Cross-Community Session: Geographic Names at the Top-Level

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Agenda 1 Slide

1. Welcome and Introductions (5 mins)
2. Recap from session 1 (40 mins)
3. Seeking Convergence on Principles (40 mins)
4. Wrap-Up and Next Steps (5)
Welcome and Introductions

Agenda Item #1
Welcome

Facilitators for this session:

- Olga Cavalli (GAC co-leader of Work Track 5)
- Annebeth Lange (ccNSO co-leader of Work Track 5)
- Javier Rúa-Jovet (ALAC co-leader of Work Track 5)
- Martin Sutton (GNSO co-leader of Work Track 5)
Recap from session 1

Agenda Item #2
Recap from session 1

- Three questions about:
  - Should there be universal protections for non-capital city names?
  - What are the relevant government/public authorities?
  - Does intended usage of the string matter?
  - Also, non-capital city name process from 2012

- Interactive and encouraged discussion in small groups, especially from people who do not always have a chance to speak up, as well as non-members of WT5

- Captured a wide range of opinions, some new, some affirmation of existing arguments

- Feedback captured in grid for review by WT5
  - Will be integrated into working document, along with all other deliberations
Range of Options

Apply for any non-capital city, no restrictions?

Must get approval from ALL relevant govts / public authorities for ALL non-capital cities?
What is in the “middle”? 

Apply for any non-capital city, no restrictions? 

Approval / non-objection is dependent upon use (current AGB)?

Limited, defined set of non-capital city names, where approval non-objection is always needed?

Must get approval from ALL relevant govts / public authorities for ALL non-capital cities?
How can we meet in the “middle”

- While we are not at the extremes of either side, how can we establish a solution that encompasses seemingly divergent interests?

- There is a lot of space in the “middle”

- The current implementation in the AGB is somewhere in the “middle” – open to interpretation where on the spectrum

- Can we widen the scope of the “middle”? Are there additional things that can be added or adjustments made to the process to support the interests of more parties?

- Can we come to agreement on principles that can guide us in developing solutions?
Seeking Convergence on Principles

Agenda Item #3
Principles

- Does it in fact help to take a step back to think at a principle or “requirements” level, rather than specific proposals?
  - For example, for all parties:
    - Respect and balance the various interests
    - Predictability, fairness, and transparency should be assured to the greatest extent possible

- If we agree on the principles above (or other), we can test our potential changes against them to make sure we are on the right track.
In alignment with Principle C from the 2007 GNSO recommendations on new gTLDs:

The reasons for introducing new top-level domains include that there is demand from potential applicants for new top-level domains in both ASCII and IDN formats. In addition the introduction of new top-level domain application process has the potential to promote competition in the provision of registry services, to add to consumer choice, market differentiation and geographical and service-provider diversity.

Can we agree that the program should allow for the introduction of new gTLDs as preliminarily agreed to by the full WG? And in relation to WT5, particularly in relation to non-capital city names?
Principle 2 - Predictability

- In alignment with Principle A from the 2007 GNSO recommendations on new gTLDs:

  *New generic top-level domains (gTLDs) must be introduced in an orderly, timely and predictable way.*

- Can we agree to try and enhance the predictability for all parties?
Principle 3 – Reducing the reasons for conflict

- Can we agree to try and reduce the likelihood of conflicts within the process, as well as after the process concludes and TLDs are delegated?
Wrap-up and next steps

Agenda Item #4
Wrap Up & Next Steps

- Great to hear new voices at ICANN62! Continue it on the mailing list and on calls, but as a reminder, be congenial, be respectful, be open-minded.
  - What else can we do to encourage additional voices?

- As stated in an earlier slide:
  - Can we come to agreement on principles that can guide us in developing solutions?

- And if so, then from there:
  - Can we widen the scope of the “middle”? Are there additional things that can be added or adjustments made to the process to support the interests of more parties?
Work Track 5 Timeline – Current Estimates

- **Jul 2018**: Draft Initial Report
- **Aug 2018**: Publish Initial Report
- **October 2018**: Close Public Comment on Initial Report
- **Q2 2019**: Publish Final Report

Next Steps
Engage with ICANN – Thank You and Questions

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