

Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 2:00 PM

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**From:** ICANN Global Support <[noreply-globalsupport@icann.org](mailto:noreply-globalsupport@icann.org)>

**Date:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 2:00 PM

**Subject:** Updated Guidelines for the Reservation and Release of Country and Territory Names



Dear Registry Operator,

*This notice is to all registry operators with language in Specification 5, Section 4 of their Registry Agreement requiring them to reserve country and territory names subject to release based on review by the GAC and approval by ICANN.*

Following the 18 May 2017 [ICANN Board Resolution\[icann.org\]](#), the Board instructed ICANN organization to grant approvals for the release of [country and territory names\[icann.org\]](#) at the second-level **only to the extent the relevant government has indicated its approval in the [GAC database\[gacweb.icann.org\]](#)**. The remaining country and territory names must continue to be reserved pending the registry operator reaching an agreement with the government or the government updating the GAC's database with its approval.

As a result of the resolution, **registry operators no longer need to submit RSEP requests for the release of country and territory names at the second-level as of 18 May 2017**. For proposed Registry Agreement amendments resulting from submitted RSEP requests prior to 18 May 2017, ICANN will provide notice directly to the registry operators to resolve outstanding RSEP requests and Registry Agreement amendments in line with the Board's Resolution.

As directed in the resolution, ICANN organization will continue to engage with the GAC to collaborate on possible enhancements to the GAC database, periodically remind GAC members to update or offer their determination within the GAC database, as well as report back to the ICANN Board if there is support for a different approach to generally release the second-level country and territory names.

For additional information on the reservation and release of country and territory names, please refer to the updated guidelines on the ICANN.org [Country and Territory Names webpage](#)[\[icann.org\]](#) or send a message to [globalsupport@icann.org](mailto:globalsupport@icann.org).

Regards,

Karla Hakansson  
Director, Registry Services  
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