Cross-Community Working Group on Use of Names of Countries and Territories as Top Level Domains

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What is ICANN?

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is a global multistakeholder, private sector-led organization that manages Internet resources for the public benefit.

- ICANN's mission overall is to coordinate the global Internet's systems of unique identifiers, and in particular to ensure the stable and secure operation of those unique identifier systems.
What is ICANN?

GLOBAL COMMUNITY:
• Participants from all over the world are dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable, and interoperable.

MULTISTAKEHOLDER:
• Bottom-up consensus policy processes
• Any stakeholder with an interest in the Domain Name System can have a voice directly heard in decision making.
The global ICANN Community At Work

The Bottom-Up Multistakeholder Model

The collective efforts of the ICANN community culminate in a common shared goal:
A single, interoperable Internet supported by stable, secure and resilient unique identifier systems
Use of Country/Territory Names in Domain Names

Release of 2-character Labels for 2\textsuperscript{nd}-Level Domains

- 8 Nov 2016: ICANN Board approved the release of 2-character labels at the second level
- Implementation phase (ongoing)

Ongoing Discussions

- Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Working Group to Examine the Protection of Geographic Names in any Future Expansion of gTLDs
- Cross-Community Working Group (CWG) on the Use of Country and Territory Names as Top-Level Domains
Purpose:
Further review the issues pertaining to the use of country and territory names as top-level domains (TLDs) and develop a policy framework.

Multistakeholder participation:
• ccNSO - .cn, .id, .kr, .am, .au (Co-Chair)
• GNSO
• ALAC
• GAC
• Other: expert
Scope is limited to the following:
1. Country codes
   a) Two-letter codes listed in Part 1: ISO 3166
   b) Three letter codes; and
2. Long and short name of country and territories listed in ISO 3166 Part 1

Scope excludes:
• Geographical indicators, such as regions
• Use of country and territory names as second or other level
Interim Report for Public Comment:


Open Date
24 Feb 2017

Close Date
21 Apr 2017

Staff Report
3 May 2017
Preliminary Recommendations on 2- and 3-character codes:

• Reservation of 2-letter ASCII Codes: Maintained

• 3-letter country codes: No recommendation as no consensus reached
  o Open all 3-character codes as gTLDs
  o Status quo (i.e., ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 codes entirely excluded from eligibility as gTLDs)
  o Extension of ccTLDs to 3-letter ISO lists

• The CWG did not progress to considering full country and territory name TLDs.
CWG Recommendations:

1. Close the CWG

2. ICANN community should consolidate all policy efforts relating to geographic names

3. Three alternatives on how future work should be carried out

4. Future policy development work must facilitate an all-inclusive dialogue to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate.
Cross-Community Working Group on Use of Country/Territory Names as TLDs

Next Steps:

1. Public Comment Closed
2. Final Paper
3. ccNSO & GNSO Councils for discussion and adoption
How Can I Get Involved?

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Submit comment via Email
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