccTLD string selection process. Meanwhile, the two ccPDP4 sub-groups continue to meet once every two weeks:

- The ccPDP4 Variant Management sub-group (ccPDP4-VM) discusses and reviews the IDN Variant TLD Recommendations and the ICANN org staff paper. The group agreed to adopt the Root Zone Label Generation Rules for the variant calculation, as well as the “same entity”-principle. The group is also looking at related GNSO policy development efforts, to ensure the approaches for managing variants at the top level do not diverge too much.
- The ccPDP4 sub-group on the de-selection of IDN ccTLD strings (ccPDP4-DS) defines the trigger event(s) that will cause the start of the (IDN) ccTLD retirement process. The retirement process itself is out of scope for ccPDP4 and defined as part of ccPDP3.

Since the ccPDP4-DS subgroup is about to complete its work, in January the ccPDP4 leadership team launched a call for volunteers for an additional subgroup on Confusing Similarity. The full working group meetings have been deferred until one of the sub-groups has completed its work.

Next steps

There are areas of potential overlap between the work by the ccPDP4-VM subgroup and the work by the full group that need to be clarified. By the end of February 2022, the ccPDP4-VM group expects to prepare a recommendation to the full group for its consideration. Once finalised, the recommendations of the ccPDP4-DS sub-group will also be included in the basic draft by the full group. The full group will reconvene again around March 2022.

What is this about

The ccPDP4 Working Group defines the criteria, process, and procedures for (de)selecting Internationalised Domain Name country code Top Level Domain strings (IDN ccTLDs) associated with the country codes assigned to countries, territories or other areas of geopolitical interest listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard and within the framework of the ccNSO Policy Development Process. The results of this ccPDP4 will eventually replace the IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process.

- Read more [here](#).

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