
Public Comment Summary Report

Phase 1 Final Report of the EPDP on Internationalized Domain Names

Open for Submissions Date:

Tuesday, 23 January 2024

Closed for Submissions Date:

Tuesday, 12 March 2024

Summary Report Due Date:

Tuesday, 26 March 2024

Category: Policy

Requester: ICANN Board

ICANN org Contact(s):

Saewon.lee@icann.org

Open Proceeding Link:

<https://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/proceeding/phase-1-final-report-of-the-epdp-on-internationalized-domain-names-23-01-2024>

Outcome:

Under the ICANN Bylaws, prior to any action by the ICANN Board on proposed policies that substantially affect the operation of the Internet or third parties, ICANN is required to provide a reasonable opportunity for the community to comment on these policies. The Bylaws also obligate the Board to consider any timely advice that may be duly submitted by the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) as part of the Board's decision-making.

For the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council-approved Phase 1 Final Report of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) (EPDP-IDNs) that included sixty-nine (69) policy recommendations, the ICANN Board allowed for the community to view the final recommendations during the Public Comment period and provide relevant feedback. This process will ultimately assist the Board in their decision-making process.

Section 1: What We Received Input On

Following the GNSO Council's approval, the ICANN Board sought the community's input on the Phase 1 Final Recommendations of the EPDP on IDNs. Specifically, the EPDP-IDNs Team's sixty-nine (69) recommendations focused on the definition and implications of the Root Zone

Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR) and variant Generic Top-level Domains (gTLDs) on the New gTLD Program, including the following topics:

- RZ-LGR as the sole source: The RZ-LGR will be the sole source to determine valid top-level domain labels, their variant labels, and disposition values of the variant labels.
- Same entity: At the top-level of the DNS, the same registry operator must manage the approved labels from the variant label set of a primary gTLD from the application, legal, and operational standpoints.
- Integrity of the set: The relationship between a primary label and its allocatable and blocked variant labels shall not be infringed upon as long as the primary label exists.
- Conservatism: Adopt a more cautious approach in the gTLD policy development as a way to limit any potential security and stability risks associated with the variant label delegation.

A total of six (6) Public Comments were submitted from the community, which will be transmitted to the Board for its consideration as it reviews the recommendations prior to Board action.

Section 2: Submissions

Organizations and Groups:

Name	Submitted by	Initials
ICANN At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)	Policy staff in support of the ALAC	
GNSO Registrars Stakeholder Group (RrSG)	Zoe Bonython	
GNSO Business Constituency (BC)	BC	
GNSO Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG)	Elizabeth Bacon	

Individuals:

Name	Affiliation (if provided)	Initials
Davies Lewis	I Love Domains – United States o’ America	
Timileyin Adisa	N/A	

Section 3: Summary of Submissions

To facilitate ICANN Board’s review of the Public Comment submissions, the ICANN staff support team developed a Public Comment review tool, which provides a high-level assessment of the views expressed on the final recommendations as well as the detailed submissions provided by each contributor. Most comments provided during this proceeding were of general nature, with two (2) among sixty-nine (69) policy recommendations receiving significant concerns. All contributions received and the Public Comment review tool can be reviewed [here](#).

Section 4: Analysis of Submissions

The ICANN Board is responsible for the review and analysis of submissions and will be reviewing all six (6) submissions via the [Public Comment review tool](#).

The EPDP-IDNs Team thoroughly reviewed the Public Comment submissions during the Phase 1 Initial Report and already incorporated numerous suggestions, where necessary, to the preliminary recommendations. Most comments provided during the Final Report were, therefore, general or non-actionable. In organizing the Public Comment submissions, the support staff took note of these general comments while also highlighting those recommendations that still received significant concerns (see *Final Recommendations 3.11 and 3.14*). These recommendations were related to the topic of the “Conservatism” principle and received divided comments from the ICANN At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) and the GNSO Business Constituency (BC).

The ICANN Board will carefully consider all submissions on all recommendations in the course of its Public Comment review.

Section 5: Next Steps

The ICANN Board will review all the Public Comment submissions. Taking into account the input received, the ICANN Board will make a decision on the Phase 1 Final Report recommendations from the EPDP-IDNs. Direction will be given by the Board to ICANN staff and GNSO Council based upon the final decision.