



CENTR participating in the Internet Governance Forum

CENTR, the European ccTLD association, has been an active participant in all the meetings since the creation of the IGF.

This document gives an overview of the different workshop CENTR organized and co-organized since the first IGF meeting in Athens (2006)

OVERVIEW past workshops

2013 - Bali, Indonesia - **The Social Role of a ccTLD, guarantee of everlasting success**

2012 - Baku, Azerbaijan - **Around the ccTLDs world, The journey continues**

2011 - Nairobi, Kenya - **Emerging Issues in the ccTLD ecosystem, the next decade of challenges**

2010 - Vilnius, Lithuania - **Resilience and contingency planning in the DNS**

2009 - Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt - **Lost in non-ASCII translation**

2008 - Hyderabad, India - **Around the world in Eight ccTLDs**

2007 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil - **One Size doesn't fit all, 5 models for ccTLD Governance**

2007 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil - **The functioning of the Domain Name System**

2006 - Athens, Greece - **Informal Round Table discussions**

“The Social Role of a ccTLD, guarantee of everlasting success”

Workshop by the regional ccTLD organisations

Wednesday, 23 October 2013

9am – 10.30am

Concise Description of the Workshop

Since over 25 years the ccTLD community has represented the most reliable and fast lane for the online presence of local communities. ccTLD managers have been filling gaps and building bridges to ensure that Internet is adequately used at local level. Most of the ccTLDs have evolved towards multi-stakeholder models that guarantee national capacities and support local development.

The ccTLD ecosystem is likely be impacted by the launch of new TLDs, like it was recently by the advent of social media. However, certain cultural, political, administrative, financial and private bodies will always opt for the local TLD when registering a domain name and creating a service-related site. The workshop intends to investigate the reasons of this choice and explain it by examples of ccTLDs that have been and are crucial for the development of the net locally and within communities where the Internet is in its early stage.

Addressed themes:

- What is the set of specific, local needs that the local ccTLDs have looked after in the past decades
- How local TLDs represent as crucial driver in the development of the Local Internet Infrastructure
- How local TLDs can support e-inclusion
- When ccTLDs are seen more reliable than gTLDs
- Have the local TLDs survived the advent of the social media
- What is going to be the future of ccTLDs

Organiser:

This workshop is organised by the Council of European National Top Level Domain Registries, CENTR, in cooperation with the four regional ccTLD organisations. With the inclusion of speakers from ISOC, national governments, service providers, international organisations and the ccTLDs the multistakeholder approach is adequately ensured. Moreover, by selecting gender balanced speakers from APTLD (Asia and the Pacific), AFTLD (Africa), CENTR (Europe) and LACTLD (Latin-America and the Caribbean) this workshop offers a truly global perspective on the issue.

Workshop Panelists:

Mr. Peter Van Roste, CENTR
Ms. Mary Uduma, NiRA
Mr. Hongbin Zhu, CNNIC
Mr. Andrei Kolesnikov, ccTLD.RU/ PΦ

Ms. Anne-Rachel Inné, AFRINIC
Mr. Martin Peterka, CZ.NIC
Ms. Sarah Falvey, Google
Mr. Oscar Robles Garay, NIC-Mexico

Moderator: Ms. Anne-Rachel Inné, AFRINIC



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Workshops by the regional ccTLD organisations during previous IGF meetings:

2012 - Around the ccTLDs world: The journey continues

Description of the Workshop

The workshop intended to show the diversity of country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) policy models and the best practice exchanges in this context. There are more than 250 ccTLD extensions globally. Each ccTLD represents the country's national identity on the web. The ccTLDs and gTLDs community has been defined as one of the backbones of the Internet ecosystem. During the 2012 ICANN meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, ICANN celebrated 27 TLDs that have hit the 25-year mark.

