

Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association

## 16 April 2010

Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association (APTLD) wishes to thank ICANN for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Implementation Plan for Synchronised IDN ccTLDs.

Firstly we wish to thank ICANN for their efforts in helping the non-English speaking communities to use the Internet in their own language, by implementing the IDN ccTLD Fast-Track process. This is a remarkable advancement, given the diversity of communities involved and the complexity of issues that need to be addressed.

Amongst the many non-English speaking communities in the region, the Chinese speaking community is used below as an example.

Both Traditional and Simplified Chinese characters are widely used in Chinese speaking countries and territories in the Asia Pacific region. The availability of both Traditional and Simplified Chinese forms allocated to the same registrant for the same domain name under the ccTLD is crucial for Chinese-speaking countries such as China and Taiwan. Similar registration policies have already been adopted for domain name registrations under the .cn and .tw country codes for Chinese domain names at the second or third level. It would therefore seriously and adversely impact the usability of Chinese domain names for the Chinese speaking community if only one of the two forms (Traditional and Simplified Chinese) is permitted for their Chinese ccTLDs.

We believe that the Synchronised IDN ccTLD Implementation Plan proposes an acceptable solution to address the above issues, and ICANN's efforts to address these needs of non-English speaking communities are appreciated and acknowledged. APTLD therefore expresses support for the Proposed Implementation Plan for Synchronized IDN ccTLDs.