Annex B – Preliminary Recommendations, Options/Proposals, and Questions

Annex B provides a summary of items on which the Working Group is seeking feedback from the community. Please see the Preamble of this report for context about the items included in this table. It is not necessary to respond to every item in this table. Please respond to the items that you find important. In addition, you are welcome to provide feedback about items included in this paper that are not included in the table below.

The following provides context about the items included in Annex B:

- Preliminary recommendation: a preliminary recommendation or implementation guideline. Note that no consensus calls were held on preliminary recommendations prior to publication of the Initial Report. Please see the Preamble for additional information.
- Option/Proposal: A proposal that has been put forward by a Work Track 5 member or group of Work Track 5 members for consideration by Work Track 5. At this time, the proposals are being shared for further discussion. The level of support for these proposals varies. Many would require further development before they could become preliminary recommendations. You are welcome to provide input about whether you think these proposals should be developed or considered further. You are also welcome to submit potential benefits or drawbacks associated with these proposals.
- Question: An item on which Work Track 5 is seeking community input.

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
Preliminary Recommendation 1	As described in recommendations 2-9, Work Track 5 recommends, unless or until decided otherwise,
	maintaining the reservation of certain strings at the top level in upcoming processes to delegate new gTLDs.
	As described in recommendations 10-13, Work Track 5 recommends, unless or until decided otherwise,

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
	requiring applications for certain strings at the top level to be accompanied by documentation of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities, as applicable. ¹
Preliminary Recommendation 2	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to reserve all two-character ² letter-letter ASCII combinations at the top level for existing and future country codes.
	 The starting point of this recommendation is Section 2.2.1.3.2 String Requirements, Part III, 3.1 of the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, which states, "Applied-for gTLD strings in ASCII must be composed of three or more visually distinct characters. Two-character ASCII strings are not permitted, to avoid conflicting with current and future country codes based on the ISO 3166-1 standard." Work Track 5's recommendation specifically addresses letter-letter combinations because the focus of Work Track 5 is on geographic names. Work Track 5 considers letter-letter combinations to be within the scope of this subject area. Work Track 5 notes that Work Track 2 of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group is considering two-character letter-number combinations and two-character number-number combinations.
	This recommendation is consistent with the GNSO policy contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top- Level Domains policy recommendations from 8 August 2007. It is also consistent with provisions in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.
Preliminary Recommendation 3	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved at the top level and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.i:
	• alpha-3 code listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.
	Work Track 5 is not proposing to remove from delegation any 3-letter codes that have already been delegated.

¹ Please see recommendation 11 for specific language regarding treatment of non-capital city names.

² The term "character" refers to either a single letter (for example "a") or a single digit (for example "1").

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation.
Preliminary Recommendation 4	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved at the top level and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.ii:
	 long-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation. As currently written, the recommendation does not address the issue of translations of these strings, which were reserved in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook. Please see questions for community input in section e.
Preliminary Recommendation 5	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved at the top level and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.iii:
	• short-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation. As currently written, the recommendation does not address the issue of translations of these strings, which were reserved in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook. Please see questions for community input in section e.

Preliminary Recommendations,	Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals
Preliminary Recommendation 6	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved at the top level and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.iv:
	 short- or long-form name association with a code that has been designated as "exceptionally reserved"³ by the ISO 3166 Maintenance Agency.
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top- Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation.
Preliminary Recommendation 7	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved at the top level and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.v:
	• separable component of a country name designated on the "Separable Country Names List." This list is included as an appendix to the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation. As currently written, the recommendation does not address

³ The definition of "exceptional reservations" in Section 7.5, Reservation of Code Elements in the current standard, (ISO 3166-1:2013(E/F)): "**7.5.4 Exceptional reserved code elements:** Code elements may be reserved, in exceptional cases, for country names which the ISO 3166/MA has decided not to include in this part of ISO 3166, but for which an interchange requirement exists. Before such code elements are reserved, advice from the relevant authority must be sought."