These ccTLDs have gone through enormous changes over more than two decades of activity. They coped with several emerging issues, like national-regional-international deregulations, IDNs, DNSSEC and other security measures, business continuity, law enforcement and privacy matters. This workshop presented the evolution of the ccTLD against the various matters that impacted the TLD landscape in the recent years and those that are likely to change the TLD landscape in the future. The core message of the workshop was to show how different approaches serve different local needs and how the TLDs are interacting with the local government or supra-national organisations. Moreover, the workshop intended to underscore how the various TLD models have been contributing to the human, economic and social development by expanding multiculturalism and multilingualism via the projects that the TLD operators have set up at local level.

The workshop was attended by around 60 people despite the poor onsite logistics which did not ensure an optimal development of the discussion.

Workshop Panelists:

Mr. Konstatinos Komaitis, ISOC
Ms. Carolina Aguerre, LACTLD
Mr. Barrack Ong'ondo Otieno, AFTLD

Ms. Anne-Rachel Inné, AFRINIC
Mr. Marco Pancini, Google
Mr. Michael Niebel, European Commission

Moderator: Ms. Emily Taylor

2011 – Emerging issues in the ccTLD ecosystem:

The next decade challenges.

The five presenters were:

Carolina Aguerre on behalf of LACTLD "Trends and challenges in the ccTLD ecosystem in LAC", **Hiro Hotta (JPRS)**, ".jp registry experience on recent disaster", **Paulos Nyirenda** "The African TLD community challenges", **Souleymane Oumtanga (NIC.CI)** (Capacity Building at work: Collège International) and **Richard Allan (Facebook)** "The social networks and the TLD development". The structure and workshop coordination was managed by **Emily Taylor** (independent consultant for ccTLD and gTLD).

Final report

The main discussion topics were centered round the new TLDs and African regulation of ccTLD. The backdrop was Africa's imminent new TLD .africa and the organizations involved in its launch.

Carolina Aguerre provided the audience with an overview of the evolution in the uptake of social networks and ccTLDs across the LAC region. She also reflected on the impact of future new gTLDs on the current domain name system.

Richard Allan's (Facebook) presentation addressed the generation of synergies between social network platforms and users' websites. His main point was that he did not see competition between domain names and social networks when it comes to addressing and naming. According to Richard, they are complementary as social networks are more aggregators of content that is available in ccTLD and gTLD webspace.

Hiro Hotta shared the lessons learned by the operator of the Japanese .JP domain in the aftermath of the 2011 Tsunami. His detailed account of the practical impact on daily operations has turned into a practical guide for other registries to verify their own resilience and security measures.

Paulos Nyirenda addressed the challenges of the African internet community and how .AFRICA could address these.

Souleymane Oumtanga gave an overview of the Collège International, the capacity building initiative from AFNIC and how it contributed to building a stronger ccTLD network across Africa.

2010 - Resilience and contingency planning in DNS

Speakers

John Crain, ICANN

Max Larson Henry, .HT, Haiti

Margarita Valdez, Nic Chile, Chile

Kurt Erik Lindqvist, Netnod, Sweden

Thomas de Haan, Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands

Lim Chon Sai, Singapore Network and Information Center

Khoudia GUEYE EP SY, University of Dakar, Senegal

Markus Eggenesperger, United Domains, Germany

Final report

In this workshop we heard of the remarkable achievement of the Haitian registry in ensuring continuity of service despite the destruction of the local infrastructure. We also heard how the Chilean registry coped with the 8.8 Richter scale earthquake, how their efforts to measure the damages on the non-DNS and the DNS infrastructure were developed, how the importance of having anycast guaranteed continuity as international nodes were not affected by the disaster, how the local mirror of F-ROOT allowed national Internet to operate even with all international links down, and last but not least how the sites responded as expected.

Two interesting presentations given by Blacknight Solution Ltd, an Irish registrar, and Netnod, a rootserver operator showed that the private sector is fully aware of the various contingency aspects.

