Notes ccNSO/GAC Telephone Conference on IDN Issues

17 February 2010

Attendees:

GAC:

Australia
Canada
Denmark
Egypt
France
India
Japan
Latvia
Malta
Norway
Nigeria
Spain
UK
USA

ccTLDs:

Keith Davidson, .nz
Chris Disspain, .au
Erick Iriarte-Ahon, LACTLD
Annebeth Lange, .no
Patricio Poblete, .cl

Janis Karklins, Latvia started the call by explaining that the text on the IDN ccTLD principles was agreed on in Seoul, with the final adoption postponed to Nairobi, as the GAC wanted to give the ccNSO an opportunity to read and react to the text.

He also mentioned that there were "a number "of GAC members (none of them present on the call) who strongly pushed for calling the document "GAC IDN ccTLD Principles".

Chris Disspain was asked to explain the ccNSO's main concerns with the proposed principles.

Chris noted that the overarching issue is not with the principles as such, but the concept of the GAC coming to a set of principles at the stage where the IDN PDP is on its way and the principles are still up for discussions in the PDP. Adopting principles at this stage would preempt the outcome of the PDP – in some cases it is possible that consensus decisions reached in the

PDP will be different from those set up in the GAC principles.

Manal Ismail, Egypt suggested that the principles should be called "Interim ccTLD IDN Principles" instead. This suggestion was backed up by the other GAC participants, which were present on the call. Janis added that this should rather be seen as an input to the IDN PDP process.

He also asked whether the ccNSO would be happy with the proposed renaming of the principles to "Interim IDN ccTLD GAC Principles".

Chris replied that the ccNSO probably is happy with this and will treat the document as input and guidelines to the IDN PDP.

It was pointed out that some of the wording in the Interim IDN PDP Principles might have to be changed, if it is going to be treated as input to the PDP (such as "Equal points" – principle three).

Janis said that the text would be finalised in Nairobi and the document would have to undergo some procedures to be renamed into "GAC Interim IDN ccTLD PDP Principles". He further said that he does not see there would be any objections to do this; however, the issue will be revisited to give all GAC members the opportunity to submit input. Janis also noted that a 1 1/2 hour long joint session is scheduled with the ccNSO in Nairobi and that the issue is the first one to be discussed on the agenda.

Mark Carvell, UK wanted to flag that he wishes to get some further explanation in Nairobi on some of the wordings in the ccNSO letter to the GAC (such as "/the principles/could create potential inconsistency"). Chris noted this and said it will be addressed in detail in Nairobi.

Annebeth Lange, .no pointed out that in the proposed GAC principles, it seems like the protection of country names would only apply to non-ascii names in other languages. It was noted that this issue would be for the IDN PDP to resolve.

Suzanne Sene, USA asked whether the ccNSO members agree of ICANN's assessment on how much the ccTLDs cost ICANN. Chris replied that the ccNSO still is in an early stage of upcoming deep discussions and that the topic will be addressed in Nairobi.