

GNSO gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group Statement

Issue: Draft Applicant Guidebook version 4, “Outcomes of the String Similarity Review”

Date: July 2, 2010

Issue Document URL: <http://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/public-comment-201007-en.htm#string-similarity-amendment>

This statement on the issue noted above is submitted on behalf of the gTLD Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG). The statement that follows represents a consensus position of the RySG as further detailed at the end of the document. The RySG statement was arrived at through a combination of RySG email list discussion and RySG meetings (including teleconference meetings).

The RySG supports the proposal made by GNSO Council on Jun 11th, 2010, to send a letter to Kurt Pritz, Senior Vice President, Services, copy to the ICANN Board, recommending that the Draft Applicant Guidebook version 4 section on “Outcomes of the String Similarity Review” be amended to allow applicants to request an Extended Review under applicable terms similar to those provided for other issues such as “DNS Stability: String Review Procedure”. The RySG further supports and recommends that a section be added on “String Similarity – Extended Review” that parallels other such sections in Module 2.

The proposal is consistent with previous comments of the RySG on DAG3 sent on Nov. 21st, 2009:

....In DAG2 we recommended: “When performing the string confusion review against existing TLDs, an appropriate exception should be allowed in cases where the applicant is applying for an IDN version of its existing gTLD name.” We are disappointed to note that our recommendation, which seemed simple and non-controversial, was ignored. We again make this request.

RySG Level of Support

1. Level of Support of Active Members: Supermajority

1.1. # of Members in Favor: 13

1.2. # of Members Opposed: 0

1.3. # of Members that Abstained: 0

1.4. # of Members that did not vote: 0

2. Minority Position(s): N/A

General RySG Information

- Total # of eligible RySG Members¹: 14
- Total # of RySG Members: 13
- Total # of Active RySG Members²: 13
- Minimum requirement for supermajority of Active Members: 9
- Minimum requirement for majority of Active Members: 7
- # of Members that participated in this process: 13
- Names of Members that participated in this process: 13
 1. Afilias (.info & .mobi)
 2. DotAsia Organisation (.asia)
 3. DotCooperation (.coop)
 4. Employ Media (.jobs)
 5. Fundació puntCAT (.cat)
 6. Museum Domain Management Association – MuseDoma (.museum)
 7. NeuStar (.biz)
 8. Public Interest Registry - PIR (.org)
 9. RegistryPro (.pro)
 10. Societe Internationale de Telecommunication Aeronautiques – SITA (.aero)
 11. Telnic (.tel)
 12. Tralliance Registry Management Company (TRMC) (.travel)
 13. VeriSign (.com, .name, & .net)
- Names & email addresses for points of contact
 - Chair: David Maher, dmaher@pir.org
 - Vice Chair: Jeff Neuman, Jeff.Neuman@Neustar.us
 - Secretariat: Cherie Stubbs, Cherstubbs@aol.com
 RySG representative for this statement: Ching Chao, chiao@registry.asia

¹ All top-level domain sponsors or registry operators that have agreements with ICANN to provide Registry Services in support of one or more gTLDs are eligible for membership upon the “effective date” set forth in the operator’s or sponsor’s agreement (RySG Articles of Operation, Article III, Membership, ¶ 1). The RySG Articles of Operation can be found at <http://gns0.icann.org/files/gns0/en/improvements/registries-sg-proposed-charter-30jul09-en.pdf>. The Universal Postal Union recently concluded the .POST agreement with ICANN, but as of this writing the UPU has not applied for RySG membership.

² Per the RySG Articles of Operation, Article III, Membership, ¶ 6: Members shall be classified as “Active” or “Inactive”. A member shall be classified as “Active” unless it is classified as “Inactive” pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph. Members become Inactive by failing to participate in a RySG meeting or voting process for a total of three consecutive meetings or voting processes or both. An Inactive member shall have all rights and duties of membership other than being counted as present or absent in the determination of a quorum. An Inactive member may resume Active status at any time by participating in a RySG meeting or by voting.