Agenda Item 26: Meeting with Country Code Names Supporting Organisation (ccNSO)

Issues

A detailed agenda had yet to be agreed at the time of preparing this brief. The following issues are likely to arise during this session:

1. New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Work Track 5 (Geographic Names)
2. FAQs on delegation, transfer and revocation of ccTLDs
3. Coordination of issues between GAC and ccNSO
4. ccNSO PDP on Retirement of ccTLDs

GAC Action Required

This will depend on directions proposed by the ccNSO, but the GAC should note the following:

Work Track 5 (Geographic Names): See briefing for Agenda Items 3 and 10.

FAQs on ccTLDs: The ccNSO has been assisting the GAC Underserved Regions Working Group with the Working Group's role as first contact point for GAC members seeking guidance on ccTLD delegation and transfer. A set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) has been prepared with input from the ccNSO and is available on the GAC website here.

GAC-ccNSO Coordination: Pär Brumark (Niue – GAC Vice Chair) has volunteered to be the GAC leadership point of contact for ccNSO matters.

ccNSO PDP on Retirement of ccTLDs: There will be an update on the work of this PDP. No GAC members have volunteered as members.

Current Position

The Country Code Names Supporting Organisation (ccNSO) is a body within the ICANN structure created for and by ccTLD managers.

Some GAC Members are also the managers of their relevant ccTLDs. Other GAC Members have good working relationships with their ccTLD managers. Still others have a poor (or non-existent) relationship with their relevant ccTLD managers. Most governments, though, have a strong interest in ensuring that the ccTLDs relevant to their nation and/or territories are managed appropriately.

The ccNSO provides a platform to nurture consensus, technical cooperation and skill building among ccTLDs and facilitates the development of voluntary best practices for ccTLD managers. It is also responsible for developing and recommending global policies to the ICANN Board for a limited set of issues relating to ccTLDs, such as the introduction of Internationalised Domain Name ccTLDs (IDN ccTLDs). The policy development process is managed by the ccNSO Council. The ccNSO activities are mostly organised through Working Groups, such as the Strategic and Operational Planning (SOP) Working Group or the Technical Working Group. Membership in the ccNSO is open to all ccTLD managers responsible for managing an ISO 3166 country-code top-level domain.

The GAC normally meets with the Chair and other members of the ccNSO Council at each ICANN meeting to discuss issues of common concern and to identify methods for better co-operation.

The current Chair of the ccNSO is Ms Katrina Sataki.

Further Information

Further information on issues being dealt with by the ccNSO can be found at their website.

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