

28 September 2021

## ccNSO recommended policy on the retirement process of ccTLDs

To: Maarten Botterman, Chair of the ICANN Board of Directors  
CC: Patricio Poblete, Nigel Roberts, Katrina Sataki, current and future ccNSO appointed Board Members.  
Göran Marby, President and CEO ICANN  
Manal Ismael, Chair of the GAC  
David Olive, SVP Policy Development Support

Dear Maarten

On behalf of the ccNSO I am pleased to transmit to you the ccNSO policy recommendation pertaining to the retirement of ccTLDs for consideration and decision by the ICANN Board of Directors.

The ccNSO has completed its work: All proposals have been adopted by both the ccNSO Council and the ccNSO membership in August 2021. 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 June 2021.

In March 2017, and in accordance with Annex B section 3 and 4 of the ICANN Bylaws, the ccNSO Council decided to initiate the third (3rd) ccNSO Policy Development Process with the initial focus on developing a policy for Retirement of ccTLDs (Part 1), and only after the substantive work on that topic would have been concluded, focus on the development of policy recommendations for a Review Mechanism pertaining to decisions on delegation, transfer, revocation and retirement of ccTLDs (Part 2).

As it became apparent that the envisioned advantages of combining the two topics into one (1) ccNSO Policy Development Process had become obsolete, and after extensive consultation of the ccTLD and broader community, the ccNSO Council decided to split ccPDP3 into two separate policies. This decision became effective on 11 June 2021.

At its meeting on 17 June 2021 the ccNSO Council adopted all recommendations contained in the Final Report of the WG. In August 2021, the required vote by the ccNSO Membership supported the recommended policy: of 172 ccNSO Members, 100 casted their vote (58%) of which 94 were in favor and 6 members did not support the proposals.

Accordingly, all recommendations contained in the Final Report of the Issue Manager as submitted to the Chair of the ccNSO Council on 08 June 2021 are conveyed to the ICANN Board of Directors as the ccNSO Recommendation to consider. The ccNSO Recommendation addresses the issues pertaining to the retirement of ccTLDs as identified in the ccPDP3 Issue Report as adopted by the ccNSO Council on 15 March 2017.

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

Best Regards

On behalf of the ccNSO Council,

Alejandra Reynoso  
ccNSO Chair

