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 ICANN64 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) does not plan to meet at ICANN64.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This section of the Policy Briefing should be read together with the previous section entitled "Implementation Status: Protections for Certain Red Cross Names in All Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs)."

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. These include the Red Cross and 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** the PDP recommendations that were "not inconsistent" 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-day Claims Notification process at the second level for certain INGO full names.

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 policy amendment process for the remaining inconsistent recommendations (e.g., 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 cybersquatting and related abuse of domain names (e.g., domain names that are identical or confusingly similar to the organizations' names and acronyms) could significantly impact their missions and resources.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

On 16 January 2018, the implementation of the Consensus Policy for the Protection of Certain Specific IGO and INGO Identifiers for All gTLDs was published. As of 1 August 2018, implementation has completed for the portion of the policy that provides protection by reserving full names for certain specific names of IGOs, the IOC, and the RCRC. For INGOs, the implementation period will be 12 months from the release of the INGO Claims Systems Specification which is currently under development by the ICANN organization (ICANN org). In January 2019, the ICANN Board adopted the policy recommendation proposed by the Reconvened PDP WG on the Protections of the Specific Red Cross Red Crescent Names in All gTLDs. This IRT has increased its work scope to include that additional implementation work.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

In coordination with the IRT, the Global Domains Division (GDD) is working with the affected parties that require protection to implement the policy by claims notification and the reservation of the specific Red Cross Red Crescent names.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

If you wish to join the IRT, please contact the GNSO Secretariat at **gnso-secs@icann.org**. As the IRT has already been in operation for a substantial amount of time and has progressed in its deliberations, newcomers are expected to catch up on the discussions to date and to not reopen previously closed topics unless new information is presented.

MORE INFORMATION

- Announcement of the Implementation of the Consensus Policy: **https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2018-01-16-en**

- Published Policy: **https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/igo-ingo-protection-policy-2018-01-16-en**

- Public comment proceeding on the Proposed Implementation of GNSO Consensus Policy Recommendations for the Protection of IGO and INGO Identifier in All gTLDs: **https://www.icann.org/public-comments/igo-ingo-protection-2017-05-17-en**

- PDP Webpage: **http://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/igo-ingo**

- IRT Workspace: **https://community.icann.org/x/RJFCAw**

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