

JIG (Joint ccNSO-GNSO IDN Working Group) Updates

ICANN Durban

July 13, 2013

IDN Variant TLDs

Board Resolution 2013.04.11.14

Board Resolution / Request

- ICANN Board resolution on April 11, 2013 (<http://www.icann.org/en/groups/board/documents/resolutions-11apr13-en.htm#2.a>) requesting that **“interested Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees provide staff with any input and guidance they may have to be factored into implementation of the Recommendations”**
- By July 1, 2013

Summary of Response

1. Implementation of IDN Variant TLDs at the root DNS is **not a purely technical matter and requires policy decision** and therefore is within the purview of the ccNSO and GNSO;
2. The ccNSO and GNSO should develop policies for the allocation and delegation of IDN Variant TLDs and **continue to monitor its ongoing implementation**; and,
3. **Broad-based outreach** to the community at-large is important for the success of IDN TLDs, especially with IDN Variants.

Policy & Governance

- **Two competing views of “conservativeness”**
 - Technical Community vs. Linguistic Community
 - **The balance between these two views of “conservativeness” is a policy decision.** And one which the ICANN community must bear the responsibility of making.
- ccNSO and GNSO must be involved in the governance: **periodic review of the processes** to ensure their transparency, accountability and appropriateness.
- ccNSO and GNSO must respectively (separately) provide **policy recommendations for the implementation of IDN Variant TLDs.**
- ccNSO and GNSO policy recommendations should be implemented through the ICANN and IANA processes

Local Community Experience and Knowledge

- The “Examining the User Experience Implications of Active Variant TLDs” report drew general conclusion that **different IDN languages and scripts have different specifications based on their IDN Variant requirements**
- The report goes on to make a generally “uniform” recommendation in Section 6.2
- **ICANN should take caution in recognizing that these “recommendations” are considered “optional” by the authors of the report** as explained by them in the ICANN Beijing meeting on the topic:
<http://beijing46.icann.org/node/37191>
- recognize the importance of engaging with and having direct participation from the relevant IDN communities in the development and implementation of policies affecting such communities.

Policy Development & Implementation (ccNSO)

- IDN ccPDP final report:
<http://ccnso.icann.org/workinggroups/idn-ccpdp-final-29mar13-en.pdf> **included only a placeholder for IDN Variants** (section J. Variants PLACEHOLDER).
- further work be considered to provide policy recommendations on IDN Variant TLDs.

Policy Development & Implementation (GNSO)

- Outcomes Report of the GNSO Internationalized Domain Names Working Group (IDN WG – <http://gns0.icann.org/en/drafts/idn-wg-fr-22mar07.htm>) adopted and incorporated into the GNSO Final Report on Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains (<http://gns0.icann.org/en/issues/new-gtlds/pdp-dec05-fr-parta-08aug07.htm>) **already included relevant policy recommendations for IDN Variant TLDs**

Policy Development & Implementation (GNSO)

- Outcomes Report of the GNSO IDN WG
- 4.1.3. Language Community Input for Evaluation of new IDN gTLD Strings
- 4.1.4. One String per new IDN gTLD
- 4.1.5. Limit Variant Confusion and Collision
- 4.1.6. Limit Confusingly Similar Strings

Prioritization of Efforts on Internet Community Outreach

- Increase the priority for ICANN to allocate efforts on outreach as it prioritizes its continued work to implement IDN Variant TLDs.
- Similar to that of promoting Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs.
- Share similar set of target audience and required technical and operational knowledge.
- Both issues are also related to consumer trust for the DNS, and relates to the ability of users to access and/or to utilize a domain name.

Review Mechanisms

- IDN Variant TLD reports have not yet included review mechanisms
- In considering ICANN's commitment to accountability, openness and transparency of its policies and processes, we believe that such periodic reviews with the participation from respective SOs are important.

JIG Letter to Councils

- Including 3 Annexes:
 - Annex 1: Discussions on the response to ICANN
 - Annex 2: Draft Letter for consideration by ccNSO
 - Annex 3: Draft Letter for consideration by GNSO

JIG Meeting in Durban

Monday (July 15) 15:00-16:00

Hall 4D

Background of the JIG

- Charter adopted by both the ccNSO and GNSO Councils:
 - <http://ccnso.icann.org/workinggroups/jiwig.htm>
- The purpose of the JIG is to identify and explore issues and topics of common interest of relevance to both the ccNSO and GNSO and report on such an identified issues to the respective Councils and propose methodologies to address the issues

JIG Discussions

- Bi-Weekly Conference Calls (since March 2010)
 - Changed to Monthly Calls (since Prague: June 2012)
- Issues of Common Interest identified:
 1. Single Character IDN TLDs
 2. IDN TLD Variants
 3. Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs
- Face to face meetings
 - Brussels / Cartagena / San Francisco / Singapore / Dakar / Costa Rica / Prague / Toronto / Beijing / Durban
 - Workshop on Single Character IDN TLD at Cartagena
 - Workshop on Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs in Beijing

Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs

Initial Report Published Jan 6, 2012

Draft Final Report Posted for

Public Comments: June 25, 2013

Proposed Recommendations

- A. Recommend IDN TLD operators (including IDN ccTLD, IDN gTLD and IDN gTLD Accredited Registrars) to support **Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs in their own systems**
- B. Allocate **specific resources for the advocacy** of Universal Acceptance beyond the development of informational materials and toolkits
- C. Development of **informative reference materials for new IDN TLDs** (including gTLD and ccTLD) to handle issues of Universal Acceptance
- D. Direct efforts, lead by staff, with the participation from the community, for further studies to investigate the scope of the issue and what other services or actions could be taken by **ICANN to support the Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs beyond outreach and awareness campaigns**

Public Comments (final report)

- Draft Final Report on Universal Acceptance of IDN TLDs
 - <http://www.icann.org/en/news/public-comment/idn-tld-acceptance-final-25jun13-en.htm>
 - Opened 25 June 2013
 - Closed 25 July 2013 (reply 16 August)

Thank You

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