

**Progress Report # 1**  
**ccWG on use of Names of Country and Territory as Top Level Domains**  
23 September 2014

**Purpose of progress report**

The purpose of this Report is to inform the community, in particular interested SOs and ACs, on the WG's progress made to date and its intended next steps.

**Decisions of the working group**

1. The WG confirmed that the policies identified by the [Study Group](#) are up to date and comprehensive. WG member agreed to take these policies into consideration and, if feasible, use them as a basis to start working on a definitional framework that could be used by the respective SOs and ACs. See '3. Deliverable 1: Overview of current policies and procedures.<sup>1</sup>.
2. Re-affirmation of typology: the WG confirmed the Study Group's typology and agreed it will serve as the basis for its own policy framework. See '4 Deliverables 2: County and Territory names typology.<sup>2</sup>

The WG notes and draws attention to the Study Group's evolution of thinking, hence the inclusion in the References section of this report, a link to the Final Report of the ccNSO Study Group and a comparison between the initial version of the Final Report and the Final Report as published and submitted to the ccNSO Council are included.

**Working method and process to date**

- Decision-making by the WG
  - The WG has reached its decisions by consensus calls in two consecutive meetings, to ensure broadest participation in the call for consensus.
- Process to date
  - The Final Report of the ccNSO Study Group on the use of names of Countries and territories as TLDs is considered the basis and starting point for the work of this WG.
  - The WG deemed it necessary to:
    - Check and confirm whether the summary of policies was still actual and complete
    - Check and confirm the relevancy of the typology of country and territory names
  - At its firsts face-to-face meeting (during the London ICANN meeting), the WG agreed that participants are expected to attend meetings, and

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<sup>1</sup> <http://ccnso.icann.org/workinggroups/unct-final-08sep12-en.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://ccnso.icann.org/workinggroups/unct-final-08sep12-en.pdf>

- will be reminded to attend, recognizing this may prove difficult at times due to time rotation of the Group's conference calls.
- At its first face-to face meeting in London, the WG agreed on a work plan leading up to the Group's LA face-to face meeting. The major items are: confirming the policy basis, and the typology. These goals have been completed.

### **Next steps**

At its meeting in LA the WG will develop its work plan for the upcoming months. The activities will focus on:

- Re-confirmation of issues identified by the Study Group
- Initial discussion and agreement on feasibility of framework, and, if deemed feasible, agreement on the design of the framework's parameters/principles

### **Background**

In March 2014 the ccNSO and GNSO Council adopted the charter of the WG. The charter of the WG can be found on the [homepage of the WG](#).

According to the [Charter](#), the objective of the Working Group is to draw upon the collective expertise of the participating SOs and ACs and others. Based on the initial analysis of the ccNSO Study Group on the use of names for Countries and territories as TLDs, the WG then set out to:

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;
3. Provide detailed advice as to the content of the framework, should such a framework be deemed feasible.

The scope of the WG is limited to representations of names of countries, territories and their subdivisions, listed on or eligible to be listed in the Alpha-2 code of the International Standard for country codes and codes for their subdivisions (ISO 3166-1),<sup>3</sup> and the use of these country and territory names as Top Level Domains.

Out of scope of the WG's remit and therefore excluded from discussions are:

1. Other geographical indicators, such as regions;
2. The use of country and territory names as second or other level.

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.iso.org/iso/country\\_codes.htm](http://www.iso.org/iso/country_codes.htm)

## References

Home page of the WG: <http://ccnso.icann.org/workinggroups/ccwg-unct.htm>

On this page basic material, list of participants and charter can be found

Wiki space WG:

<https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=48346463>

The Wiki space includes the Work Plan:

<https://community.icann.org/display/CWGOUCNT/4.+Workplan>

Final Report ccNSO Study Group: <http://ccnso.icann.org/workinggroups/unct-final-08sep12-en.pdf>

Compare and Evolution of Final Report Study Group:

<http://ccnso.icann.org/workinggroups/unct-compare-evolution-final-23sep14-en.pdf>