

Please return this questionnaire, duly completed, to the following address:

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Reply to the questionnaire on Member States' Experiences with ccTLDs

Name of your Administration: LESOTHO TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY
ccTLD code: .ls
Country: LESOTHO
Contact person:
Tel.: 22 32 55 95 Fax: 22 31 0 984
Email: lta.org.ls / npuie @ lta.org.ls

Instructions: Please fill out the following questions either on this survey or in a separate document to the best of your knowledge. See page 11 for definitions of terms used in this survey.

I GOVERNMENT-CCTLD ISSUES:

A. Government involvement in the domain

1) **How does government involvement or non-involvement manifest itself in your country's ccTLD?** [Please indicate the situation(s) which best describe(s) your ccTLD and provide details]

- Is there direct control of the ccTLD? NO
 - Is the ccTLD part of a government ministry? NO
 - Is the ccTLD a subsidiary company of a government agency or ministry? NO
- Is there a formal contract between the government and the ccTLD? NO
- Is there an ongoing, formal relationship between the government and the ccTLD? NO
- Has there been a governmental endorsement of the ccTLD's role and management? NO
- Is there an informal, unofficial or ad hoc relationship between the government and the ccTLD? NO
- Is there no relationship between the government and the ccTLD? YES

Details:

2) **Are there any plans to change the situation?** [If so, please indicate which situation you expect would prevail in the future.]

- Yes?
- No?

3) **What is the status of government-ccTLD relations?** [Please indicate the situation(s) which best describe(s) your ccTLD and provide details]

- Is there legislation that grants the government ultimate authority over the ccTLD? *NO*
- Has the government made recent efforts to:
 - Pass legislation that affects the ccTLD? *NO*
 - Establish a commission or body to examine ccTLD management or legislation? *No*
 - Speak in parliament, a national legislature, in public or in other circumstances about ccTLD management issues? *NO*
 - Consider formalizing the ccTLD-government relationship? *YES*
- Does your country's ccTLD make decisions independently of the government? *YES*

Details: *It is in the discretion of the person who is administering it, as to what can or cannot be done.*

4) **Are there any plans to change the situation?** [If so, please indicate which situation you expect would prevail in the future.]

- Yes?
- No?

5) **Which government agencies are responsible for government-ccTLD relations?** [Please indicate the situation(s) which best describe(s) your ccTLD and provide details]

- Telecommunications regulatory body?
- Ministry of Telecommunications?
- Ministry of Science and/or Technology?
- Ministry of Justice?
- Other?

Details:

6) **Are there any plans to change the situation?** [If so, please indicate which situation you expect would prevail in the future.]

- Yes?
- No?

B. Internet Governance Participation

1) Does the government send a representative to or otherwise participate in meetings of the Government Advisory Committee (GAC) of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)? [If not, please provide details]

Yes?

No? There has never been such representation

2) Does the government or ccTLD send a representative to or otherwise participate in ICANN meetings? [If not, please provide details]

Yes?

No?

3) I. Please indicate whether there are contracts between the government and ICANN and/or the ccTLD and ICANN:

Between ICANN and the government?

Between ICANN and the ccTLD?

II. Please indicate the key factors that contributed to the ccTLD or government deciding to formalize the relationship.

III. Did any impediments arise in formalizing this relationship?

Yes?

No?

II CCTLD STRUCTURE & POLICIES:

A. General

1) What kind of structure best defines the ccTLD? [Please indicate the situation(s) which best describe(s) your ccTLD and provide details]

A commercial enterprise

A non-profit corporation or organization

A public entity

An academic entity

Operated by an individual

Details: The administrative contact is a former employee of the NOL (sponsoring entity) and now works in another country.

2) How does your country's ccTLD meet its operating costs? [Please indicate the situation(s) which best describe(s) your ccTLD and provide details]

- Through registration fees
- Through membership fees
- Through government contributions
- Voluntarily run TLD
- The domain is commercially run by an out-of-country entity
- Other – please provide details

Details: The person referred to previously has delegated administration to a local ISP (informally)

B. Board composition

If your ccTLD has a board of directors or advisors, please give details about the following:

1) What is the size of the board?

N/A

2) Is there public participation in the nomination or voting process for board members? [If yes, please provide details]

- Yes?
- No?

Details:

N/A

3) If there is government involvement on the board, what role does it play?