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
	the issue of translations of these strings, which were reserved in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook. Please see
	questions for community input in section e.
Preliminary Recommendation 8	Work Track 5 recommends clarifying 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.vi, which designates the
	following category as a country and territory name which is reserved at the top level and unavailable for delegation:
	 permutation or transposition of any of the names included in items (i) through (v). Permutations include removal of spaces, insertion of punctuation, and addition or removal of grammatical articles like "the." A transposition is considered a change in the sequence of the long or short–form name, fo example, "RepublicCzech" or "IslandsCayman."
	Work Track 5 recommends clarifying that permutations and transpositions of the following strings are reserved:
	 long-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.
	 short-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.
	 short- or long-form name association with a code that has been designated as "exceptionally reserved" by the ISO 3166 Maintenance Agency.
	• separable component of a country name designated on the "Separable Country Names List." This list is included as an appendix to the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.
	Strings resulting from permutations and transpositions of alpha-3 codes listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard should be allowed.
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This
	recommendation clarifies the text from the 2012 Applicant Guidebook and updates the policy to be
	consistent with Work Track 5's interpretation of 2012 Applicant Guidebook and updates the policy to be

Preliminary Recommendations,	Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals
Preliminary Recommendation 9	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a country and territory name which is reserved at the top level and unavailable for delegation, as stated in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook section 2.2.1.4.1.vii:
	 name by which a country is commonly known, as demonstrated by evidence that the country is recognized by that name by an intergovernmental or treaty organization.
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation.
Preliminary Recommendation 10	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a geographic name requiring government support at the top level. Applications for these strings must be accompanied by documentation of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities:
	• An application for any string that is a representation of the capital city name of any country or territory listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard.
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation. As currently written, the recommendation does not address the issue of translations of these strings, which required support/non-objection in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook. Please see questions for community input regarding translations in section e.
Preliminary Recommendation 11	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a geographic name requiring government support at the top level. Applications for these strings must be accompanied by documentation of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities:
	 An application for a city name, where the applicant declares that it intends to use the gTLD for purposes associated with the city name. An application for a city name will be subject to the

Preliminary Recommendations,	, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals
	geographic names requirements (i.e., will require documentation of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities) if: (a) It is clear from applicant statements within the application that the applicant will use the TLD primarily for purposes associated with the city name; and (b) The applied-for string is a city name as listed on official city documents
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation.
Preliminary Recommendation 12	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a geographic name requiring government support at the top level. Applications for these strings must be accompanied by documentation of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities:
	• An application for any string that is an exact match of a sub-national place name, such as a county, province, or state, listed in the ISO 3166-2 standard.
	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent with the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation.
Preliminary Recommendation 13	Work Track 5 recommends continuing to consider the following category a geographic name requiring government support at the top level. Applications for these strings must be accompanied by documentation of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities:
	 An application for a string listed as a UNESCO region⁴ or appearing on the "Composition of macro geographical (continental) regions, geographical sub-regions, and selected economic and other groupings" list.

⁴ See <u>http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/worldwide/</u>

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
	In the case of an application for a string appearing on either of the lists above, documentation of support will be required from at least 60% of the respective national governments in the region, and there may be no more than one written statement of objection to the application from relevant governments in the region and/or public authorities associated with the continent or the region. Where the 60% rule is applied, and there are common regions on both lists, the regional composition contained in the "Composition of macro geographical (continental) regions, geographical sub-regions, and selected economic and other groupings" takes precedence."
Question e1	The 2012 Applicant Guidebook provisions related to this category are inconsistent the GNSO policy recommendations contained in the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains from 8 August 2007. This recommendation makes the policy consistent with the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, and therefore represents a change to the existing policy recommendation. Work Track 5 encourages feedback from applicants or other stakeholders who were involved in the 2012
	 round. Work Track 5 is particularly interested in hearing about the experiences of the following groups and individuals: Applicants who applied for terms defined as geographic names in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, as well as those who considered applying for such strings but chose not to apply. Applicants who applied for terms not defined as geographic names in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook
	 Applicants who applied for terms not defined as geographic names in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook but who had experiences in the process related to the geographic connotations of the applied-for string. Other parties who raised objections to an application, provided support for an application, or otherwise engaged during the course of the application process for applications in the two categories above.
	Please share any positive or negative experiences, including lessons learned and areas for improvement in subsequent procedures. Please see deliberations section f.1.2.5 on pages 36-41 for context on this question.
Question e2	The definition of the term "geographic name" could impact development of policy and implementation guidance, as well as program implementation details, such as guidance for the Geographic Names Panel in the New gTLD application process. In your view, how should the term "geographic name" be defined for the

