



Applying for Designation of APTLD as a Regional Organisation (RO) by the ccNSO Council

26 October 2004

Dear APTLD Members,

Pursuant to the APTLD Board meeting of 18 July 2004, the Board had agreed to solicit Members' views on applying for the designation of APTLD as a Regional Organisation ("RO") by the ccNSO Council.

It is hoped that members will discuss and provide their comments on this matter. These comments will then be reviewed and the necessary decisions as to the next steps will be taken at the Perth meeting on **5 November**.

What is the ccNSO?

The ccNSO is the policy development body for a narrow range of global ccTLD issues within the ICANN structure. It is established under the bylaws of ICANN. It is responsible for:

- Developing and recommending to the Board global policies relating to country-code top-level domains (see Annex C Framework for Scope);
[Note to APTLD members: the process of this policy development is described in Annex B ccNSO Policy Development Process (ccPDP)]
- Nurturing consensus across the ccNSO's community, including the name-related activities of ccTLDs; and
- Coordinating with other ICANN Supporting Organizations, committees, and constituencies under ICANN.

The ccNSO may also engage in other activities authorized by its members including:

- developing voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers;
- assisting in skills building within the global community of ccTLD managers; and
- enhancing operational and technical cooperation among ccTLD managers.
(www.ccnso.icann.org)

What are the functions of an RO?

In general terms, the RO acts as a conduit for information exchange between the region's cctld operators and the ccNSO.

An RO has the following roles:-

- Acts as a liaison member in the ccNSO Council;
- In the ccNSO Policy Development Process (ccPDP), it may:-
 - o request the ccNSO Council for the creation of an Issue Report;
 - o appoint individuals to participate in a task force in the PDP. The task force is responsible for compiling a report on the issues raised; and
 - o submit regional position statements on the issues raised.

In furnishing RO statements, the statement should include:-

- (i) If a Supermajority Vote (as defined by the Regional Organization) was reached, a clear statement of the Regional Organization's position on the issue;
- (ii) A clear statement of how the Regional Organization arrived at its position(s). Specifically, the statement should detail specific meetings, teleconferences, or other means of deliberating an issue, and a list of all members who participated or otherwise submitted their views;
- (iii) A statement of the position on the issue of any ccNSO members that are not members of the Regional Organization;
- (iv) An analysis of how the issue would affect the Region, including any financial impact on the Region; and
- (v) An analysis of the period of time that would likely be necessary to implement the policy.

Policy implementation

The ccNSO Council's recommendation shall become policy for ccNSO members upon approval by ccNSO members and ICANN board. However, such policy is subject to the ccNSO member's local law, which shall remain paramount at all times (Article IX section 4 paragraph 10). Further, a ccNSO member may also declare itself not bound by any policy in the event the policy breaches a ccNSO's member's custom, religion or public policy (Article IX section 4 paragraph 11).

APTLD members are encouraged to review the ICANN bylaws at <http://www.icann.org/general/bylaws.htm>. A document listing relevant sections of ICANN's bylaws related to ROs is also available at http://www.aptdld.org/file/ccnsobylaws_desig_oct04.pdf for your review.

Please email your comments to ccnso-ro@aptdld.org by **3 November 2004**. We

look forward to an active and fruitful discussion.

Thank You.