

Correspondence relating to the Introduction of Single Character IDN TLD's

Email Kurt Pritz, 10 December 2011 to co-chairs of the JIG and chairs of ccNSO, GNSO and SSAC.

Dear JIG Members:

I am writing about progress and next steps regarding the JIG report and recommendation regarding the plan for delegation of single-character IDNs. It has been quite some time since your report, I know you have reconvened to discuss other objectives identified in your charter, and are no doubt interested in the status of your work.

The report was read carefully by ICANN staff members and, I am sure, by many interested community members. When it first came out, we consulted with SSAC and technically oriented members of the Board. The report clearly recommends the delegation of single-character names but also raises other policy and implementation questions. The SSAC offered some preliminary advice but also conveyed the sense that a more fulsome review would be helpful.

After being reviewed on by the ccNSO and gNSO, the report was passed onto the ICANN Board for consideration. As I am sure you are aware, the Board reached the conclusion the the SSAC should conduct a technical review of the report and its conclusions – also that the GAC should consider public policy issues and ALAC should consider user experience issues. As a result, I wrote a note to Patrik to advise him of the board's conclusions. Patrik acknowledged the Board conclusion and committed to SSAC attention.

The Board resolution can be found at <http://www.icann.org/en/minutes/resolutions-25aug11-en.htm#5>.

I expect also that the ALAC and the GAC have recognized the Board direction but will advise Heather and Olivier directly.

As you know, the Board also concluded that the necessary work would extend past the opening of the first new gTLD round, i.e., essentially deciding that single-character names would not be delegated in the first round. This conclusion is not contradicted by the earlier Board discussion that IDN issues and new gTLD issues should both be energetically attacked, but each should proceed independently.

I believe the work product of the JIG has been well thought out and is deserving of a conclusion. The extent to which you can forward other already completed work product to the SSAC and others will probably aid in their work. Please let me know if I can help in anyway.

I hope you found this message helpful.
Regards,
Kurt

Follow-up Email Patrik Fallstrom, chair of the SSAC
Date: 9 December 2011

Kurt, others,

I have here cc:ed SSAC.

Let me confirm what Kurt says, just as I reported in Senegal to a few individuals that approached me directly.

After the board resolution, and the request was sent to SSAC, SSAC has indeed been looking into the details of one character TLDs. This in addition to the preliminary advice that we gave earlier this year.

We look forward to continued cooperation on this and related topics.

Regards, Patrik Fältström
Chair SSAC

Kurt has informed chair of the ALAC and GNSO on process.