Preliminary Recommen	Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
	purposes of the New gTLD Program? Should there be any special requirements or implications for a term that	
	is considered a "geographic name"? Is "geographic name" the appropriate term to use in this context, as	
	opposed to, for example, "term with geographic meaning"? Why or why not? Please see deliberations section	
	f.1.2.4 on pages 34-36 for context on this question.	
Question e3	Work Track 5 has discussed different types of mechanisms that can be used to protect geographic names in	
	the New gTLD Program. These mechanisms fall broadly into two categories, noting that the categories are not	
	mutually exclusive and measures from both categories can be used in combination:	
	 Preventative: Measures in this category include reserving certain strings to make them unavailable for delegation or requiring letters of support/non-objection from relevant governments or public authorities, either in all cases or dependent on intended usage of the TLD. Curative: Measures in this category include objection mechanisms, contractual provisions incorporated into the registry agreement, enforcement of those provisions, and post-delegation dispute resolution mechanisms. 	
	In your view, what is the right balance or combination of preventative and curative rights mechanisms in relation to protection of geographic names in the New gTLD Program? Please see deliberations section f.1.2.2 on pages 28-29 for context on this question.	
Question e4	Work Track members have considered a series of principles that may be used to guide the development of future policy on geographic names. The principles were discussed in the context of city names and terms not included in the 2012 Application Guidebook, but they may be applicable more broadly. Proposed principles include:	
	 In alignment with Principle C from the 2007 GNSO recommendations on new gTLDs, the program should allow for the introduction of new gTLDs. 	
	 In alignment with Principle A from the 2007 GNSO recommendations on new gTLDs, enhance the predictability for all parties. 	
	 Reduce the likelihood of conflicts within the process, as well as after the process concludes and TLDs are delegated. 	
	 Policies and processes should be simple to the extent possible. 	

Preliminary Recommen	dations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals
	Do you support these principles? Why or why not? Are there additional principles that Work Track 5 should
	consider? Please explain. Please see deliberations section f.1.3 on pages 42-43 for context on this question and additional discussion of these principles.
Question e5	 To what extent should the following serve as a basis for the development of policies regarding geographic names? International law National/local law and policy Norms and values (please specify) Another basis not categorized above (please specify) Please explain. Please see deliberations section f.1.2.1 on pages 25-28 and section f.1.2.3 on pages 29-34 for context on this question.
Question e6	In the 2012 Applicant Guidebook, a string was considered unavailable if it was a translation in any language of the following categories of country and territory names: long-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard. short-form name listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard. separable component of a country name designated on the "Separable Country Names List." In developing recommendations for future treatment of country and territory names, Work Track 5 has considered several alternatives related to translation: continue to reserve as unavailable translations in any language reserve as unavailable translations in UN languages reserve as unavailable translations in official languages of the country reserve as unavailable translations in official and commonly used languages reserve as unavailable translations in official and relevant national, regional, and community languages reserve as unavailable translations in ficial and relevant national, regional, and community languages reserve as unavailable translations in "principal languages" where the principal languages are the official or de facto national languages and the statutory or de facto provincial languages of that country

Preliminary Recommend	dations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals
	In your view, which alternative is the best option? Please explain. Do you have suggestions for alternatives
	not included in the list above? Please see deliberations section f.2.2.1.2 on pages 46-48 for context on this
	question.
Question e7	Some Work Track members have expressed that there should be a process in place to delegate 3-letter codes
	and/or other country and territory names to specific parties, such as relevant governments and public
	authorities or other entities. Do you believe that this is an issue on which Work Track 5 should make a
	recommendation? Please see deliberations section f.2.2.1.1 on pages 45-46 for context on this question.
Question e8	 In the 2012 round, applicants were required to obtain letters of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities for "An application for any string that is a representation, in any language, of the capital city name of any country or territory listed in the ISO 3166-1 standard" (emphasis added). In developing recommendations for future treatment of capital city names, Work Track 5 has considered several alternatives related to the "in any language" standard: translations in UN languages translations in Official languages of the country translations in official languages of the country translations in official and commonly used languages translations in official and relevant national, regional, and community languages translations in "principal languages" where the principal languages are the official or de facto national languages and the statutory or de facto provincial languages of that country a combination of two or more categories above In your view, which alternative is the best option? Please explain. Do you have suggestions for alternatives not included in the list above? Please see deliberations section f.2.3.1 on pages 56-59 for context on this
Question e9	question.
Question e9	In the 2012 round, applicants were required to obtain letters of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities for "An application for a city name, where the applicant declares that it
	intends to use the gTLD for purposes associated with the city name." The requirement applied if: "(a) It is
	clear from applicant statements within the application that the applicant will use the TLD primarily for
	purposes associated with the city name; and (b) The applied-for string is a city name as listed on official city
	documents." Do you think that this requirement should be kept, eliminated, or modified in subsequent

