



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

13 August 2008

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Dear Dr Vatchkov

Thank you for your letter of 18 June 2008, advising of the Republic of Bulgaria'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.

At a more local level, I understand that the implementation of IDNs will be discussed during a meeting of all ccTLDs from the region which is being organized by ICANN in cooperation with the Russian Coordination Centre and the Internet Society of Bulgaria. This event will be held in Sofia, Bulgaria, from 8 to 10 September 2008.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the productive working relationship ICANN has enjoyed with Bulgaria over a long period of time.

Yours sincerely

Paul Twomey
CEO & President