IDN PDP Working Group 1 face-to-face meeting in Brussels
20 June 2010

Attendees:

Bart Boswinkel, ICANN
Kim Davies, ICANN
Chris Disspain, .au (Chair)
Hiro Hotta, .jp
Annebeth Lange, .no (observer)
Manal Ismail, GAC
Kristina Nordstrom, ICANN
Paulos Nyirenda, .mw
Minjung Park, .kr

Attending via telephone bridge: Gihan Dias, .lk

Apologies:

Cheryl Langdon-Orr, At-Large Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that the focus of the session would be the script issue. He explained that in the Fast Track project, only non-Latin scripts are considered to be IDNs, whilst in the IDN Policy Development Process (PDP), the definition of an IDN is extended to include any string of characters where one character or more is non-ASCII.

Annebeth Lange asked whether future IDNs will be open for non-official languages, considering that the Fast Track project was not. The Chair replied that this is one of following decisions that need to be made by the group:

1. Should the definition of an IDN be the same one as the technical community uses; any sting with at least one non-ASCII character?
2. Does the IDN have to be in an official language?
3. Does the IDN have to be a meaningful representation of the territory?
4. Should the number of delegated IDNs be limited?

Annebeth pointed out that if the group decides to settle with the technical definition of an IDN, it might be difficult for the community to understand why only strings including none-ASCII characters should be included. The Chair recognised the issue and explained that since this Working Group only handles IDN issues, there are two alternatives to deal with this matter:

1. To proceed with the current PDP and agree to the current technical definition of an IDN with the possibility to re-visit the issue and look at ccTLDs generally in the future.
2. To start a new, more fundamental PDP in order to consider ccTLDs in general (including ASCII country names) and not just IDNs.

The Chair explained that the decision on whether or not to start over with a new PDP must be rooted amongst the members and established in a Suggestion Document presenting the alternatives. *Bart Boswinkel* noted that other Supporting Organisations might need to be involved in such a PDP.

Manal Ismail asked whether the group agrees that ASCII country names should be ccTLDs. The Chair explained that wanting to prevent ASCII country names from being gTLDs is not the same as saying that they should be ccTLDs, and the ccNSO could decide to block country names in the ccTLDs space for the time being by running a separate PDP.

Annebeth suggested that as long as country names are not taken into the gTLD space, there is no rush for the ccNSO to reach a conclusion in the matter. The Chair replied that an option then would be to run a PDP on blocking country names from the gTLD space and decide further ahead whether to run a PDP on allowing them in ccTLD space.

The Chair noted that the raised topics would be addressed during the ccNSO Workshop on IDNs the following day in Brussels. He further said that he would speak about the issues with the GNSO Chair Chuck Gomes.

The meeting closed.