Preliminary Recommendat	tions, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals
	procedures? Please explain. Please see deliberations section f.2.3.2 on pages 59-69 for context on this
	question.
Question e10	Section f.2.3.2 of this report outlines a series of proposals that Work Track members have put forward for the future treatment of non-capital city names. What is your view of these proposals? Are there any that you support Work Track 5 considering further? Do you have alternate proposals you would like Work Track 5 to consider? Please explain. Please see deliberations section f.2.3.2 for context on this question.
Question e11	 In the 2012 round, the Applicant Guidebook listed categories of terms that were considered geographic names and had specific rules (see section b for additional information about these categories). Some Work Track members have expressed support for protecting/restricting additional categories of geographic names in future versions of Applicant Guidebook. Some Work Track members have expressed that no additional types of terms should be protected/restricted beyond those included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook. Some Work Track members have expressed that compared to the 2012 round, fewer types of terms should be protected/restricted in subsequent procedures. Work Track members who support including additional terms in the Applicant Guidebook have proposed protecting/restricting the following categories: Geographic features (rivers, mountains, etc) Names of additional sub-national and regional places not included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook Non-ASCII geographic terms not included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook Any term that can be considered geographic in nature Geographic names. A number of other Work Track members responded that they do not view these codes as geographic names, and believe that such codes are therefore out of scope, noting that the broader issue of reserved names is in scope for the full New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group. Should additional types of strings have special treatment or rules in the Applicant Guidebook? If so, which ones and on what basis? Can the scope of the category be effectively established and limited? What are the boundaries of the category? If not, why not? As opposed to preventative restrictions, would any changes to do the scope of the category be effectively established and limited? What are the boundaries of the category? If not, why not? As opposed to preventative restrictions.

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
	objections, post-delegation mechanisms, or contractual provisions mitigate concerns related to these strings?
	Please see deliberations section f.2.4 on pages 72-78 for context on this question.
Proposal 1 – general measures	Develop an online tool for prospective applicants. The searchable tool indicates whether a string is eligible for
proposed to improve the New	delegation and whether there are issues that require further action (for example obtaining a letter of support
gTLD Program (see	or non-objection from relevant governments or public authorities). This could be a stand-alone tool or a
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	function integrated into the application system that flags if a term is geographic and has special
context)	requirements/restrictions.
Proposal 2 – general measures	GAC members could assist applicants in identifying which governments and/or public authorities would be
proposed to improve the New	applicable in cases where an applicant must obtain a letter of government support or non-objection.
gTLD Program (see	
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	
context)	
Proposal 3 – general measures	If government support/non-objection is required for an application, provide mediation services to assist if the
proposed to improve the New	applicant disagrees with the response received by a government or public authority.
gTLD Program (see	
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	
context)	
Proposal 4 – general measures	Establish a program to heighten the awareness of governments and others regarding the gTLD program so
proposed to improve the New	that they will be more likely to seek or support a registration for the relevant geographic name. This could be
gTLD Program (see	accompanied by structured support and advice to maximize the opportunities for future applicants for
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	geographic names.
context)	
Proposal 5 – general measures	In any circumstance where a letter of support or non-objection is required from a relevant government
proposed to improve the New	authority, establish a deadline by which the government must respond to the request. If no response is
gTLD Program (see	received, this is taken as non-objection.
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	
context)	
Proposal 6 – general measures	Once a gTLD is delegated with an intended use that is geographic in nature, all other variations and
proposed to improve the New	translations of this term are unconditionally available for application by any entity or person. Objection
gTLD Program (see	procedures could potentially still apply.

