



Workshop on Member States' Experience with ccTLDs

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“Singapore Experience”

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Singapore Experience



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Introduction



- Singapore Network Information Centre (SGNIC) Pte Ltd
- The .SG Domain Registry
- Wholly owned subsidiary of Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA)

History of SGNIC



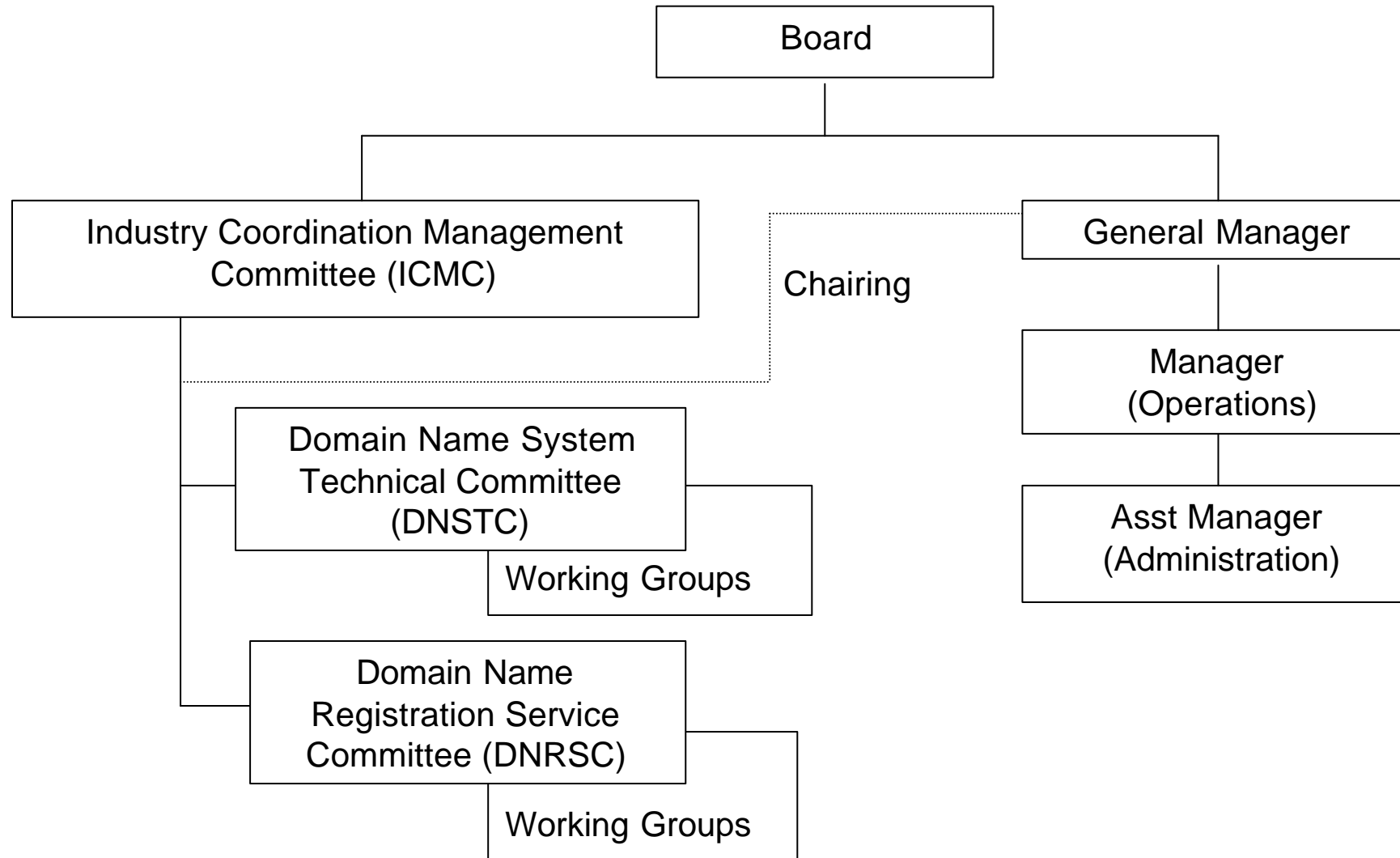
- Early 1990s, .SG domain space was delegated to Technet Unit, National University of Singapore (NUS)
- November 1995, National Computer Board (NCB) took over the registry functions from Technet
- SGNIC was incorporated in June 1997 as a wholly owned subsidiary of NCB
- NCB merged with Telecommunication Authority of Singapore (TAS) = IDA

Role of SGNIC



- Runs the .SG Domain Registry
 - Maintains name servers for .SG Top Level Domain (TLD) and Second Level Domain (SLD) so that all .SG domains are visible on the Internet
 - Maintains database information on all .SG domain names
- Set domain name registrations policies

Organisation Set-Up



SGNIC Domain Names



- Total number of domain names registered as at 1 February 2003 is 33,395:

