

13 January 2021

Proposed GNSO Liaison to ccPDP4 & GNSO/ccNSO Cooperation on IDN

Ms. Katrina Sataki
Chair, Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council

Dear Katrina,

Hope this letter finds you well, and best wishes for the new year!

Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) are a topic of joint interest for the GNSO and the ccNSO. On 14 March 2019, the ICANN Board [approved](#) a set of recommendations developed by ICANN org on how to allocate IDN variant TLD labels. On 26 January 2020, the ICANN Board [approved](#) the Recommendations for the Technical Utilization of the RZ-LGR on how to employ the RZ-LGR to determine valid IDN TLDs and their variant labels.

The ICANN Board [requested](#) that the GNSO and ccNSO take into account those IDN variant TLD recommendations and RZ-LGR Technical Utilization recommendations while developing their respective policies to define and manage IDN variant TLDs for the current TLDs and future TLD applications. The ICANN Board further requested that the GNSO and ccNSO keep each other informed of the progress in developing the relevant details of their policies and procedures to ensure a consistent solution for IDN variant gTLDs and IDN variant ccTLDs.

The GNSO is aware that ccPDP4 on the (de)selection of IDN ccTLD Strings is underway. Its first Sub-Group, which will focus on the variant management topic and likely be of interest to the GNSO, is expected to start its meeting in February 2021. In the meantime, the GNSO Council launched a Drafting Team to develop a charter and an initiation request for an Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on IDNs. The Drafting Team has been meeting regularly since 8 December 2020 and aims to complete its deliverables for GNSO Council's review by April 2021.

To facilitate the coordination between the GNSO and ccNSO on the IDN topic, the GNSO Council proposes to appoint [Dennis Tan Tananka](#) as its liaison to follow and monitor the ccPDP4, including its Sub-Group on Variant Management. Dennis was involved in a number of IDN policy efforts at ICANN, including the development of variant management recommendations and the technical study group on the utilization of RZ-LGR. More importantly, he participates in the ccPDP4 as a member and chairs the GNSO Council's Drafting Team on the IDNs EPDP Charter. Dennis plans to continue his engagement in the future GNSO EPDP on IDNs once it is chartered by the GNSO Council.

With in-depth knowledge of IDNs and great familiarity with the work in both groups, Dennis should be able to serve this liaison role well by keeping both the GNSO and the ccNSO up-to-date of each other's progress, as well as timely spotting/raising issues if the ccNSO and/or GNSO potentially develop recommendations that may cause inconsistency for managing variant ccTLDs and variant gTLDs.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about GNSO Council's proposed appointment of Dennis Tan Tanaka as its liaison to the ccPDP4. Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

Philippe Fouquart, GNSO Chair

