



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

13 March 2017

The Honorable Ambassador Erik Anderson Machado
Acting Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs
Government of Peru

Dear Ambassador Machado,

Thank you for your correspondence received on 9 December 2016 regarding the discussions within the ICANN community about the future assignment of domains with geographic names, as well as the assignment of two- and three-letter codes. Your letter has been [posted](#) to ICANN's correspondence page.

We note two lists of names that you identified as geographic names. As you are aware, various discussions are taking place in the ICANN community with respect to these names; we have outlined the various workstreams on this topic below. We encourage you to participate and bring forward your points and concerns to the various community discussions that are taking place.

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Geographic Names Working Group

Regarding geographic names in general, we are aware of ongoing work in the GAC, in particular in its Geographic Names Working Group whose objective is to examine the protection of Geographic Names in any Future Expansion of gTLDs and to review and consider any necessary improvements to the existing protections. We look forward to this work feeding into ICANN community's consideration of the matter.

New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Develop Process Working Group (PDP WG)

The PDP WG's [charter](#) identifies geographic names as a topic for discussion within the PDP. However, the working group has not yet begun deliberations on this topic as it awaits input from the GAC Geographic Names Working Group, the Cross Community Working Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names and other efforts in the community.

Cross Community Working Group on the Use of Country and Territory Names (CWG-UCTN)

With respect to the work being done in the CWG-UCTN, the working group was chartered to consider three areas: 2-character top-level domains (TLDs); 3-character TLDs; and full name country and territory name TLDs. The CWG-UCTN has produced an [Interim Report](#) that includes extensive background information on the issue area, a full summary of the group's activities and



accomplishments, and a series of recommendations. This report is currently [published](#) for public comment.

Implementation of Specification 5 Sections 2 and 4 of the New gTLD Registry Agreement

With respect to two-letter domain names reserved at the second level by Specification 5 Section 2 of the [Registry Agreement](#), on 13 December 2016, ICANN [authorized](#) the release of reserved two-letter domain names subject to the registry implementing [required measures to avoid confusion](#). The required measures were developed through a community process and are comprised of pre- and post-registration measures that would be implemented concurrently to avoid confusion throughout the lifecycle of a two-letter domain name registration. These required measures are additional to other safeguards already built into the Registry Agreement as well as other measures that registries may implement at their discretion.

With respect to country and territory names reserved at the lower levels by Specification 5 Section 4 of the Registry Agreement, while the Registry Agreement gives ICANN the ability to approve the release of these names subject to review by the GAC, the release of country and territory names has been limited to the extent the relevant government has indicated its approval in the [GAC's database](#). To date, some registry operators have submitted requests for ICANN's approval to release country and territory names at the lower levels. The Registry Agreement amendments resulting from registries' requests have been published for [public comment](#), and the GAC is notified when new amendments are published for comment. These amendments currently remain open and not approved for implementation.

We hope this information is helpful to you. Please do not hesitate to come back to me with any comments or questions for further explanation. Thank you for your participation in the ICANN multistakeholder model, and we look forward to further engagements with you in the ICANN community discussions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Akram Atallah".

Akram Atallah
President, Global Domains Division
ICANN

Cc: Minister María Milagros Castañón Seoane