

The Country Code Names Supporting Organisation Council

16 May 2007

Board of Directors,
ICANN
By email to Vint Cerf, Chairman of the Board

Dear Chairman and Board Members of ICANN,

Over the past months there have been intensive discussions on IDN-TLD (Internationalised Top Level Domain) within the ccNSO. While we are finalizing (in our joint ccNSO/GAC working group) the list of issues as requested by the ICANN Board, it has come to our attention that the GNSO is considering recommending that IDN gTLD applications be accepted as part of the proposed new gTLD application process. The GNSO IDN Working Group Outcomes Report has been completed and submitted to the GNSO Council for consideration.

IDN-TLD is a cross-constituency matter. Policies and rules for IDN-TLD will not be comprehensive and well considered unless inputs are taken from all the related supporting organisations and advisory committees - GAC, gNSO, ccNSO and ALAC – and cross-over issues such as reserved names are dealt with. We note that the GNSO Working Group states in its report that "The committee recognises that there is ongoing work in other parts of the ICANN organisation that need to be factored into the application process that will apply to IDN applications. The work includes the President's Committee on IDNs, the GAC and ccNSO joint working group on IDNs in addition to the GNSO IDN WG."

The ccNSO IDN Working Group has been working at a fast pace, but the complexity of the whole issue means that some time is really needed to reach consensus.

Accordingly, we request that you NOT resolve any IDN-TLD or IDN-TLD-related matters proposed by any single constituency unless there is clear evidence that the proposal/recommendation in question has received consensus from all the related constituencies.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chris Disspain". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Chris Disspain
Chair- ccNSO Council