

From: Ram Mohan [<mailto:ram.mohan@icann.org>]
Sent: 28 August 2014 13:04
To: 'Jonathan Robinson'
Cc: 'Ram Mohan'; 'Board Variant Working Group'
Subject: RE: Interaction between the ICANN Board's IDN Variant Working Group and the GNSO
Importance: High

Dear Jonathan,

The Board's IDN Variant Working Group (BV-WG) members thank the GNSO Council and its community for maintaining an active interest in the IDN program. We are pleased to learn that we were able clarify the status of the IDN Program during the discussion on topics of mutual interest with the GNSO Council and community members in London.

The GNSO Council is correct in its assessment that the current work on the development of the Label Generation Ruleset (LGR) for the Root Zone (P2.2) is technical in nature and policy advice is not required at this stage. If the Integration Panel or the Generation Panels communicate any such need in the future, the ICANN staff will issue the call for the advisor position as per the [procedure](#) for developing the LGR for the Root Zone. ICANN staff will ensure that the GNSO Council is informed in this case.

BV-WG continues to oversee and guide the progress of the IDN Variant TLD program. The Program is currently being advised by the BV-WG to focus on organizing the community efforts for developing the LGR for the Root Zone, which is the necessary pre-requisite for further implementation. The BV-WG encourages active involvement of the GNSO community in this current phase of the work by volunteering for the Generation Panels for the various scripts, especially for Latin and Cyrillic. The BV-WG welcomes the GNSO community's intention to self-organize to review the original New gTLD IDN WG recommendations, with a view toward assisting Program staff with preparation for P7 following maturation of the work on LGR.

Based on our prior agreement, IDN Program staff will continue to provide regular updates to GNSO Council and GNSO members. The BV-WG also looks forward to the continued discussion on the status and the future of the IDN Variant TLD program.

Regards,
Ram Mohan
Chair, Board Variant Working Group