

IANA Report on the Redelegating of the .ly Top-Level Domain

Subject: Request of the General Post and Telecommunication Company (GPTC) for the .ly Top-Level Domain

Date: October 2004

The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (the IANA), as part of the administrative functions associated with management of the domain-name system root, is responsible for receiving requests for delegation and redelegation of top-level domains, investigating the circumstances pertinent to those requests, and reporting on the requests. This report gives the findings and conclusions of the IANA on its investigation of various requests for the redelegation of the .ly (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) country-code top-level domain (ccTLD).

Factual and Procedural Background

Prior to ICANN's existence, IANA (which was at the time administered by the University of Southern California) approved a request for the establishment of the .ly ccTLD. At that time and today, that two-letter code was and is set forth on the [ISO 3166-1 list \(http://www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/iso3166ma/index.html\)](http://www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/iso3166ma/index.html) maintained by the ISO 3166 Maintenance Agency (ISO 3166/MA) as the approved alpha-2 code for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. The .ly ccTLD was delegated by IANA to Mr. Khalil Elwiheishi at the Alshaeen for Information Technology as Administrative and Technical contact.

When the Alshaeen for Information Technology was no longer able to effectively manage the domain, Dr. Hosni Tayeb was selected as the "Temporary caretaker" for the domain, and held that role until this redelegation process was complete.

Last year, ICANN received an expression of interest to redelegate the .ly ccTLD to the General Post and Telecommunication Company (GPTC). The request was supported by the Libyan Government which recognized GPTC as the appropriate delegee for the .ly ccTLD and expressed an interest to have GPTC formally recognized by ICANN as the delegee for the .ly ccTLD according to the [“Principles for the Delegation and Administration of Country Code Top Level Domains”](http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm) (<http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm>) issued in February 2000 by ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), commonly known as the "GAC Principles." GPTC is the national operator and regulator for all the telecommunications services in Libya. The operator was established in 1984 under Law 16. GPTC provides international and local voice services, digital leased lines, telex, fax, mobile (through a partially owned subsidiary) and Internet services. The GPTC's network was entirely digitalized in 2000.

By accompanying template, the redelegation request proposes to change the sponsoring organization to GPTC, the administrative contact to Mr. Marwan Maghur, and the technical contact to AbdulNasir A. Al-Tubuly.

In accord with the proposed arrangements, as described above, the GPTC and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) have agreed on a provisional redelegation under which the GPTC and Mr. Marwan Maghur would assume the responsibilities as the delegee entrusted with the .ly registry. On 29 June 2004, the ICANN Board of Directors authorized the entry the President to allow the provisional redelegation of the .ly domain to GPTC and Mr. Marwan Maghur, until such time as a full redelegation may be arranged.

On 18 October 2004 the ICANN Board of Directors authorized the President to complete the redelegation process on the basis of notification by Mr. Maghur that the GPTC was now fully prepared to accept the responsibility of domain management, including all administrative and technical responsibilities.

Evaluation

This report is being provided under the [contract for performance of the IANA function \(http://www.icann.org/general/iana-contract-17mar03.htm\)](http://www.icann.org/general/iana-contract-17mar03.htm) between the United States Government and ICANN. Under that contract, ICANN performs the IANA function, which [includes receiving delegation and redelegation requests concerning ccTLDs \(http://www.icann.org/general/iana-contract-17mar03.htm#C.2.1.1.2\)](http://www.icann.org/general/iana-contract-17mar03.htm#C.2.1.1.2), investigating the circumstances pertinent to those requests, making its recommendations, and reporting actions undertaken in connection with processing such requests.

In acting on redelegation requests, the IANA currently follows the practices summarized in “Internet Domain Name System Structure and Delegation.” ([ICP-1, http://www.icann.org/icp/icp-1.htm](http://www.icann.org/icp/icp-1.htm)) ICP-1 represents an update of the portions of [RFC 1591 \(http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc1591.txt\)](http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc1591.txt) which was issued in March 1994) dealing with ccTLDs, and reflects subsequent documents and evolution of the policies followed by the IANA through May 1999. Relevant guidance is also provided in the GAC Principles.

In considering delegation or redelegation of a ccTLD, the IANA seeks input from persons significantly affected by the transfer, particularly those within the nation or territory which the ccTLD has been established to benefit. As [noted in ICP-1 \(http://www.icann.org/icp/icp-1.htm#a\)](http://www.icann.org/icp/icp-1.htm#a), the parties affected include especially the relevant government or public authority: “The desires of the government of a country with regard to delegation of a ccTLD are taken very seriously. The IANA will make them a major consideration in any TLD delegation/transfer discussions.”

Based on the materials submitted and the IANA's evaluation of the circumstances, including the monitoring of their performance during the provisional redelegation period, GPTC qualifies as an appropriate manager for the .ly registry, with support from the Libyan Internet community, including the Libyan Government. As noted above, the government of Libya has formally endorsed GPTC as the appropriate delegee for the .ly registry.

The GAC Principles serve as “best practices” to guide governments in assuming proper roles with respect to the Internet's naming system, which the GAC has observed is “a public resource . . . administered in the public or common interest.” (<http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm#5.3>) In general, they recognize that each government has the ultimate responsibility within its territory for its national public-policy objectives, but also that ICANN has the responsibility for ensuring that the Internet domain-name system continues to provide an effective and interoperable global naming system. The GAC Principles recommend that governments and ICANN pursue their respective roles by creating a framework for accountability memorialized in communications with each other and with the ccTLD manager (see [clause 2, http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm#2](http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm#2)). The GAC Principles guide governments on how to responsibly structure their relations with ccTLD managers (see [clauses 5.5, http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm#5.5](http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm#5.5) and [clause 9, http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm#9](http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm#9)). Among these specific principles, the best practices contemplate that governments will assist in ensuring that the ccTLD manager complies with ICANN policies related to global coordination of the Internet DNS ([clauses 9.1.7 and 9.1.8, http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm#9.1.7](http://www.icann.org/committees/gac/gac-cctldprinciples-23feb00.htm#9.1.7)).

The proposed redelegation will promote service to the local Internet community and will help assure continued Internet interoperability through the global technical coordination that ICANN was created to provide. In this regard, the recognition contained in the Libyan Government's discussion of the need for close coordination between ICANN and the government is particularly noteworthy.

Conclusion

The structure proposed by GPTC and endorsed by the Libyan Government is to have GPTC undertake management of the .ly ccTLD under appropriate oversight of the Libyan Government concerning the national policy interests. GPTC and the Libyan Government also acknowledge and support ICANN's responsibility for

coordinating management of the DNS, including the .ly ccTLD, to safeguard global technical-coordination interests. In reviewing the request, in light of the Libyan Government's endorsement of GPTC and Marwan Maghur as the appropriate all inclusive caretaker, the IANA concludes that the .ly ccTLD should be redelegated to GPTC and Mr. Marwan Maghur.