

# ccTLD Agreement Update

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Andrew McLaughlin  
ICANN Policy Guy

# Present Status

## ICANN and ccTLD Agreements

- Intensive discussions since 11/00 annual meeting - meetings in Honolulu, Geneva & Melbourne (over 80 ccTLDs participating)
- Substantial convergence on two options within one overall structure - legacy & triangular
- Active discussions with several registry managers in context of pending reorganizations
- Parallel discussions with Budget Group and Finance Committee on revised financial contributions
- Active involvement of ICANN Board members
- Next step: ICANN draft to capture consensus points

# Principles for ICANN - ccTLD Relationship

- Use original Postel - IANA ccTLD concept:
  - ccTLD manager is trustee for LIC
  - competent operation of registry & nameservers
  - consensus efforts to resolve disputes
  - respect views of governments
- Recognize ICANN as global consensus forum
- Use flexible agreement structure to accommodate varied circumstances:
  - different ccTLD registry models
  - different local needs
  - different governmental situations
- Complete MOU transition by reaching stable agreements with ccTLDs as soon as possible

## Basic ICANN - ccTLD Agreement Structure

- Written agreement between ICANN and ccTLD manager
- Agreement should:
  - Assist ccTLD manager in serving needs of local Internet community
  - Provide for appropriate monitoring of ccTLD manager's trust obligations
  - Enable ICANN to ensure global DNS interests are protected (technical stability, transparency in registration, etc.)

## Special Concerns to Be Addressed in ICANN - ccTLD Agreements

- Appropriate application of local and global policies
- Circumstances in which delegations are changed
- ICANN's performance of the IANA function
- Contributions to funding ICANN activities

## ccTLD Agreements—Two Basic Situations

*“The designated manager is the trustee of the top-level domain for both the nation, in the case of a country code, and the global Internet community.”*

— J. Postel, RFC 1591

- Legacy situation: The IANA monitors the trust locally and globally
- Triangular situation: The national government, where interested, commits to responsible monitoring of the local interest; ICANN monitors the global interest

## Documents for the Two Situations

- Legacy situation: Agreement between ICANN and ccTLD manager
- Triangular situation:
  - ccTLD manager and national government: agreement or equivalent addressing local interest (see .ca Umbrella Agreement)
  - National government and ICANN: letter or other communication
  - ccTLD manager and ICANN: agreement covering global interest
- Flexibility to accommodate other situations

# ICANN & ccTLD Manager Responsibilities in Triangular situation

- **ICANN**

- Maintain authoritative root server system
- Maintain authoritative and publicly available ccTLD database
- Maintain audit trail regarding delegations

- **ccTLD Manager**

- Provide stable and secure registry and nameserver operation
- Participate in development of and abide by ICANN consensus policies on global issues
- Contribute to ICANN's cost of operation



## Further Elements for Legacy situation

- Commitment to operate ccTLD in trust for the interest of the local Internet community
- Mechanism for conversion to triangular situation

# Next steps

- ICANN draft to capture consensus points
- Support for triangular arrangements in cases of pending reorganizations
- Closure on funding formula
- Further input from ccTLDs and others welcome