

Amend the text in AGB 2.2.1.4.2 part 2 on non-capital city names by adding the blue text (green text).

2. An application for a city name, where the applicant declares that it intends to use the gTLD for purposes associated with the city name.

City names present challenges because city names may also be generic terms or brand names, and in many cases city names are not unique. Unlike other types of geographic names, there are no established lists that can be used as objective references in the evaluation process. However, applicants may find it useful to review the 2017 UN Demographic Yearbook Table 8 to find a list of city names with more than 100,000 inhabitants as a reference point <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/products/dyb/documents/dyb2017/table08.pdf>. Thus, city names are not universally protected. However, the process does provide a means for cities and applicants to work together where desired.

An application for a city name will be subject to the geographic names requirements (i.e., will require documentation of support or non-objection from the relevant governments or public authorities) if:

1. It is clear from applicant statements within the application that the applicant will use the TLD primarily for purposes associated with the city name. For the avoidance of doubt, if an applicant declares in their application that they will operate the TLD exclusively as a dotBrand, then this is not a use of the TLD for "purposes associated with the city name"; and
2. The applied-for string is a city name as listed on official city documents;
3. ↓

Rationale:

The current AGB text states that "city names present challenges because city names may also be generic terms or brand names, and in many cases city names are not unique". This language does not aim to change the position from the AGB 2012, but merely aims to provide greater clarity and certainty for potential applicants. At the same time, it ensures that the relevant authorities are consulted when an applicant intends to use a TLD for purposes associated with a city. If a government or local authority is concerned with an application, they are not precluded from filing an objection (as they could in 2012) or filing their own application. The current rules on resolving contention sets in AGB 2.2.1.4.4 or module 4 will not be impacted by the text.

RATIONALE for the edit:

This list contains capital cities and cities with 100 000 or more inhabitants and is thus very limited in nature. It would give applicants clear guidance and leaves no doubt whether their „category“ of TLD application is reflected in the AGB or not. If a .BRAND applies and meets the

Commented [1]: I believe this is the most recent version of the list Katrin posted

Commented [2]: New text in addition to the AGB 2012.

Commented [3]: We do not support this change.

Commented [4]: What is the reason to delete the sentence? There are several established lists including the UN Stats list.

Deleted: However, established lists can be used as objective references in the evaluation process.

Deleted: Unlike other types of geographic names, there are no established lists that can be used as objective references in the evaluation process. Thus, city names are not universally protected. However, the process does provide a means for cities and applicants to work together where desired.

Commented [5]: Re-adding deleted text

Commented [6]: We do not support this change.

Commented [7]: We do not support this change as it addresses only one TLD type. It does not give applicants clear guidance and leaves doubt whether their „category“ of TLD application is reflected in the AGB or not.

Deleted: *For the avoidance of doubt, if an applicant declares in their application that they will operate the TLD exclusively as a dotBrand, then this is not a use of the TLD for "purposes associated with the city name"...*

Deleted: *or/*

Deleted: *or*

Deleted: *The applied-for string is a (non-capital) city name as defined pursuant to applicable national legislation or as listed in <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/dyb/dyb2015/Table08.xls>*

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exemption under (a), it has no further obligation; the same goes for any other category of TLD applications. The rule applicable to capital city names remains per the preceding section 2.2.1.4.2-1.