

ccNSO recommended policy on the (De-)Selection of IDNccTLD Strings and related variants

To: Tripti Sinha, Chair of the ICANN Board of Directors

cc:

Patricio Poblete and Katrina Sataki, ccNSO appointed Board Members.

Sally Costerton, Interim President and CEO ICANN, Interim SVP policy support

Nicolas Caballero, Chair of the GAC

25 June 2024

Dear Tripti

On behalf of the ccNSO I am pleased to transmit to you for the Board's consideration and decision the ccNSO Recommendation on the (De-)Selection of IDNccTLD Strings and related variants. This Recommendation is stated in Part A of the ccNSO Report to the Board (in accordance with section 14 of Annex B of the Bylaws: the "[Board Report](#)").

The ccNSO has completed its work: All proposals have been adopted by both the ccNSO Council and the ccNSO membership in April 2024. In addition, and in accordance with Annex B section 10 of the ICANN Bylaws the GAC has been asked to provide advice or an opinion on the proposals in [February 2024](#).

In March 2020, the ccNSO Council initiated the fourth ccNSO Policy Development Process (ccPDP4) to develop a policy for the (de-) selection, delegation, transfer, revocation & retirement of IDNccTLDs. The task was to address the issues identified by the ccNSO Preliminary Review Team in the 2013 proposed policy for the selection of IDNccTLD strings, for example the lack of definition of variant and variant management and the deselection of IDNccTLD strings, i.e., the retirement of IDNccTLDs. Addressing the issues relating to variant and variant management through this PDP effort, and achieving a consistent solution across IDN variant ccTLDs and IDN variant gTLDs, was requested and suggested by the ICANN Board.

In July 2022, the ccNSO Council additionally tasked the ccPDP4 Working Group to look at the need for further clarification of the ICANN Bylaws Sections 4.2 (d) (i) and 4.3 (c) (ii) (exclusion of the Independent Review Process and Reconsideration), and, if needed, make recommendations to that effect. In addition, ccPDP4 was tasked to recommend whether the ccPDP3 Review Mechanism should apply, which was developed in parallel with the ccPDP4 effort.

The ccNSO Recommendation does not intend to amend or change current policies for the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs. In addition, the proposed Review Mechanism, which is currently under consideration by the Board, is recommended to apply to specific situations identified in the proposed ccPDP4 policy.

At its meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the ccNSO Council expressed its support for the proposed policy (Part A of this report) as the Council Recommendation. The Council Recommendation was adopted by 97% of all the votes received (97 out of 174 Emissaries voted), and as a result – in accordance with section 13 of Annex B of the Bylaws - Part A of the Board Report is the ccNSO Recommendation. Finally, the ccNSO Council approved this Board Report at its meeting in Kigali, Rwanda, during ICANN80

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me, if you have any questions regarding this letter or the matter at hand .

Best Regards

On behalf of the ccNSO Council,

Alejandra Reynoso
ccNSO Chair