

ccNSO IDN discussion

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Request for an policy issues report

- **GNSO Council has requested ICANN staff to produce a report listing the policy issues associated with introducing IDNs in the root zone**
- **Next steps:**
 - **Identify the issues that should be worked on first to allow initial IDN introduction**
 - **Identify who should be involved in addressing each issue**

Examples of issues

- **Existing ccTLD (from ISO 3166-1 list) and gTLD operators want to introduce an IDN based string that relates to the TLD**
- **Another party may introduce an IDN based string that relates to the TLD in competition with the TLD**

Choice of IDN string

- **No list of strings equivalent to ISO 3166-1 for countries that use scripts other than the English character set**
- **How many IDN strings per existing operator?**
 - **Based on number of official languages or scripts used within country?**
 - **Languages and scripts used across multiple countries**

label.tldname1 and label.tldname2

- Assume two TLD strings “tldname1” and “tldname2” are associated with the same TLD purpose
- Do label.tldname1 and label.tldname2 resolve to the same Internet location?
- Are label.tldname1 and label.tldname2 assigned to the same registrant (name holder)

Script at 2nd level versus 1st level

- **Should the script used in the string to the left of the “dot”, match the script used in the string to the right?**
- **E.g english-script.english-script, chinese-script.chinese-script**
- **Or**
- **Allow mixes as we have today:**
 - **English-script.chinese-script, and**
 - **chinese-script.english-script (as we have today)**

TLD String Conflicts

- **Two parties may wish to have the same TLD IDN string**
- **Who decides, what criteria, dispute resolution?**

Possible policies

- **Who gets to have a new TLD string**
 - Selection criteria
- **How to deal with contention between strings**
 - Allocation method, trademark law
- **Nature of agreement for using new TLD string**
 - E.g comply with IETF IDN standards

Where does work get done?

- **GNSO – develops gtld policy**
- **ccNSO – global policies for cctlds**
- **President's Advisory Committee for IDNs**
 - **Provides advice – technical/engineering**
 - **IDN Guidelines**
 - **Technical tests – e.g on DNAME and NS records**

Suggestion

- **GNSO and ccNSO jointly “coordinate” policy development work**
 - Identify initial policies to focus on, and share and divide work appropriately
 - Choose policies that allow timely introduction of “some” IDN TLDs that give the benefits to the greatest number of users and minimise risks/issues
 - Important to make progress this year
 - Seek advice from the President’s Advisory Committee for IDNs where required

Outcomes

- **Timely benefit for Internet users**
- **Ensure user expectations are met**
- **Provide a good user experience**