The Study Group on the use of Country and Territory Names

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Executive Summary

- The Study Group on the use of Country and Territory Names ("the Study Group") was established by a resolution of the ccNSO Council on 8 December 2010.
- The Study Group was tasked with developing an overview of:
  - the way in which the names of countries and territories are currently used within ICANN, be it in the form of policies, guidelines and/or procedures
  - the types of strings, relating to the names of countries and territories that currently used, or proposed to be used, as TLDs
  - the issues that arise (or may arise) when current policies, guidelines and procedures are applied to these representations of country and territory names.
- The Study Group conducted its work between May 2011 and September 2013
Study Group Membership

- ccNSO
  - Martin Boyle, .uk
  - Joke Braeken, .eu
  - Becky Burr, NomCom Appointee to the ccNSO Council
  - Henry Chan, .hk
  - Ian Chiang, .tw
  - Keith Davidson, .nz
  - Sokol Haxhiu, NomCom Appointee to the ccNSO Council
  - Hiro Hotta, .jp
  - Annebeth Lange, .no
  - Young-Eum Lee, .kr
  - Leo Maluwa, .mw
  - Nigel Roberts, .gg
  - Grigori Saghyan, .am
  - Ron Sherwood, .vi
  - Paul Szyndler, .au (Chair)
  - Maarten Simon, .nl
  - Tan Yaling, .cn
- GAC
- Elise Lindeberg, Norway
Study Group Membership

- **GNSO**
  - Carlos Aguirre - GNSO Nominating Committee Appointee
  - George Asare-Sakyi - Non Commercial Stakeholder Group
  - Iliya Bazlyankov - Registrars Stakeholder Group
  - Chris Chaplow - Commercial and Business Users Constituency (Observer)
  - Ching Chiao - Registries Stakeholder Group
  - Avri Doria - Non Commercial Stakeholder Group
  - Heather Forrest, Intellectual Property Constituency
  - Volker Greimann - Registrars Stakeholder Group
  - Tony Harris - Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers Constituency

- **At-Large**
  - Hawa Diakite, AFRALO
  - Eduardo Diaz (NARALO)
  - Cheryl Langdon-Orr, APRALO (liaison)
  - Sophie Liang (APRALO)
  - Andres Piazza (LACRALO)
  - Rudi Vansnick, EURALO

- **Specialists**
  - Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg, UNESCO

- **Support Staff**
  - Bart Boswinkel, ccNSO
  - Kristina Nordström, ccNSO
  - Gabriella Schittek, ccNSO
Overview of the types and categories of strings associated with Country and Territory names (currently used or proposed to be used as TLDs)

- The first is a typology that provides a systematic approach to the identification, categorisation and analysis of the wide variety of ways in which country and territory names are represented, both within ICANN processes and the wider community.

- The second is a survey of a sub-set of UNESCO Member States, based upon the typology, that would test whether the proposed categorisations of country and territory names were relevant and appropriate and provide an evidentiary basis for the Study Group’s third phase of work.
The categories

- Two-letter representations of country or territory names in the International Organization for Standardization’s (ISO) 3166-1 Alpha 2
- Three-letter representations of country or territory names in the International Organization for Standardization’s (ISO) 3166-1 Alpha 3
- Other commonly-used abbreviations or acronyms
- “Official” long-form names (also referred to as “formal” or “principal” name or “name used for administrative purposes"
- “Official” short-form names (also referred to as “formal” or “principal” name or “name used for administrative purposes"
- Country / territory name in the six official languages of the United Nations - Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), English, French, Russian, Spanish
- Commonly used or local names
- Country or territory names in minority or indigenous languages
- Long- and short-form representations of country name in non-official/administrative (or “other”) languages
Other categories

- International Olympic Committee (IOC) codes,
- assorted North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) listings,
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU) codes,
- distinguishing signs (DS) codes for vehicles
- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) codes
- World Meteorological Organisation codes, and
- the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) codes.
Other categories

- The UNGEGN’s working paper, including a list of country names – 193 country names (both “official” names and the names in all 6 UN languages)
- UNTERM – the UN’s multilingual terminology database - 197 names (long and short form) of member states.
- The World Intellectual Property Organization’s Standard ST.3 which includes 221 country and territory names and is also another listed of two-letter code representations.
- The United Nations Statistical Division’s Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use – (using Terminology Bulletin No. 347/Rev.1) – over 240 names, also with three-letter code representations
- The ISO-3166-1 list – 249 names
Survey of a sub-set of UNESCO Member States

- ISO-3166-1 Alpha 2 code **AM**  Officially assigned
- ISO-3166-1 Alpha 3 code **ARM**  Officially assigned
- ITU call sign prefixes **EKA-EKZ**
- ICAO airport code prefix **UD**
- World meteorological organization code **AY**
- Library of Congress MARC code **AI**
- **4. Official / formal** Long-form Name **Republic of Armenia**
- Official / formal short-form Name **Armenia**
UN official languages

- Republic of Armenia (the) Armenia EN
- République d’Arménie (la) Arménie (l’) (fém.) FR
- República de Armenia (la) Armenia ES
- Республика Армения Армения RU
- 亚美尼亚共和国 亚美尼亚 CN
- Հայաստանի Հանրապետություն Armenian Armenian
- العربية Հայաստանի Հանրապետություն
Other commonly used or local names

- Hayasdan
- Hayastan
- Aiastan
- Hayk
- Mets Hayk
- Hayastani Hanrapetutyun
- Arménie
- HH
- Source - Library of Congress
Historical names

- Urartu
- Nairi
- Biayna
Country name in written minority or indigenous languages

- Russian – Armeniya
- Georgian – Somkhety
- Turkish – Ermenistan
- Farsi – Armina
- Ukrainian – Virmenia
- German – Armenien
Potential confusion or problem examples

- The term “Holland” which is commonly used interchangeably with “The Netherlands”
- The term “Holland” is absent from the official lists of country and territory names
- “Aotearoa”, the representation of “New Zealand” in the Māori language.
- Māori is recognised as an official language.
How many?

- SIL International maintains an “ethnologue” that currently contains 7105 languages. Alternative language names and dialects expand this list to nearly 40,000.
- ISO139-3:2007, a superset that contains alpha3 codes for the representation of names of languages – be they living, extinct, ancient or constructed languages. This standard contains 7776 entries.
The Study Group offers the comments and observations.

- Throughout its deliberations, the Study Group observed an incredible level of complexity associated with any attempt to definitively categorize country or territory names, especially when such an effort includes multiple languages or scripts.

- A consistent observation was the inability of individual “lists” or resources to provide comprehensive, consistent or universal guidance regarding the various representations of country and territory names.
The Study Group offers the comments and observations.

- ICANN’s current policies and procedures (as they may relate to ccTLDs, IDNs or current and potential new gTLDs) do not afford consistent treatment of country and territory names. This may give rise to stakeholder confusion and uncertainty.

- ICANN’s current policy framework (the Applicant Guidebook) for the introduction of new gTLDs affords an unprecedented level of protection for country and territory names, though notes that such protections are only confirmed for first and current round of new gTLD applications.
Conclusion

- Till today There is no any formal classification of country name and territories
- If there will be a formal stop-list, this list could have many and many thousands records.
- Is there a workaround?
- Color coding for ccTLD domain names, like as it was done for HTTPS?
- Any other proposals?