**Version 4.0 (Proposed Introduction)**

This version of the Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) Implementation Guidelines (“IDN Guidelines” or the “Guidelines”) reviews version 3.0 of the Guidelines following the expansion of the DNS under the 2012 New gTLD Program. The IDN Guidelines are written for gTLD registries, however the IDN Guidelines are also intended as a support document for other registries establishing IDN policies (e.g. ccTLDs).

This document supersedes [version 3.0](https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/idn-guidelines-2011-09-02-en) of the Guidelines. It was prepared by members of the IDN Guidelines Working Group (IDNGWG) constituted following the [Call for Community Experts](https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2015-07-20-en), and comprises of the following members:

[LIST OF WG MEMBERS]

**Version 3.0**

This document supersedes version 2.2 of these Guidelines to reflect the IDNABIS revision ("IDNA2008") of the initial IDNA protocol ("IDNA2003"). It was prepared by members of the IDN Guidelines Revision Working Group (of gTLD and ccTLD registries with IDN experience):

[LIST OF WG MEMBERS]

**Version 2.2**

Version 1.0 of the ICANN Guidelines for the Implementation of Internationalized

Domain Names ("IDN Guidelines"), was published on 20 June 2003. That

release coincided with the initial IDN deployment for second-level domains in

accordance with the IETF Proposed Standard for Internationalized Domain

Names in Applications as stated in RFCs 3454, 3490, 3491, and 3492. The

ICANN Board endorsed the implementation approach set forth in the Version 1.0

Guidelines on 27 March 2003. This stated the conditions under which a top-level

domain registry requiring ICANN’s authorization to accept IDN registration could

begin doing so. Although written for gTLD registries, the IDN Guidelines and

were also intended as a support document for other registries establishing IDN

policies.

After the initial deployment experiences of IDNs at the second level, a detailed

review of the original IDN Guidelines commenced at an IDN workshop in

Luxembourg <http://icann.org/meetings/luxembourg/captioning-idn-workshop-

13jul05.htm>. Thereafter, a working group of gTLD and ccTLD registries with IDN

experience (members listed below) was formed to prepare a revision of the

Guidelines. The working group considered the results from the Luxembourg

workshop and posted a draft Version 2.0 of the IDN Guidelines on 20 September

2005 for public comment. A wide range of remarks and suggestions were

submitted to a public comment forum that was open through 23 October 2005. A

final draft Version 2.0 of the Guidelines was prepared on the basis of that

material.

The ICANN Board endorsed version 2.0 on 8 November 2005, effective for a

period of nine months at the end of which specific recommendations for further

revision were to be presented to the Board. An initial plan for this work was

announced; milestones and deadlines were subsequently posted. These

included the publication of a revised Version 2.1 on 27 February 2006. The

period of validity of Version 2.1 was extended past the August 2006 deadline due

to need for consideration of technical and policy factors specific to the

introduction of IDN on the top-level of the Domain Name System.

The present 2.2 draft of the IDN Guidelines is the first to make specific reference

to IDN in top-level labels, and will be amended and supplemented in subsequent

drafts in preparation for the release of top-level IDN labels in the production

environment. This present draft Version 2.2 restates individual earlier guidelines

written for the second-level that can be applied to the top-level of the DNS, in

wording appropriate to that purpose. This document also amends other

guidelines where need for modification is indicated in light both of TLD

considerations and other experience gained subsequent to the release of Version

2.1.