5 September 2014

Re: Release of Certain Two Character ASCII Labels

Dear Timothy Johnson,

ICANN has conducted a Preliminary Determination of RSEP Ticket ID R8U1P-5Q4F2 to introduce two-character domains to the marketplace, in accordance with the Registry Services Evaluation Policy and process provided at: https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/policy-bd-2012-02-25-en.

Once this step is completed, an RSEP request may fall into one of the following categories shown in the RSEP workflow posted at https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/workflow-2012-02-25-en.

- Option I: Approval
- Option II: Executive or Board Review
- Option III: Competition
- Option IV: Security & Stability
- Option V: Request Cancelled

Based on the information provided, ICANN's Preliminary Determination did not identify any significant competition or security and stability issues for the following TLD identified within your RSEP request:

- .kiwi Registry Agreement between Dot Kiwi Limited and ICANN (20 September 2013)

 However, per Section 2.4.D of the RSEP, ICANN's Preliminary Determination identified that the implementation of your RSEP request to release certain two character ASCII labels requires a material change to your Registry Agreements (RA) (i.e., a RA Amendment), and your RA amendments would fall under Board Review in Option II above (Also see Step 4, Item 5 of the Implementation Notes posted at (https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/implementation-notes-2012-02-25-en) until further guidance is provided by the community and board for the current 12 June 2014 public comment forum which addresses similar RSEP requests and amendments for the Introduction of Two-Character Domain Names in the New gTLD Namespace (https://www.icann.org/public-comments/two-char-new-gtld-2014-06-12-en). ICANN will continue to post these RSEP amendments for public comment until the community and board provide further direction.

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The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

Prior to sending the RA Amendment to the Board for review, ICANN will publish the RA Amendment and list of SLDs for a minimum 21-day Public Comment period. Should the 21-day Public Comment period fall during an ICANN Meeting, ICANN may extend the duration to allow sufficient time for ICANN Meeting attendees to comment. If public comments are received, a 21-day Reply period will follow.

Once the Public Comment and Reply (if applicable) periods are completed, ICANN Staff may provide the proposed RA Amendment, list of two-character domains, and a summary and analysis of the Public Comments to the ICANN Board for consideration.

To learn more about the RSEP or Public Comment processes, please refer to the links below:

- **RSEP Policy:** https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/policy-bd-2012-02-25-en
- **RSEP Implementation Notes:** https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/implementation-notes-2012-02-25-en
- **RSEP Workflow:** https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/workflow-2012-02-25-en
- **Public Comment:** https://www.icann.org/public-comments#open-public
- **Public Comment Forum: Introduction of Two-Character Domain Names in the New gTLD Namespace:** https://www.icann.org/public-comments/two-char-new-gtld-2014-06-12-en

ICANN looks forward to working with you on the proposed amendments that will be posted for public comment. Please find attached the proposed amendment and provide feedback on the document and the list in the amendment no later than 9 September 2014. If you have additional questions, please submit a case comment and we will respond as soon as possible.

Kind Regards,
Registry Services Team

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