

# CCNSO – Study Group on Emoji

## Update

### ICANN 64



March 2019

# Board Resolutions

- ⊙ Resolved (2017.11.02.10), the Board requests that the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) and the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) engage with the SSAC to more fully understand the risks and consequences of using a domain name that includes emoji in any of its labels, and inform their respective communities about these risks.
- ⊙ Resolved (2017.11.02.11), the Board requests that the ccNSO and GNSO integrate conformance with IDNA2008 and its successor into their relevant policies so as to safeguard security, stability, resiliency and interoperability of domain names.

# Purpose of the Study Group on Emoji

The study group is established by the ccNSO Council to provide to ccTLD community, the ccNSO Council a comprehensive overview of the issues associated with the use of Emoji as second level domains, and the need for and current practice by ccTLD managers to allow Emojis as second level domains. If considered appropriate by the Study group, the Study group may advise on a course of further actions, if any.

# Examples of domain names which include emojis



# Scope of Activities

- ⊙ Summarise the issues associated with the use of emoji as second level domains as identified by SSAC in its reports (see references);
  - This is included in the draft report
- ⊙ Liaise with SSAC to seek further clarification and input if considered needed and appropriate by the group, for example to better understand the threats that the registration and use of emoji as second level domains create for Internet users and related issues;
  - SSAC representatives are actively participating in the work of the Study Group.

# Scope of Activities

- ⦿ Liaise with relevant departments of ICANN to seek further clarification and input if considered needed and appropriate by the group, for example to better understand the threats that the use of emoji create for Internet users and related issues;
- These representatives are actively participating in the work of the Study Group.

# Scope of Activities

- ⦿ Provide an overview of the references in the Fast Track Implementation Plan and Draft overall IDN ccTLD policy to IDNA 2008 and its successor, which disallow emoji. If not included suggest a course of action to include it in the overall draft IDN ccTLD policy.
  - This is included in the draft report.

# Scope of Activities

- ⦿ Liaise with the ccTLDs who are currently allowing registration of emoji to solicit their views and perspective on possible threats and security issues and provide an overview from their perspective;
  - There is no authoritative list of ccTLDs which allow the registration of domain names which include emoji. Members of the study group performed some analysis of zone files to determine which ccTLDs could potentially allow such registrations which produced a list of 17 ccTLDs. These registries were sent a letter requesting to confirm if they were allowing the registration of such domains. If they did they were asked to provide any relevant information. Only 1 reply was received.



# List of ccTLDs contacted

.CF (Central African Republic)	.MP (Northern Mariana Islands)
.FM (Federated States of Micronesia)	.ST (São Tomé and Príncipe)
.GA (Gabon)	.TK (Tokelau)
.GG (Guernsey)	.TO (Tonga)
GQ (Equatorial Guinea)	.TV (Tuvalu)
.JE (Jersey)	.UZ (Uzbekistan)
.LA (Laos)	.VG (British Virgin Islands)
.ML (Mali)	.VU (Vanuatu)
.WS (Samoa)	

# Scope of Activities

- ⦿ If deemed appropriate and necessary prepare a session at a ccNSO meeting, to solicit views of the community and to present and discuss the results of the study to the ccTLD community;
  - This is undertaken at each ICANN meeting since the creation of the study group
- ⦿ Provide a final report of its findings to the ccNSO Council.
  - TBC

# Scope of Activities

- ⦿ The study group may also undertake other activities the members deem to be appropriate for the purpose of the study group.
  - Given the low response rate to the letter from the community the study group requested staff to undertake some research into ccTLDs which potentially allow the registration of domains which include emoji. This research identified 16 ccTLDs which allow or probably allow the registration of domain names which contain emoji. The research also looked into registrars which support the registration of domains which include emoji for these ccTLDs.

# Next steps

- ⦿ The study group will complete the first draft of the report.
- ⦿ The draft report will be distributed to the ccTLDs mentioned in the report to solicit feedback prior to finalization.
- ⦿ The draft final report will be published for a lightweight consultation by the study group.
- ⦿ Following the consultation the study group will finalize the report and submit it to the ccNSO council prior to ICANN 65 Marrakech.

# Questions