



sTLD Update

prepared for the ICANN Meeting

Cape Town

3 December 2004



ICANN Board Resolution (03-169)

...the Board directs the President to finalize and post no later than 15 December 2003 an open Request for Proposals for a limited number of new sTLDs, such final RFP to be based on the points of agreement indicated above...

ICANN Board Resolution (03-171)

...the selection process and implementation for sTLDs shall be evaluated and the results of such evaluation shall be utilized in the New gTLD process ...

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Top Level Domain

- .asia
- .cat
- .jobs
- .mail
- .mobi
- .post
- .tel
- .tel
- .travel
- .xxx

Sponsor

- DotAsia Organisation, Ltd.
- Fundació puntCAT
- Society for Human Resource Mgt
- The Anti-Spam Community Registry
- Mobi JV
- Universal Postal Union
- Pulver.com
- Telname Limited
- The Travel Partnership Corporation
- The International Foundation for Online Responsibility

sTLD APPLICATION PROCESS

Review ICANN posted application materials



Apply for user-name and password



Complete on-line application



Independent evaluation



Technical & Commercial Negotiation



Agreements

INDEPENDENT EVALUATION PANEL

- Panel Program Manager
- Three Separate Independent Panels of three members each
 - Technical Panel
 - Business / Financial Panel
 - Sponsorship / Community Panel
- Panel Characteristics
 - An internationally diverse group of experts in their respective fields
 - Representing eight countries located in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Europe, Latin America, North America

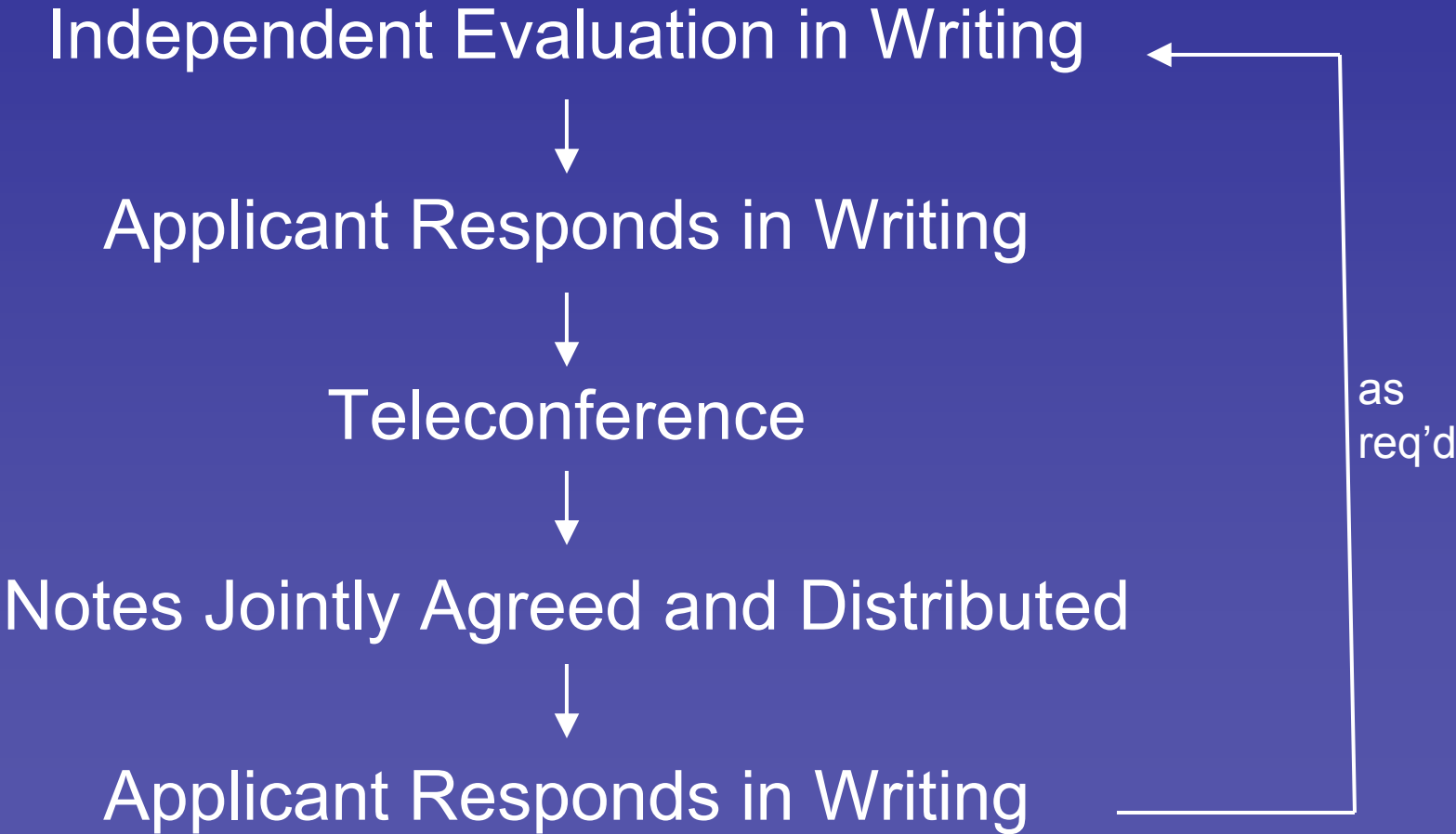
INDEPENDENT REVIEW CHARACTERISTICS

- Panels established and review begun in May 2004
- Blind, independent review – all communications are through the Project Manager:
 - between the panels and ICANN staff
 - between the panels and the applicants
- Each team has met six to eight times by teleconference
- Each panel posed a series of questions to each applicant to seek clarification
- Each panel provided separate reports, comparing information in the applications against the criteria described in the RFP

THE REMAINING PROCESS

- Independent evaluation reports were sent to each of the applicants.
- In the case where the applicant passed all three sets of criteria and there were no other contingencies associated with the application – it proceeded onto technical and commercial negotiations in order to establish a new sTLD registry.
- In cases where the evaluators indicated that all sets of criteria were not met, ICANN requested clarifying documentation relating to any potential deficiencies or contingencies.
- As appropriate, the evaluators re-convened to determine if the additional documentation cured the deficiency.

INDEPENDENT EVALUATION ITERATION



THE REMAINING PROCESS

- If contingencies remain after the close of the iterative evaluation process, the ICANN Board (with full information, i.e., application, independent panel reports, applicant responses to questions) will affirm whether:
 - Contingencies on the application have been resolved and the application will enter the negotiation phase;
 - Contingencies have not been removed and the application is deficient;
 - More information is required to make a determination.
- Upon completion of this phase, and then of the negotiation, successful applications will be presented to the ICANN Board with the intent to authorize the completion of agreement with the Sponsoring Organizations to designate new registries.

STATUS

- Two applicants are in negotiations to establish new registries: .post and .travel
- Nearly all of the remaining applications have or have nearly completed the iterative independent review process and will be considered at special meetings of the Board.
- No applications have yet been formally rejected.

TIMING

- As Independent Evaluation processes are completed, the proposals are being managed through the negotiations on an independent basis in order to expedite each application.
- It is anticipated that determination of whether the applications will proceed into negotiations is planned to be complete for all applications by February 2005. (The majority of determinations is planned to be made in December 2004.)

DISCLOSURE

- At the close of the independent evaluation process, ICANN will publish a detailed description of the process and the evaluation teams.
- Some detailed information in the evaluations and negotiations may be held confidential at the request of applicants.
- Final reports of the results will be published by ICANN and importantly, will inform the implementation of the strategy for the formation of new gTLDs.