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The Republic
of Vanuatu



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Radiocommunication
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A Consultation Paper on Future Arrangements of the .vu country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) Management.

A Consultation document issued by the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator

15 October 2012

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1. This Consultation document has been produced by the Office of Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR) under the general functions and powers of the Regulator as set out in section 7 (1) and section 7 (4)(e) of the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulation Act 2009 (the Act).
2. TRR seeks to receive comments and feedback from all interested parties on the Consultation paper.
3. Clearly quote the corresponding main section and/or sub section of the paper when providing your responses.
4. If you would like a version in Microsoft word format please contact consultation@trr.vu
5. TRR will accept comments in French, Bislama or English.
6. If comments are submitted in printed format, they must be submitted on A4 paper accompanied, wherever possible, by a disk containing the comments in electronic format.
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8. Comments should be submitted **before 4p.m. on 21 November 2012.**

A Consultation Paper on Future Arrangements of the .vu country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) Management.

15 October 2012

This document contains information of a consultation paper developed by the office of the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR) for the future arrangements of .vu ccTLD management.

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1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This Consultation Paper (CP) invites comments from the public on the future arrangements for the .vu country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) management in Vanuatu.
- 1.2 It also provides background information on Internet domain names and significance of establishing a proper policy and governance framework for Vanuatu.

2. INTERPRETATIONS & DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)	Nonprofit corporations that administer and register IP address space within a defined region. They are AFRINIC - Africa, portions of the Indian Ocean; APNIC - Portions of Asia, portions of Oceania; ARIN - Canada, many Caribbean and North Atlantic islands, and the United States; LACNIC - Latin America, portions of the Caribbean; RIPE NCC - Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia.
Internet Service Provider (ISP)	An organization that provides access to the Internet. Access ISPs directly connect clients to the Internet using copper wires, wireless or fiber-optic connections. Hosting ISPs lease server space for smaller businesses and other people (colocation). Transit ISPs provide large amounts of bandwidth for connecting hosting ISPs to access ISPs. Hosting ISPs may offer such services as email-forwarding services, web-forwarding services and Internet News service.
generic top level domain (gTLD)	One of the categories of top-level domains (TLDs) maintained by the IANA for use in the Domain Name System (DNS) of the Internet. It is visible to Internet users as the suffix at the end of a domain name.
Country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD)	An Internet top-level domain generally used or reserved for a country, a sovereign state, or a dependent territory.
Registry	A domain name registry is a database of all domain names registered in a top-level domain operated by a registry operator also called network information center (NIC) that keeps the database of domain names, and generates the zone files which convert domain names to IP addresses.
Registrar	The individuals or entities that register domains on behalf of their customers (registrants).
Registrant	Registrant is the person or company who holds the right to use a domain name.
Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)	Committee that provides input from governments to ICANN. The GAC's key role is to provide advice to ICANN on issues of public policy, and especially where there may be an interaction between ICANN's activities or policies and national laws or international agreements.
Delegation/Redelegation	A sponsoring organisation is entrusted with operating the domains in the public interest for the community the domain is designated to serve by IANA. IANA evaluates requests against both technical and public interest criteria, and provides the results of its investigation to the ICANN Board of Directors who ultimately decide whether to approve requests.
Vanuatu Network Information Centre (VUNIC)	vuNIC offers automated registration of domain names in the .VU top level domain.

Cybersquatting	Also known as domain squatting, is registering, trafficking in, or using a domain name with bad faith intent to profit from the goodwill of a trademark belonging to someone else. The cybersquatter then offers to sell the domain to the person or company who owns a trademark contained within the name at an inflated price.
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3. BACKGROUND OF INTERNET DOMAIN NAMES

