



13 August 2008

Mr George Anastasopoulos
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Dear Secretary-General

Thank you for your letter of 28 July 2008, advising of the Hellenic Republic's intention to enter into the "fast track" process for obtaining an IDN ccTLD. The process by which IDN ccTLDs will be sought by ICANN under the "fast track" is being considered as part of the implementation plan currently under development by ICANN staff. Provided below is an outline of the work undertaken by the ICANN community on this issue to date, and an outline of next steps.

At the Los Angeles meeting in November 2007, the ICANN Board approved the formation of an Internationalized Domain Name Committee Working Group (IDNC WG) to develop and report on feasible methods, if any, that would enable a fast track introduction of a limited number of non-contentious IDN ccTLDs while the overall policy is being developed through the ccPDP. The IDNC WG, comprising representatives from the ccNSO and the GAC among others commenced work in January 2008.

During the ICANN meeting in Paris, the ICANN Board received the final report from the IDNC WG, on the feasible methods that would enable the timely and efficient ("fast track") introduction of a limited number of non-contentious IDN country code (cc) Top Level Domains (TLD), while an overall long-term IDN ccTLD policy is being developed. The ICANN Board subsequently directed staff to:

1. post the IDNC WG final report for public comments;
2. commence work on implementation issues in consultation with relevant stakeholders; and
3. submit a detailed implementation report including a list of any outstanding issues to the Board in advance of the ICANN Cairo meeting in November 2008.

The final report has been posted for public comments until 15 August 2008, and is available at <http://www.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-15jul08-en.htm> and staff has commenced work on the implementation issues.

Yours sincerely

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