COM.SG (commercial entities) – 28,720

ORG.SG (non-commercial entities) – 1,286

NET.SG (network providers) - 144

GOV.SG (government organisations) - 267

EDU.SG (educational institutions) - 161

PER.SG (personal domain names) -2817

Projects Implemented



Registry-Registrar (SgR2R)

- Aim: To encourage service innovation and to increase the availability of choice to domain name holders
- Implemented on 1 January 2003
- Accredited an initial group of five registrars to register com/org/net/edu/per.sg domain names with SGNIC
- Accredited Ministry of Finance (MOF) to be the registrar to handle 'gov.sg' registrations
- Migration to SgR2R to be completed by December 2003

Projects Implemented



Singapore Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (SDRP)

- An alternative dispute resolution process for resolving domain name disputes involving .sg registrants in a faster and cost-effective way
- Developed under an MOU signed among:
 - Singapore Network Information Centre (SGNIC)
 - Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC)
 - Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)
 - Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SIArb)
- Implemented on 1 January 2002

Projects Implemented



SDRP (cont'd)

- Based on the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) adopted by ICANN in Oct 1999
- Consistent with the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) guidelines on “ccTLDs Best Practices” (Feb 2001) for protection of intellectual property in the domain name system:
 - Effective Registration Agreement
 - Reliable contact details
 - Alternate means for resolving disputes with minimum requirements

Projects Implemented



SDRP (cont'd)

Highlights of SDRP

- Joint Secretariat set up by SMC and SIAC to deal with complaints from a party against a .sg domain name registrant
- An Administrative Panel will be appointed by the Joint Secretariat to resolve the dispute
- Complainant invited to consider settling dispute through mediation

Projects Implemented



SDRP (cont'd)

Highlights of SDRP

- If the parties do not agree to mediation or if mediation does not lead to a settlement of the dispute, then the Administrative Panel will decide the dispute
- SGNIC will implement the decision made by the Administrative Panel

Projects Implemented



SDRP (cont'd)

Difference between UDRP, WIPO ADR, WIPO (Best Practices for ccTLDs) and SDRP

	UDRP	WIPO ADR	WIPO (Best Practices for ccTLDs)	SDRP
Mediation Process	Does not provide for mediation.	Does not provide for mediation. Procedure provides for settlement between parties before Admin Proceeding decides the dispute.	Does not provide for mediation.	Mediation as part of the dispute resolution mechanism.
Scope of Applicable Disputes	Scope of applicable disputes to situation where domain name is identical or confusingly similar to trademark or service mark.	Scope of applicable disputes to situation where domain name is identical or confusingly similar to trademark or service mark.	Scope of applicable disputes to situation where domain name is identical or confusingly similar to trademark or service mark.	Scope of applicable disputes to situation where domain name is identical or confusingly similar to name , in addition to trademark or service mark.
Bad Faith Registration and/or Usage	Evaluation of complaint covers a situation where domain name has been registered AND used in bad faith.	Evaluation of complaint covers a situation where domain name has been registered AND used in bad faith.	Evaluation of complaint covers a situation where domain name has been registered AND (recommended to be replaced by OR) used in bad faith.	Evaluation of complaint covers a situation where domain name has been registered OR used in bad faith.

Projects Implemented



SDRP (cont'd)

Proceedings under SDRP

Domain Name(s)	Date Commenced	Date Decided	Status/Panel Decision
Mtv.com.sg	29 Jan 02	15 Apr 02	Registrant to retain domain name
Teletext.com.sg	1 Mar 02	25 Jun 02	Registrant to retain domain name
Google.com.sg Googles.com.sg	26 Sep 02	30 Oct 02	Domain Names be transferred to complainant
Samsungmobile.com.sg	23 Dec 02	22 Feb 03	Domain Name be transferred to complainant

Future Projects/Directions



Internationalized Domain Name (IDN)

- Standardisation and implementation of IDN System
- Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) adopted IDN standard
- Develop a Singapore coding standard for the representation of Chinese and Tamil characters in the IDN System environment

Future Projects/Directions



IPv6

- Current Status in Singapore
 - R & D Effort
 - Monitoring IPv6 Development
- SGNIC
 - Formation of Domain Name System Technical (DNST) Committee to study IPv6
 - Representations from ISPs, Research and Education Institutions and IDA

Future Projects/Directions



Relaxation of Registration Rules

- Create more second level domain?
 - e.g. xxx.biz.sg, xxx.open.sg
- Allow registration at second level?
 - e.g. xxx.sg
- Industry consultation

Future Projects/Directions



Spamming

- A proliferation of spam in recent years
- Proposed measures to prevent spam:
 - Educate & raise awareness among consumers
 - Work with industry players (ISPs, mobile, network operators & their overseas counterparts) on prevention
 - Work with target marketers & advertising standard authority to develop a code of practice against spam

Thank You