John Crain by ICANN talked about their training activities towards the ccTLD community to ensure best practice exchange and the development of capacities at local level.

Thomas De Haan of the Ministry of Economic Affairs of The Netherlands spoke about the .nl registry, SIDN. There are no formal ties between the government and this ccTLD registry. They believe that self regulation is still the best way in this context. Therefore, they worked out a MOU in which they established procedures for certain elements which can really go wrong and which imply the government assistance.

To respond to the workshop initial questions if registry managers, governments, the private sector and other DNS operators are ready to cope with contingencies, if recent scenarios have shown that the necessary back-ups are in place, if business continuity is foreseen in the Internet world, the answers are all positive in the sense that concrete and tested procedures are in place at various levels. This is also thanks to the dialogue that is continued in the internet community, a dialogue that involves all stakeholders, that is at the basis of best practice exchange, like the work done at the ccTLD regional organization level, a dialogue that has greatly benefited from the IGF process.

The Workshop concluded with the signing of a letter of intent by the 4 regional organisations. This agreement is not restricted to security issues, but has a broad scope and will allow ccTLDs across the globe to benefit from the experience from their counterparts in other countries.



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2009 – Lost in non-ASCII translation

Panelists

Mohamed El-Bashir, .SD

Jian Zhang, CNNIC, .CN

Vaggelis Segredakis, FORTH-ICS, .GR

Leonid Toderov, Coordination Center for TLD RU, .RU

Manal Ismail, Egyptian Ministry of Telecommunications, .EG

Elisabeth Markot, European Commission, .EU

Moderator: Baher Esmat, ICANN

Workshop description

The restriction for top level domain names to include only ASCII characters is one of the main obstacles that prevented billions of users from full and easy access to the benefits of the internet. The launch of Internationalised Domain Names at the top level has become of paramount importance.

This workshop aimed at illustrating the advantages of having non-ASCII top-level domains. It explained the process of their introduction and the expected impact on the non-ASCII communities through the inputs, remarks and statements of government, ccTLD and civil society representatives.

The day the workshop was held, the application process for IDN ccTLDs opened up. Egypt and Russia had already filed their application.

More information on IDNs can be obtained from CENTR. secretariat@centr.org

A brief summary and the main issues that were identified

Manal Ismail from the National Telecom Regulatory Authority listed as issues:

- left-to-rights script
- change of characters depending on position in a word
- delimiter role
- two set of numbers
- Arabic diacrits as issues to be solved.

Manal also said that IDNs would not solve all language barrier problems, as content still had to be developed in Arabic and all-Arabic domain name registrations will be only gradual.

Linguistic problems for the Greek community were presented by Vaggelis Segredakis from the foundation for research and technology Hellas. Vaggelis explained the problems with variants and how this could create confusion for the end user.

More general presentations about IDN planning were also given in this session by CNNIC and the coordination center for TLD RU.

The EU Commission underlined during the CENTR session the importance of multilingualism for the .eu registry where preparations to allow registration of second level domains in all EU languages are ready.

Conclusions and further comments:

The Workshop provided an overview of the difficulties and opportunities IDNs will bring to communities that use non-ASCII scripts.

2008 – Around the world in Eight ccTLDs

Panelists

The speakers were selected from the membership of the four regional ccTLD organisations (APTLD, APTLD, CENTR and LACTLD). The selection was made based on the characteristics that make them unique and/or illustrative of local scenarios.

In addition, at least one other international organisation and representatives from governments will be asked to share their views on the subject.

By selecting speakers from APTLD (Asia and the Pacific region), AFTLD (AFRICA), CENTR (Europe) and LACTLD (Latin-America and Caribbean) this workshop offers a truly global perspective on the issue.