- 3.1 Internet Protocol (IP) numbers or addresses are unique numeric numbers assigned to all devices connected to the Internet. Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA)¹, a subsidiary of Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)², distributes these numbers to Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) which in turn distribute them to smaller Internet Service Provider (ISP) companies, and individuals.
- 3.2 Lengthy IP numeric addresses are not easily remembered and so Internet web sites use easy-to-remember domain names linked to the IP addresses.
- 3.3 All Internet domain names can be broadly categorised under either the generic top level domain (gTLD) for instance .com, .org or under the ccTLD for instance .vu, .nz, .au.
- 3.4 Seventeen top level domains (TLDs) currently exist including:
- i. .com - for commercial entities;
 - ii. .org - for non-profit making organisations;
 - iii. .edu - for academic institutions;
 - iv. .net - for network providers;
 - v. .gov - for the United States (US) Government;
 - vi. .mil - for the US military;
 - vii. .int - for international organisations established under accords;
 - viii. .info - for worldwide means of information exchange;
 - ix. .biz - (restricted), mainly for business including marketing, advertising;
 - x. .pro - (restricted) for Internet infrastructure solutions that connect people to their data;
 - xi. .name - (restricted);
 - xii. .asia; .biz; .cat; .coop, .mobi, .museum, .pro, .tel, .travel and .xxx.
- 3.5 Only companies accredited by the ICANN may act as registrars and provide registration services for the .aero, .asia, .biz, .cat, .com, .coop, .info, .jobs, .mobi, .museum, .name, .net, .org, .pro, .tel, .travel, .xxx TLDs.
- 3.6 According to the two-letter codes in the ISO 3166-1 standard "Codes for the Representation of Names of Countries and Their Subdivisions", ccTLDs are assigned to local Internet communities. The ccTLD is also the top umbrella of second-level domains by generic descriptions. At present, Telecom Vanuatu Limited (TVL) is the only company which provides registration services under these domains.

¹ <http://www.iana.org/>

² <http://www.icann.org/>

- 3.7 In Vanuatu's case, there are five second-level domains under the .vu ccTLD and they are .com.vu, .org.vu, .net.vu, .edu.vu and .gov.vu.
- 3.8 The need to standardise Internet governance led to the following events:
- i. IANA established the ICANN organisation in October of 1998 to take on Internet domain names and IP addressing system responsibilities. IANA was initially set up to manage Internet domain names and IP addressing systems by the US Government (US Gov). IANA derived its contractual authority by the US Gov and was funded also via the US Gov Defense Project, ARPANET, in the 1970s.
 - ii. ICANN was set up as a global entity independent of governments and now has its own Board representing geographically diverse internet user communities in order to manage the systems and protocols that allow the Internet to develop.
 - iii. ICANN is also a non-profit making corporation and since September 2000, has had the responsibility for IP address allocation, protocol parameter management, domain name system (DNS) management and root server system.
 - iv. ICANN has set up a Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) to consider and advise on the activities of the ICANN as they relate to the concerns of governments, particularly on matters where there may be an interaction between ICANN's policies on the one hand and local laws and international agreements on the other.
 - v. Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR) and Office of Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO), currently have GAC status for Vanuatu. The Secretariat for the Pacific Commission (SPC) has observer status on GAC for the Pacific countries that are unable to have paid ICANN memberships.
- 3.9 Many important resolutions, that have general bearing on the administration of domain names worldwide, have been passed by ICANN since its establishment. They include policies for registrar accreditation, uniform dispute resolution for gTLD registrars, creation of new gTLDs and delegation and administration of ccTLDs.
- 3.10 TRR is now the exclusive manager and administrator of country code top level domain names and domain name registration for Vanuatu (TRR Act section 7, 4(e))³.
- 3.11 Acknowledgement is given to TVL for currently managing and administering the operations of the .vu domain name space and associated services.
- 3.12 In line with the ICANN resolutions especially those containing general bearing on administration of domain names, other Internet domain market developments taking place in the country and TRR taking responsibility of the exclusive management and administration of .vu ccTLD, TRR is of the view that Vanuatu is in need of a proper framework for its .vu ccTLD management. It is upon this basis that this review was undertaken and future arrangements proposed for public consultation.

³ <http://www.trr.vu/attachments/article/53/Telecommunications%20and%20Radiocommunications%20Regulation%20Act%202009.pdf>

4. PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS OF .VU CCTLD MANAGEMENT

Proposed Institutional Arrangements for .vu ccTLD Management

- 4.1 TRR will develop a formal regulation to take over the right from TVL to manage the .vu ccTLD namespace. The regulation is intended to provide a transparent view of the .vu ccTLD management and administration role that TRR is now responsible for under the TRR Act. The regulation will provide guidelines including:
- i. Roles, responsibilities and liabilities of parties operating in the .vu domain name space;
 - ii. Domain name operations e.g. registration, managing, transferring and cancellation of domain names;
 - iii. Domain name registration service obligations;
 - iv. Dispute resolution processes;
 - v. Protection of personal data provided in the registration process.
- 4.2 Due to legacy reasons, TVL is the current delegate for .vu ccTLD. This means TVL is in contractual agreement with ICANN to manage and operate the .vu ccTLD services. The process of redelegation from TVL needs:
- i. The approval of IANA and that of the Internet stakeholder community;
 - ii. Cooperation from TVL;
 - iii. Agreement from the Minister responsible for Telecommunications.
- 4.3 For background information on events and decisions leading up to this consultation paper, refer to the accompanying report '*Status Report on the .vu ccTLD Management*'⁴.
- 4.4 This public consultation is a step in the process to determining future arrangements for .vu ccTLD management that best fits Vanuatu's needs.