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	
context)	
Proposal 7 – general measures	An applicant for a string with geographic meaning must provide notice to each relevant government or public
proposed to improve the New	authority that the applicant is applying for the string. The applicant is not required to obtain a letter of
gTLD Program (see	support on non-objection. This proposal relies on curative mechanisms to protect geographic names in
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	contrast with support/non-objection requirements that are preventative in nature. Each government or
context)	public authority has a defined opportunity to object based on standards to be established. The right to object
	expires after a set period of time. Objections are filed through one of the existing objection processes or a
	variation on an existing process. A set of standards would need to be established to determine what
	constitutes a relevant government or public authority. This proposal could apply to all or some of the
	categories of geographic names included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook.
Proposal 8 – general measures	If an applicant applies for a string that is confusingly similar to a geographic term that requires a letter of
proposed to improve the New	government support or non-objection, the applicant should be required to obtain a letter of government
gTLD Program (see	support/non-objection. As an example, a common misspelling of a geographic name would be considered
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	confusingly similar.
context)	
Proposal 9 – general measures	At the end of the registry contract period, a government entity has the option of becoming engaged and can
proposed to improve the New	add provisions to the contract that specifies conditions rather than there being an assumption that the
gTLD Program (see	contract will be renewed.
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	
context)	
Proposal 10 – general measures	A TLD associated with geography should be incorporated within the jurisdiction of the relevant government
proposed to improve the New	and subject to local law.
gTLD Program (see	
deliberations section f.1.2.5 for	
context)	
Proposal 11 – country and	Delegate alpha-3 codes on the ISO 3166 Part 1 standard as gTLDs with the requirement of government
territory names (see	support/non-objection until a future process is designed specifically for the delegation of three-character
deliberations section f.2.2.2 for	codes.
context)	

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
Proposal 12 – country and	Delegate alpha-3 codes on the ISO 3166 Part 1 standard as gTLDs with the requirement of government
territory names (see	support/non-objection only in cases where the applicant intends to use the TLD as it relates to the geographic
deliberations section f.2.2.2 for	meaning of the term. For all other cases, the TLD should be available with no letter of support/non-objection.
context)	
Proposal 13 – country and	The ISO should not be the source of 3-character strings used by ICANN to identify geographic names.
territory names (see	
deliberations section f.2.2.2 for	
context)	
Proposal 14 – country and	Individual governments should be asked which permutations should be reserved in connection with a
territory names (see	corresponding country or territory name.
deliberations section f.2.2.6 for	
context)	
Proposal 15 – country and	As long as a country can provide substantial evidence that the country is recognized by a name, the term
territory names (see	should be included under the reserved names category "A name by which a country is commonly known."
deliberations section f.2.2.7 for	
context)	
Proposal 16 – country and	Add translations "in any language" to the category of reserved names "A name by which a country is
territory names (see	commonly known, as demonstrated by evidence that the country is recognized by that name by an
deliberations section f.2.2.7 for	intergovernmental or treaty organization."
context)	
Proposal 17 – names requiring	Require support/non-objection for capital city names only if the applicant intends to use the gTLD for
government support/non-	purposes associated with the capital city name.
objections from the 2012 AGB	
(see deliberations section	
f.2.3.1 for context)	
Proposal 18 – names requiring	Eliminate support/non-objection requirements for capital city names.
government support/non-	
objections from the 2012 AGB	
(see deliberations section	
f.2.3.1 for context)	

