
Meeting with the ccNSO

Session 7

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Session Objective

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

At ICANN75, the session will focus on status updates by 3 ccNSO Working Groups:

- ccPDP3 on Review Mechanisms
- ccPDP4 Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)
- Domain Name System (DNS) Abuse Standing Committee (DASC)

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, when deemed necessary, 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 (.ng) as liaison to the GAC. Their role is to facilitate policy and other internal community discussions among their groups and leaderships, while also preparing meeting agendas for joint sessions at ICANN Meetings.

Agenda

At ICANN75, the ccNSO and GAC are expected to discuss the following main issues of current common interest:

- ccPDP3 on Review Mechanisms (main topic for discussion)
 - The ccNSO subject matter experts (SMEs) will provide an overview of the policy development process (PDP) of the ccNSO as all the decisions pertaining to delegation, revocation, retirement and transfer of ccTLDs are of government interest. *See relevant developments below.*
- ccPDP4 on IDNs
 - The ccNSO will provide an update on country code Policy Development Processes (ccPDP) of interest to the GAC. *See relevant developments below.*
- DNS Abuse
 - The ccNSO SMEs will share experiences on DNS Abuse activities for potential future constructive dialogues with the GAC.

Current Status and Recent 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 group has developed a non-binding review mechanism and expects to continue its stress-testing at ICANN75. Its initial report will be drafted shortly afterwards.

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 full ccPDP4 Working Group completed its review and discussion of the 2013 policy proposals for the IDN ccTLD string selection process in September 2021. Since 2022, three subgroups focused on specific areas:

- *variant management*
The variant management subgroup works in close coordination with the GNSO EPDP. The variant management subgroup continues its review of the Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) variant top-level domain (TLD) recommendations.
- *de-selection of IDN ccTLDs*
The subgroup is tasked with defining the trigger event(s) that will cause the start of the retirement process for an IDN country code top-level domain (ccTLD) and its variants. The proposal dovetails with the ccNSO recommended policy on the retirement of ccTLDs.
- *confusing similarity review*

Core of the draft proposals:

1. Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR) shall be used for the validation and selection of strings as variants.
2. Similarly to the selected IDNccTLD string, its variants should be limited to meaningful representations of the name of the territory in the designated language and related script.

By ICANN74, 2 subgroups completed their initial proposals, namely the de-selection subgroup and variant management subgroup. During ICANN74, the full working group informed the community about progress made to date and held a working session, to start the stress-testing of the draft policy recommendations.

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. The full Working Group needs to approve the Variant Management subgroup recommendations, as well as develop the Confusing Similarity review recommendations. The Group will hold a working session at ICANN75.

What is this about

The ccPDP4 Working Group defines the criteria, process, and procedures for (de)selecting Internationalized 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](#).

Further Information

- [ccNSO website](#)
- [ccNSO liaison to the GAC](#)

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