

28 November 2017

RE: Cross-Community Working Group on Use of Country and Territory Names as TLDs

Dear Cherine, Manal, Alan, Patrik, Tripti, Brad, and Katrina,

We wish to advise you of the conclusion of the work of the Cross Cross-Community Working Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names as Top-Level Domains (CWG-UCTN) and chartering organization adoption of additional recommendations of the CWG-UCTN as set out in its Final Paper (<https://ccnso.icann.org/workinggroups/ccwg-ctn-final-paper-15jun17-en.pdf>).

The CWG-UCTN was chartered by the ccNSO and GNSO in 2014 with the following objectives:

1. Further review the current status of representations of country and territory names, as they exist under current ICANN policies, guidelines and procedures;
2. Provide advice regarding the feasibility of developing a consistent and uniform definitional framework that could be applicable across the respective SOs and ACs; and
3. Should such a framework be deemed feasible, provide detailed advice as to the content of the framework.

Following extensive debate and consultation with the broader community, as documented in the Final Paper, the majority of the membership of the Working Group concluded that continuing the work of the CWG-UCTN would not be conducive to achieving the harmonized framework envisioned by the charter.

By a motion of 20 July 2017, the ccNSO Council adopted the recommendations of the CWG-UCTN: <https://ccnso.icann.org/en/about/council/decisions-resolutions/2017>.

By a motion of 20 September 2017, the GNSO Council adopted the recommendations of the CWG-UCTN: <https://community.icann.org/display/gnsocouncilmeetings/Motions+20+September+2017>

Accordingly, we wish to advise that the CWG-UCTN has concluded its work. Further, we note the formation of a new work track 5 in the GNSO Subsequent Procedures PDP WG devoted to the topic of geographic names at the top level; as envisioned by the Subsequent Procedures PDP charter, we have provided the Final Report of the CWG-UCTN to the PDP leadership for consideration in its work.

On behalf of the CWG-UCTN,

Annebeth Lange (ccNSO)  
Carlos Raúl Gutierrez (GNSO)  
Heather Forrest (GNSO)