Preliminary Recommendations, G	Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
Proposal 19 – names requiring	Maintain provisions included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook that require applicants to obtain letters of	
government support/non-	support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities for "An application for a city	
objections from the 2012 AGB	name, where the applicant declares that it intends to use the gTLD for purposes associated with the city	
(see deliberations section	name." The requirement applies if: "(a) It is clear from applicant statements within the application that the	
f.2.3.2 for context)	applicant will use the TLD primarily for purposes associated with the city name; and (b) The applied-for string	
	is a city name as listed on official city documents." As with other applications, curative measures available	
	include objections processes, use of Public Interest Commitments, contractual provisions and enforcement,	
	and post-delegation dispute resolution.	
Proposal 19, Variant 1 – names	Variant 1: Implement provisions to prevent misrepresentation. Applicants who intend to represent a	
requiring government	connection to the authority of a non-capital city will need to provide a letter of support/non-objection.	
support/non-objections from	However, if the applicant does not intend to represent a connection to the authority of non-capital city	
the 2012 AGB (see deliberations	names, protections will be enhanced by inserting contractual requirements into the Registry Agreement that	
section f.2.3.2 for context)	prevent the applicant from misrepresenting their connection or association to the geographic term. This	
	proposal changes the standard for when a letter is needed for non-capital city names from usage associated	
	with the city name to usage intended to represent a connection to the authority of the non-capital city name.	
	This proposal increases contractual requirements and therefore enhances protections for geographic places.	
Proposal 19, Variant 2 – names	Variant 2: Change the text of part (a) describing when support/non-objection applies. Change the text "(a) It is	
requiring government	clear from applicant statements within the application that the applicant will use the TLD primarily for	
support/non-objections from	purposes associated with the city name" to "(a) The Geographic Names Panel determines that the	
the 2012 AGB (see deliberations	foreseeable use of 2nd level domains by registrants will be to a significant degree for purposes associated	
section f.2.3.2 for context)	with the city name."	
Proposal 19, Variant 3 – names	Variant 3: Change the text of part (a) describing when support/non-objection applies. Change the text "(a) It is	
requiring government	clear from applicant statements within the application that the applicant will use the TLD primarily for	
support/non-objections from	purposes associated with the city name" to "(a) The applicant is able and will confirm that neither he nor his	
the 2012 AGB (see deliberations	sales channel will use the TLD as a geographic identifier."	
section f.2.3.2 for context)		
Proposal 20 – names requiring	Eliminate preventative protections for non-capital city names and focus instead on curative protections. All	
government support/non-	parties may raise issues with an application using objections. No letters of support or non-objection are	
objections from the 2012 AGB	required from governments or public authorities. Applicants may include evidence of support in an	
	application. Groups, individuals, and other parties, including governments, may file objections to applications.	

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
(see deliberations section f.2.3.2 for context)	Objections by all parties must refer to international law, domestic law, ISO standards or other objective measures that are relevant to the applicant and the application. Applicants take responsibility for ensuring that they submit applications which address those points and avoid an objection. Objectors pay to make the objection and submit any objections within appropriate time frames. Evaluators take objections into account in the evaluation and may discard objections. Work Track 5 has not yet discussed whether this proposal could rely exclusively on existing objections mechanisms, or if it would require change to existing objections mechanisms or addition of new objections mechanisms.
Proposal 21 – names requiring government support/non- objections from the 2012 AGB (see deliberations section f.2.3.2 for context)	Always require a letter of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities for non-capital city names regardless of intended use.
Proposal 22 – names requiring government support/non- objections from the 2012 AGB (see deliberations section f.2.3.2 for context)	Give small cities, towns, and geographic communities the first right to apply for a TLD associated with the place.
Proposal 23 – names requiring government support/non- objections from the 2012 AGB (see deliberations section f.2.3.2 for context)	 Develop a list of large cities around the world and require that applicants obtain letters of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities for strings on this list, regardless of the way the applicant intends to use the string. The list of large cities could be developed based one of the following standards or a combination of these standards: Absolute population of the city: the city has a certain minimum population, for example 500,000 residents or 1,000,000 residents. Relative population of the city: the city is relatively large by population compared to other cities in the country or sub-national region, for example it is one of the 10 largest cities in a country or 3 largest cities in a sub-national region. Percentage of a country's population: The city holds a certain minimum percentage of the country's population.
Proposal 24 – names requiring government support/non-	Each country decides what it considers to be a city within its own country based on national laws and policies. If the country determines that a place fits in the "city" category, the applicant must obtain support/non-

