



ICANN | 52 *Singapore*

8-12 FEBRUARY 2015



GAC Community Session

Protection of geographic names in new gTLDs

11 February 2015

Working group Protection of Geographic Names

Agenda

Welcome -Background and purpose for the session

Presentation of the comment's summary

Olga Cavalli - GAC Working Group Protection of Geographic Names in new gTLDs

Invited panellists

- **ALAC** - Rafid Fatani
- **ccNSO** - Annabeth Lange .NO
- **Internet Business Council of Africa IBCA** - Gideon Rop (remote)
- **Brand Registry Group** - Philip Sheppard
- **GNSO**

Comments from the audience

Questions and Answers

Closing remarks and next steps

GAC Durban Communique - July 2013

Refine the rules to avoid the same conflicts

- Lower uncertainty for the applicant, for countries, regions and communities.
- Avoid misuse of names which are relevant for communities, regions, countries, etc.
- Lower the number of conflicts once the results of new round of new GTLDs will be announced.
- Give background information which can be useful to ICANN in the definition of the next round of new gTLDs rules.

Background Document

Prepared by working group based on comments received during the ICANN Buenos Aires + Singapore + London meeting and other sources of information.

Content:

- Possible actions at the national / regional level to protect geographic names
- Suggested text for AGB or other future document
- Analysis of the Expert Advice document requested by ICANN Board in relation with “.amazon”
- Suggested Best Practice Guidelines
- Next steps

25 comments received!

Period extended until 31/12/14

Background document translated [AR](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [PT](#), [RU](#), [ZH](#)

- [ALAC Statement on the Draft Document from GAC Sub-Group on Geographic Names](#)
- [Ratified: ALAC Statement on the Draft Document from GAC Sub-Group on Geographic Names](#)
- [Input from the ccNSO Council to the GAC on the protection of geographic names in the new gTLD process](#)
- [IBCA comment on ICANN GAC proposal for Geographic Names](#)
- [Technology Policy Institute Comments on "The Protection of Geographic Names in the new gTLDs Process"](#)
- [i2Coalition Comment on "The Protection of Geographic Names in the New gTLDs Process"](#)
- [Comments of the US Council for International Business concerning the GAC Sub-Group's proposal on Geographic Names in New gTLDs](#)
- [ISPCP comments on Geographic Names in New gTLDs](#)
- [MARQUES comment on the "The Protection of Geographic Names in the New gTLD Process"](#)
- [US Chamber of Commerce on the GAC proposal for the use of geographic names in new gTLDs](#)
- [AIPPI submission of position paper - gTLDs - geographic names](#)
- [Community input process in relation to the Proposal, "The Protection of Geographic Names in the New gTLDs process."](#)
- [Submission of the CCWG Use of Names of Countries and Territories as TLDs](#)
- [INTA Internet Committee Comments on "The Protection of Geographic Names in the New gTLD Process"](#)
- [Comments on the Proposal of the ICANN GAC Sub-Group on Geographic Names](#)
- [Joint Civil Society Comments on the Proposal of the ICANN GAC Sub-Group on "Geographic Names"](#)
- [Comment by the Domain Name Association to the GAC sub-group proposal on the protection of geographic names](#)
- [Comments from the Registries Stakeholder Group \(RySG\) concerning GAC's Geo Names Proposal](#)
- [Comments on GAC sub-working group proposal on "The protection of geographic names in the new gTLDs process"](#)
- [Summary of Intellectual Property Constituency Comments on "The Protection of Geographic Names in the new gTLDs Process"](#)
- [Brunella Longo, Open Data Assurance, UK](#)
- [Letter to ICANN on Geographic Names.pdf](#)
- [BRG comments on GAC geo proposal 11-2014.pdf](#)
- [BC Comment on GAC Proposal for Protection of Geographic Names in New gTLDs](#)

Comments

1. Proposals on how to move forward
2. Do not agree but could engage in further dialogue
3. Do not agree:
 - Impose substantial additional administrative and logistical burdens
 - Geographic name should be better defined
 - Public interest should be better defined
 - Governments do not have exclusive use of geographic name in any context
 - Disregards relevant issues of international law
 - False understandings and misapplications of law
 - ICANN is an inappropriate forum to undertake the creation of new “intellectual property like” global rights to geographic names
 - Governments have no rights to geographic names
 - Changes should be developed through a GNSO Pdp process
 - Suggests a “solution” without providing any evidence that there is a problem to be solved

Next steps and general comments

- ICANN is where the new gTLDs process is happening
- There were problems
- No changes to the rules = Same problems in the future
- WG will prepare a new version including reference to the valuable information sent in the comments and in this session

Relevant information

Link to latest version of the background document :

[The protection of geographic names in new gTLDs process - 29 august 2014.pdf](#)

Translated versions of the background document:

[AR](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [PT](#), [RU](#), [ZH](#)

GAC website with relevant information for this session:

<https://gacweb.icann.org/display/gacweb/Governmental+Advisory+Committee>

Link to GAC web space with all the comments received:

<https://gacweb.icann.org/display/gacweb/Community+Input+-+The+protection+of+Geographic+Names+in+the+New+gTLDs+process>



Many thanks!
Muchas gracias!

Comments?
Questions?
Preguntas?

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