
Implementation Status: Protection of International Governmental Organization-International Non-Governmental Organization Identifiers in All Generic Top-Level Domains Policy Recommendations

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN60 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) is working to publish the final Implementation Plan with an announcement. It does not plan to meet at ICANN60.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This section of the Policy Briefing should be read together with the previous section entitled “Policy Amendment Process: Protections for Certain Red Cross Names in All Generic Top-Level Domains”.

The Policy Development Process (PDP) on the Protection of International Governmental Organization (IGO)-International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers in All Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) was initiated to develop policy recommendations for the provision of protection for identifiers (e.g. names or acronyms) of certain IGOs and INGOs, including the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement (RCRC) and the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The PDP Working Group (WG) completed its work in November 2013 and all of its consensus recommendations were **approved** by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council. In April 2014, the ICANN Board **adopted** those of the PDP recommendations that were consistent with GAC advice received on the topic, and requested more time to consider the remaining, inconsistent recommendations. The adopted recommendations relate to protection at the top and second level for specific RCRC, IOC and IGO full names (with an Exception Procedure to be designed for the affected organizations), and a 90-days Claims Notification process at the second level for certain INGO acronyms.

This project covers only the implementation status of the recommendations that were adopted by the ICANN Board in April 2014. It is not concerned with the ongoing resolution process for the remaining, inconsistent recommendations (including on IGO acronyms and remaining names of the RCRC) or the deliberations of the ongoing PDP Working Group (WG) on IGO-INGO Curative Rights Protections.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Throughout the development of the 2012 New gTLD program, issues related to whether certain international organizations (e.g., IGOs, the RCRC, and the IOC) should receive special protection for their names at the top and second level in the Domain Name System have been raised. In the PDP launched by the GNSO Council, the scope of organizations was expanded to also consider INGOs (other than the RCRC and IOC). All these organizations perform important public interest or humanitarian work. They have reported that cyber-squatting and related abuse of domain names identical or confusingly similar to their names and acronyms could significantly impact their missions and resources.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

Following the Board's adoption of the GNSO policy recommendations that were consistent with GAC advice, ICANN organization under the leadership of the Global Domains Division (GDD) began developing an Implementation Plan. An IRT comprising community members and led by GDD was formed. It is meeting regularly to discuss and agree on timelines and steps for implementation. Most recently, a **public comment proceeding** was completed and the Summary and Analysis Report has been published. The IRT is in process of finalizing the Implementation Plan based on the input received.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

Taking into account the public comments received, the GDD will finalize the consensus policy Implementation Plan, in coordination with the IRT. Once finalized, the consensus policy Implementation Plan will be published with the policy effective date.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

If you wish to join the IRT, contact the GNSO Secretariat at gnso-secs@icann.org.

MORE INFORMATION

- Public comment proceeding on the Proposed Implementation of GNSO Consensus Policy Recommendations for the Protection of IGO&INGO Identifier in All gTLDs: icann.org/public-comments/igo-ingo-protection-2017-05-17
- PDP Webpage: gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities
- IRT Workspace: community.icann.org/x/RJFCaw

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