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
objections from the 2012 AGB	objection from the government. A variant on the above proposal proposes that each country designates a set
(see deliberations section	number of cities that they consider to be particularly significant. City names on the resulting list are subject to
f.2.3.2 for context)	support/non-objection by the relevant governments or public authorities.
Proposal 25 – names requiring	Reserve non-capital city names that have "global recognition." If a city wants apply for a gTLD, it can apply for
government support/non-	a string containing the name of the city followed by the applicable country code. This would allow multiple
objections from the 2012 AGB	cities with the same name located in different countries to obtain a gTLD.
(see deliberations section	
f.2.3.2 for context)	
Proposal 26 – names requiring	Raise awareness and increase knowledge among potential applicants about the opportunity to apply for TLDs.
government support/non-	This proposal does not impact the level of protection/restriction and could supplement any of the above
objections from the 2012 AGB	proposals.
(see deliberations section	
f.2.3.2 for context)	
Proposal 27 – names requiring	Eliminate support/non-objection requirements for sub-national place names, such as counties, provinces, or
government support/non-	states listed in ISO 3166 Part 2 standard.
objections from the 2012 AGB	
(see deliberations section	
f.2.3.3 for context)	
Proposal 28 – names requiring	Applicants who intend to represent a connection the authority of a sub-national place will need to provide a
government support/non-	letter of support/non-objection. However, if the applicant does not intend to represent a connection to the
objections from the 2012 AGB	authority of the geographic terms listed above, protections will instead be achieved by inserting contractual
(see deliberations section	requirements into the Registry Agreement that prevent the applicant from misrepresenting their connection
f.2.3.3 for context)	or association to the geographic term.
Proposal 29 – names requiring	If the string corresponds to a sub-national place name, such as a county, province, or state listed in ISO 3166
government support/non-	Part 2 standard, but the applicant intends to use the string in a generic or brand context, there is no
objections from the 2012 AGB	requirement for a letter of support or non-objection from any governments or public authorities.
(see deliberations section	
f.2.3.3 for context)	

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
Proposal 30 – names requiring government support/non- objections from the 2012 AGB (see deliberations section f.2.3.4 for context)	Eliminate support/non-objection requirements for strings listed as UNESCO Regions or appearing on the "Composition of macro geographical (continental) regions, geographical sub-regions, and selected economic and other groupings" list.
Proposal 31 – names requiring government support/non- objections from the 2012 AGB (see deliberations section f.2.3.4 for context)	Applicants who intend to represent a connection the authority of a UNESCO region, or region appearing on the "Composition of macro geographical (continental) regions, geographical sub-regions, and selected economic and other groupings" list will need to provide a letter of support/non-objection. However, if the applicant does not intend to represent a connection to the authority of the geographic terms listed above, protections will instead be achieved by inserting contractual requirements into the Registry Agreement that prevent the applicant from misrepresenting their connection or association to the geographic term.
Proposal 32 – names requiring government support/non- objections from the 2012 AGB (see deliberations section f.2.3.4 for context)	If the string corresponds to a name listed as a UNESCO region or appearing on the "Composition of macro geographical (continental) regions, geographical sub-regions, and selected economic and other groupings" list but the applicant intends to use the string in a generic or brand context, there is no requirement for a letter of support or non-objection from any governments or public authorities.
Proposal 33 – terms not included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook (see deliberations section f.2.4 for context)	Apply a clear and unambiguous rule that any geographic term that is not explicitly and expressly protected is unprotected. A lack of letter of support/non-objection alone will not be a cause to hinder or suspend an application for such unprotected term.
Proposal 34 – terms not included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook (see deliberations section f.2.4 for context)	Provide an advisory panel that applicants could contact to assist in identifying if a string is related to a geographic term. The panel could also help applicants identify which governments and/or public authorities would be applicable. Alternately, the Geographic Names Panel used to evaluate whether an applied for string was a geographic TLD in the 2012 round could be made available to advise applicants before they submit applications.
Proposal 35 – terms not included in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook (see deliberations section f.2.4 for context)	Maintain a repository of geographic names reflecting terms that governments consider sensitive and/or important as geographic names. Countries and territories could contribute terms to this repository but it would not require binding action on the part of potential applicants.

Preliminary Recommendations, Questions for Community Input, and Options/Proposals	
Proposal 36 – terms not	Leverage the expertise of GAC members to help applicants determine if a string is related to a geographic
included in the 2012 Applicant	location. GAC members could also assist applicants in identifying which governments and/or public
Guidebook (see deliberations	authorities would be applicable in cases where an applicant must obtain a letter of government support or
section f.2.4 for context)	non-objection.
Proposal 37 – terms not	Require that an applicant demonstrates that it has researched whether the applied-for string has a
included in the 2012 Applicant	geographic meaning and performed any outreach deemed necessary by the applicant prior to submitting the
Guidebook (see deliberations	application. The proposal would be in addition to the existing measures related to the Geographic Names
section f.2.4 for context)	Panel.
Proposal 38 – terms not	If the applicant is applying for a geographic name, including terms not listed in the 2012 Applicant Guidebook,
included in the 2012 Applicant	the applicant is required to contact/consult with the relevant government authority and provide evidence
Guidebook (see deliberations	that it has done so.
section f.2.4 for context)	