

Monterrey, México
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LACTLD position on the use of names of countries and territories as a Top Level Domain (TLD)

Original version in Spanish:

<http://www.lactld.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/20171117-Posicio%CC%81n-de-LACTLD-sobre-el-uso-de-nombres-de-pai%CC%81ses-y-territorios-como-TLD.pdf>

Given the knowledge of the existing intentions in the industry, to request as new gTLD, expressions identical to the codes that identify countries or territories in the next round of applications, LACTLD members gathered in General Assembly in the city of Monterrey (Mexico), decided to deliberate on the use of names of countries and territories as Top Level Domain (TLD).

During the General Assembly, participants were informed about the latest developments in this regard:

- Work Track 5 was generated, within the framework of Subsequent PDP of ICANN, to analyze this topic.
- The ccNSO Council nominated Annebeth Lange (Norid, .no) as co-chair of the new Work Track 5.
- From the ccNSO, the importance of the participation of ccTLD representatives in Work Track 5 was emphasized after the call for volunteers made by the GNSO¹ in October of this year.
- On September 17, APTLD² issued a statement with its position on this issue.
- On October 4, CENTR³ issued a statement with its position on this issue, in accordance with the APTLD statement.

¹ Call for Volunteers: GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP WG Work Track 5 (Geographic Names at the Top-Level) <https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2017-10-22-en>

² The APTLD72 Communiqué and Statement http://www.aptd.org/announ/201711/announ_27.html

³ CENTR position on the use of country and territory names as TLDs
<https://centr.org/library/library/policy-document/centr-position-on-the-use-of-country-and-territory-names-as-tlds.html>

- In several sessions during ICANN 60 in Abu Dhabi, it was mentioned that LACTLD's position on the issue was awaited.

The members of LACTLD, after debating and exchanging positions, concluded that the best approach for future rounds is to maintain the current restriction in the registration of names of countries and geographical names as new gTLDs, namely:

- All 2-letter ASCII codes, whether or not currently in the ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 list, are reserved for exclusive use as present and future ccTLDs;
- 3-letter ASCII codes in the ISO 3166-1 alpha-3 list can not be requested as a new gTLDs, which leaves the vast majority of 17,576 3-letter combinations available for use as new gTLDs, but mitigates confusion with ccTLDs existing; and
- Restrictions in the registration of names of countries and territories as new gTLDs must be maintained as established in the 2012⁴ ICANN New gTLD Applicant Guide, reserving country and territory names, including IDN variants, where appropriate.

⁴ New gTLD Applicant Guide

(<https://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/agb/guidebook-full-04jun12-en.pdf>)