

# New gTLD Program

Governmental Advisory Committee
4 Dec 2010



# **Applicant Guidebook Updates**



### **Module 1 – What Changed**

Delegation rate / batching

Background screening criteria

Cross-ownership

Applicant support

**IDN** variants



## Module 2 – What Changed

String requirements

Continent/region names



### **Module 3 – What Changed**

### Legal rights objection

• IGOs

### Community objection

Complete defense eliminated

### [Limited Public Interest objection]

- Government notifications
- Additional treaties
- References to "principles of international law"



## Module 4 – What Changed

No significant changes



## **Module 5 – What Changed**

Detail on Board role

Trademark Clearinghouse

Substantive review

### **URS**

14-day response time

Registry Agreement

• Code of Conduct



# Overarching Issues



### **Overall Approach**

- Seek consultation from those who commented on these issues
- Seek expert assistance to address issues
  - Partner with ICANN community experts
  - Commission other third party experts
- Publish relevant studies and reports
- Share and actively discuss resolution and proposed implementation approaches



### **Root Impact - Solution Crafting**

- Critical Collaborators
  - RSSAC; SSAC; RSST
- Key Documents Published
  - "L" Root Server Scaling Report
  - Delegation Rate Scenarios
  - Summary Impact of Root Zone Scaling



### **Root Impact – Status**

- Studies did not identify significant issues with rate-limited addition of New gTLDs
- Positive continuing implementation of IDNs (fast-track), IPv6, DNSSEC
- Annual delegation rate will not exceed 1,000 per year, no matter how many applications are received
- On-going monitoring of system behavior



### **Market Impact - Solution Crafting**

- Critical collaborators:
  - Compass Lexecon
  - Dennis Carlton, Greg Rosston, Michael Katz
  - Josh Wright, Steve Salop
  - CRAI
- Key documents:
  - Report of Dennis Carlton (competition and pricing)
  - Economic Framework for the analysis of the expansion of gTLDs
  - Economic Considerations in the Expansion of Generic Top-Level
     Domain Names (Phase II Report: Case Studies)



### **Market Impact - Status**

- Latest study published Dec 2010
- Uses past as prologue and finds:

#### Benefits:

- Limited potential competition for .COM
- Value in differentiation, innovation; but not predictable
- Value in IDN, community based TLDs

#### Costs:

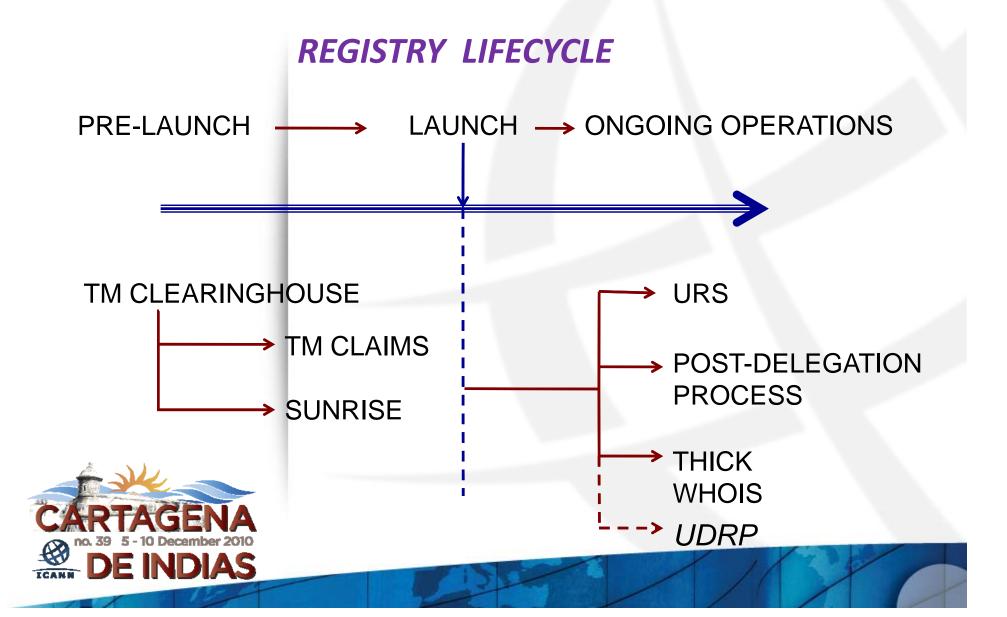
- Trademark protection cost
- Past RPMs varied and of limited effectiveness
- Need to improve on past rights protection mechanisms

### **Trademark Protection: Solution Crafting**

- Critical Collaborators
  - IRT (Implementation Recommendations Team)
  - STI (Special Trademark Issues group)
  - TDG (Temporary Drafting Group)
- Key Documents
  - GNSO's STI Recommendations
  - IRT Final Report



### **Rights Protection - Status**



### **Malicious Conduct - Solution Crafting**

- Critical Collaborators:
  - High Security TLD Advisory Group
  - ZFA Advisory Group
  - RISG
- Key Documents:
  - Zone File Access Concept Paper
  - HSTLD RFI



### **Malicious Conduct – Status**

- Enhanced requirements and background checks
- Requirement for DNSSEC deployment
- No wildcarding/remove glue records
- Requirement for thick WHOIS
- Anti-abuse contact and documented policy
- Expedited Registry Security Request process
- Elective TLD security verification program
- High Security TLD (HSTLD)
- Zone File Access (ZFA)



### **Overarching Issues - Path Forward**

- Implement current proposed solutions
- Monitor effectiveness and impact over time
- Share findings with Community
- Adjust/Improve for future rounds, as applicable



# **GAC** topics



### Post-delegation disputes with governments

- Requirement for registry operators to conduct business under the legal framework of country providing support
  - The government providing support can impose that requirement on the applicant as a condition of support
  - Any agreement between government and registry is not enforceable by ICANN, but ICANN could comply with a legally binding decision from a court of competent jurisdiction.



### **Vertical integration**

- Must result in a solution that fosters competition and innovation in the DNS market
  - Code of Conduct addresses misuse of data or other abuses
  - Subject to auditing requirements
  - Compliance: graduated sanctions available, including termination and punitive damages
  - Right to refer competition issues to appropriate governmental authorities



### **Objection procedure**

- Ensure governments can use community objection procedure
  - Procedure envisioned objections to place names by governments
- Fees for objection and dispute resolution
  - Objection is run on cost-recovery, loser-pays basis
  - Board confirmed in Trondheim Governments should be required to cover costs



### **Geographic names**

- Definition of country and territory names
- Exclusion of country and territory names should be prolonged until the completion of the IDN ccPDP
  - Exclusion will be reviewed
- Potential loophole in protection of city names
  - Difficult to protect city names because of volume and duplication with generic and brand names
  - Government support required where city connection is clearly articulated
  - Objection process as an additional option



### **Needs of developing countries**

- Barriers to entry for developing countries affect cultural and linguistic diversity
  - New gTLD process is developed on a cost-recovery model
  - Experience gained from first round will inform decisions on fee levels, and the scope for discounts and subsidies in subsequent rounds
  - Non-financial means of support are being made available



### Blocking strings and universal resolvability

- Will governments and others block TLDs?
  - Occurs now
  - Process designed to discourage applications for strings that will be likely to trigger objections
  - Applicants encouraged to identify possible sensitivities or national law issues and address up front
  - Limited blocking is not a stability issue





# Thank You





# Questions

