
Board Response to PAB Resolutions

PAB Resolutions at Meeting 59

1. Two-letter Domains

The PAB recommends that:

- Nominet should make two-letter domain names available for registration; making such alterations to its Rules as appropriate. There should be a special approach to releasing domain names with a staged sunrise period.
 - The first phase should be for holders of registered trademarks recognised and enforceable in the UK Courts, which are identical to the two-letter combination applied for. There should be provision for dealing with multiple applications for the same name and a cut off date for trademark registration to be set at some point in the past.
 - The second phase should be for parties with unregistered rights recognised and enforceable in the UK Courts, which are identical to the two-letter combination applied for. This phase could include registered Companies who can establish that they own such rights.
 - There would also be a third phase for releasing any remaining names. The majority of the group favoured a land-rush approach with the minority in favour of a lottery approach.
- ccTLDs should not be reserved at the third level. The only exception to this is “uk” which should be reserved to avoid confusion, or used by Nominet for an appropriate purpose such as promoting the UK namespace “brand”. Currently reserved SLDs should continue to be reserved, regardless whether or not they are also ccTLDs pending further discussion.
- The PAB sees no reason why these principles cannot be applied to the release of single character domain names at the third level.
- Nominet should ensure that registrars have adequate notice of any changes to enable them sufficient time to update their systems.

The Board welcomes this analysis and invites the Executive to assess how this might be implemented.