IDN Implementation Guidelines (IDNG) Working Group (WG)

Notes from Meeting on 16 February, 2017

<u>Meeting Attendees</u>(in alphabetical order)

WG members:
1. Satish Babu
2. Edmon Chung
3. Mats Dufberg
4. Dennis Tanaka
5. Jian Zhang

Staff:
6. Sarmad Hussain

<u>Meeting Notes</u>

The WG members continued the discussion on the document and the recommendations to be proposed for public comment. Updated document *IDN Guidelines 4.0 20170216* was discussed.

1. **Automatic activation of variants.** The WG reviewed the recommendation and identified that it is too specific to Chinese. The discussion on automatic activation from 22 Dec. 2016 meeting of the WG was reviewed, where it was noted to make the recommendation more generic (and not specific to the Chinese community), that it may burden the registrant but more so the registrar and therefore should be considered in that context.

   The WG noted that this is a complex matter. It was noted that at this time ICANN organization does not allow for automatic activation of variants. It was suggested that the TLD policy should determine (through its LGR) whether the variants should be automatically activated. The members appreciated the need to do automatic activation for the Chinese community. However a concern was raised on how it will impact the registrars – can all registrars handle automatic activation. Further, the term "preferred variants" should not be used as it is not generally used beyond the Chinese community. It was shared that in Chinese case, registrars have to manage it. It was also noted that the recommendation should be limited to automatically activated but not necessarily delegated.

   It was pointed out that SSAC SAC 060 advisory's recommendation 14 cautions that the no. of strings which are automatically activated should be conservative. Some of the WG members did not agree that variants should be automatically activated. On the other hand, it was noted that the ccTLDs have been practicing automatic activation and it is a well implemented operation by the Chinese community for over a decade. Not allowing it would be a dis-service to the Chinese community. Thus, the concerns can be mitigated by clear implementation policies. It was discussed if there would be a middle way – where automatic activation be allowed, but kept in check so that such activations remain conservative. It was suggested that one way to achieve this was to limit this to Chinese, saying a registry may automatically activate labels and should limit the number of automatically activated variants and refer to SAC 060.

It was noted that Arabic community may also be recommending automatic activation so limited to Chinese may not be sufficient. But as Chinese community has been practicing it for over a decade, adding a reference to it at least as a foot note may be useful.

The WG discussed what should be the proposed strategy for keeping the activated variants conservative. It was suggested that alternates could be presented, where one would be to only activate preferred variants – concept from Chinese, and second would be give an upper limit – and both alternates could be presented to the community as examples for feedback.

Moreover, though the WG noted that it is hard to define community need (and thus leave this to the choice of registry) but some members thought that reference to community support is still essential.

2. **Tentative Section 2.8 and 2.9.** The WG agreed that there are no specific recommendations for registration data and EPP. However, WG also agreed to not delete the headings but add under each that a WG does not have any recommendations on these topics and in case the community has any suggestions they should give their feedback.

3. **Title and place for Section 2.10.** The WG should suggest an appropriate title for this section.

4. **Next tasks.** Every WG member should review the document as a whole and provide feedback.

5. **Terms and definitions in the glossary.** WG agreed that the glossary needs to be retained. The table of glossary should be updated and filled with relevant information and definition.

Action Items

S. No.	Action Items	Owner
1	*Update recommendation on automatic activation of labels in Section 2.6.based on the discussion in the call.*	EC
2	*Review the entire document by next call for any suggestions and feedback on the text*	All WG members
3	*Update the glossary and fill in the definitions*	MD (and SH)