- Chairperson
- Voting member in a government capacity
- Voting member in a personal capacity
- Non-voting member in a government capacity
- Non-voting member in a personal capacity

N/A

C. General ccTLD policy

1) **Please rate the following objectives of your ccTLD from 1 to 9, where most important is 1 and least important is 9.**

- Registration size of the TLD
- Low cost of registration
- Ease of registration
- Efficiency of domain name system in your country
- The local Internet community's cooperation in the ccTLD management
- Preservation of the public interest in the domain name system
- Align with the government's general telecommunication policy or other policies
- Protection of intellectual property rights
- Transparency and accountability in ccTLD management

N/A

2) **Has the board/executive had any consultations in the past three years about the future policy direction or structure of the ccTLD? [If yes, please explain or provide references.]**

- Yes?
- No?

Details:

N/A

3) **Are the ccTLD's goals and objectives consistent with your country's telecommunication policy? [Please provide details or references].**

- Yes?
- No?

Details

N/A

4) **Does your ccTLD actively pursue the public interest in the domain name system in your country? [Please provide details or references].**

- Yes?
- No?

Details:

N/A

D. Policy making approach

1) **How does/has your ccTLD formulate its policies?** [Please indicate the situation(s) which best describe(s) your ccTLD and provide details or references]

- Through public consultations
- Through public elections
- Through government initiatives or directives
- Through board of directors
- Through employee/manager initiatives

Details:

N/A

2) **Who supervises and/or approves the policies (apart from general supervision by anti-trust authorities)?**

- ccTLD itself (no external supervision apart from anti-trust authorities)
- Government agency
- Other [please explain]

N/A

E. WHOIS policy

1) **Has your country's ccTLD established a WHOIS policy that addresses public access to registrant information?** [If yes, please provide details or references]

- Yes?
- No?

Details:

N/A

F. Dispute Resolution Policy

1) **Has your country's ccTLD implemented a domain name dispute resolution policy?**

- Yes?
- No?

N/A

2) **If yes, is the policy:**

- A national implementation of the ICANN UDRP
- A Country-specific policy modeled on the ICANN UDRP [please give details]
- A Country-specific policy unlike the ICANN UDRP
- Based on the ccTLD best practices for the prevention and resolution of Intellectual Property disputes published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

N/A

3) **If your country's ccTLD has implemented a domain name dispute resolution policy, who provides the dispute resolution services?**

- Local commercial arbitration providers
- International commercial arbitration providers
- ccTLD conducts its own
- Government or non-profit service

N/A

G. Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) policy

1) **Does your country's ccTLD have a policy on IDN?** [If yes, please provide details or references]

- Yes?
- No?

Details:

N/A

III **Commercial issues:**

1) **Does your country's ccTLD have local presence requirements or restrictions for registration?** [If yes, please provide details or references]

- Yes?
- No?

Details:

N/A

2) **Does your country's ccTLD have other restrictions on registration?** [If yes, please provide details or references]

- Yes?
- No?

Details:

N/A

3) **What registrar model does your country's ccTLD employ?**

- Only the ccTLD can register domains
- A subsidiary of the ccTLD manages domain registration
- The ccTLD has contracted out the registration of domains to a single company
- The ccTLD has contracted out the registration of domains to multiple registrars
- The ccTLD operates a competitive and open reseller model

N/A

4) **What is the price for ccTLD domain registration in your country?** [Please indicate the cost of a one-year registration] M 900.00

5) **Are there different registration prices for non-residents?**

- Yes?
- No?

N/A

6) **Who supervises and/or approves the prices for ccTLD domain registration in your country (apart from general supervision by anti-trust authorities)?**

- ccTLD itself (no external supervision apart from anti-trust authorities)
- government agency
- other [please provide detail]

7) **How fast is your country's ccTLD registration process?** [Please indicate the situation(s) which best describe(s) your ccTLD and provide details]

- We provide immediate online registration
- We have an email-based registration process
- We have a mail-in/fax registration process
- We verify each registration individually to confirm it meets all registration requirements

IV ccTLD Background:

- 1) Please provide any additional documentation, url references, or other information that is relevant to the ccTLD in your country. We would in particular appreciate any available information on the historical development of your ccTLD.

The .ls domain was first registered by the National University of Lesotho (NUL) in 1993 as part of the Uninet project. The person who was in charge of this, then an NUL employee was registered as the administrative contact, the technical contact being a person at the Rhodes University. This has remained the same