Alberto Pérez Gomez, Spain

Jian Zhang, China

Margarita Valdés Cortés, Chile

Olga Cavalli, Argentina

Moderator: Jeanette Hofmann

Roelof Meijer, The Netherlands

Paulos Nyirenda, Malawi

Alioune Badara Traore, Mali

Rajesh Aggarwal, India

Agenda of the Meeting

Showing the diversity of successful country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) policy models and the best practice exchanges in this context. There are more than 240 ccTLD extensions globally. Each ccTLD represents the country's national identity on the web. A striking characteristic of ccTLDs is the variety of policies they work with. This workshop will present eight ccTLD cases from the various continents, focusing on a comparative analysis of their policy models, highlighting their challenges, weaknesses and strengths. An introduction to the role of a ccTLD registry in layman's terms will precede an overview of 8 models which distinguish themselves for the different approach they have and the value they will add to the discussions.

A question and answer session will follow with the guidance of a moderator. The Q&A session will be based on the comparison of the 8 models and will aim to further stimulate the dialogue, educate the audience and demonstrate the importance of best practice sharing. The core message of the workshop is to show how different approaches serve different local needs.

2007 – One size doesn't fit all - 5 models for ccTLD Governance

- .ZA** Not-for-profit organisation that was re delegated as recent as 2005. The focus of the presentation was the restriction of the .za domain and how the new structure will allow .zo to efficiently tackle a range of challenges
- .AT** For-profit organisation but the surplus of the registry is transferred to a not-for-profit organisation. The Austrian government does not see any reason to regulate or manage the .at registry. Very interesting is the NETIDEA initiative which allows the LIC to apply for sponsorship for their initiatives.
- .JP** For-profit organisation. The registry is based on a sponsorship agreement with ICANN and the governments endorsement. There is no contractual relationship with the government. The surplus is used on educational projects and the operation of one of the root servers.
- .EU** A registry under contract. Legal framework under which .EU operates is based on EU-regulations. This model allows for the creation of a successful registry in this international environment
- .CL** Is a prime example of a university based registry. Working as part of a government institution .cl has been able to minimize bureaucracy and provide excellent service to the registrants.

The independent moderator was able to conclude that different local needs require different solutions.



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2007 – The functioning of the Domain Name System

Multi-stakeholders panel comprising representatives

Country code registries

ICANN/IANA

Government

The Internet Society

Moderator: Jeanette Hofmann

Agenda of the Meeting

Presentations on how the Domain Name Systems works, the IANA function, and the role of the United States Government

Expectations + observation from different stakeholders (gov, ccTLDs, ISOC)

Case Study E-IANA, collaboration

Themes emerged (customers + supplier)

- How relationships have improved and evolved as the industry is maturing
- Respect for local determination/decisions ie ccTLDs + role of local stakeholders including government
- Many forms of interaction between ccTLDs, ICANN/IANA eg regional organisations (CENTR, APTLD, LACTLD, AFTLD), ccNSO, ISOC) + importance of participation.
- Capacity building
 - People informed about regional organisations
 - ISOC development/training for ccTLDs
 - Grants + sponsorship available to aid participation in meetings

Effect on automation (eIANA) in strengthening

2006 – Informal Round Table discussions

Theme 1: Bottom-up Policy / Best Practice development in a rapidly changing market explained

Paul M Kane, UK – real world examples of bottom-up policy development successfully working today.

RIPE, Filiz Yilmaz, Amsterdam – How RIPE's policy development process works

Hiro Hotta, Japan – ccTLD Policy Development in the Japan.

Theme 2: Creating the market conditions for Market forces to stimulate customers.

Martin Boyle, UK Government – creating the environment for stimulating Electronic Commerce.

Michael Silber, South Africa - a changing market framework driving investment and services

Pankaj Agrawala, Indian Gov, - facilitating enterprise by fostering research and inward investment.

Theme 3: Capacity Building - what it means? What is needed?

Vladimir Radunovic (Serbia) - Internet Governance initiatives in Eastern Europe

Mwende Njiraini (Kenya) – Changing traditional thought processes.