Policy-making and administrative function

- 4.5 Future policy-making and administrative body for ccTLD, including registry services for administration and assignment of Internet domain names, should have a wide representation from different sectors of the community.
- 4.6 TRR reviewed operations of ccTLD services in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong, China and Canada (see Annex A).
- 4.7 Possible options for Vanuatu include:
- i. maintaining the status quo and leave TVL to run the .vu ccTLD;
 - ii. appointing an academic institution to take over;

⁴ <http://www.trr.vu/attachments/article/29/Status%20Report%20on%20%20vu%20ccTLD%20Management.pdf>

- iii. TRR-takes over;
- iv. an independent non-profit making and membership-organisation is formed.

- 4.8 The last option is a widely adopted model in many countries.
- 4.9 The ideal structure is a new non-profit making body to assume the overall responsibility for the ccTLD management. Such a body would have membership on a subscription basis from ISPs, the commercial sector, academia, the Government as well as other organisations and individuals with an interest in the development of the Internet (see Annex B).
- 4.10 However this approach will take time and may in fact initially slow down the development of the sector.
- 4.11 TRR is a statutory body whose identity, authority and functions of a proposed policy-making and administrative body is clearly defined under the TRR Act. It will have a very clear mandate to exercise its functions and to represent Vanuatu in the international Internet community. Provisions can also be built into the legislation establishing the statutory body to deal with issues such as the legal liabilities of the body arising from the infringement of intellectual property rights.
- 4.12 For pragmatic reasons and to avoid unnecessarily interruption of the Internet in Vanuatu, the new policy-making and administrative body should be TRR for a transitional period. Care has to be taken that that arrangements are flexible enough to cope with the rapid development in the Internet world. The handover period structure envisaged for Vanuatu is set out in Annex C.
- 4.13 A handover period of up to 18 months is envisaged for TRR to take over .vu ccTLD management from TVL.
- 4.14 During the handover period, TVL should continue to be the technical administrative manager of the .vu ccTLD until TRR is ready to implement a changeover of the technical functions of DNS and Registry management.
- 4.15 TRR will inform ICANN and TVL formally of these new developments and to agree responsibilities during the handover period ensuring the total availability of the Internet in Vanuatu.
- 4.16 The option of non-statutory and non-profit making corporation as policy-making and administrative body of .vu ccTLD can be further considered at a later stage in the light of operational experience. TRR expects to consult on the arrangements after taking over from TVL with the view of establishing the new entity within a 5 year period. This period will be known as the 'transitional period' which is longer than the handover period of 18 months. The transitional period structure depicted in Annex B.
- 4.17 In considering such a new body consideration will be given to such areas as appointment of Board of Directors to exercise the policy-making, representation on the Board, financial basis where perhaps income may be derived from fees collected from new entity's members and domain name registration.
- 4.18 Descriptions of all parties operating in the .vu domain namespace are set out in Annex D.

Administrator of the .vu ccTLD registry

- 4.19 TRR is of the view that for easy management and to avoid overlap in the assignment of domain names, a single shared ccTLD registry for all the domain names allocated within the same local community should be established and maintained.
- 4.20 In many countries, the body responsible for policy-making for the ccTLD assigns the management of the ccTLD registry to an organisation or a subsidiary body with the necessary technical expertise to carry out

the task. In the same way TRR is of the view that during the handover period the existing arrangement for a single registry in Vanuatu should continue through TVL's VUNIC application.

- 4.21 TRR will outsource the management of the registry service to a Vanuatu based company, by way of competitive tender during the handover period. TRR is of the view that concerns of outsourcing to companies based outside of Vanuatu include:
- i. no nurture of local internet business;
 - ii. policy changes are not effected;
 - iii. needing technical and legal oversight but may not be primary focus of company e.g. TVL;
 - iv. concerns of clients are not addressed;
 - v. prioritisation of concerns are biased;
 - vi. insufficient understanding of local business practices, social or cultural norms and languages.
- 4.22 TRR will ensure policies and agreements are in place to guide TVL's registry operations during the handover period.
- 4.23 TVL will continue to be the technical administrative manager of the .vu ccTLD registry and DNS services until after the competitive tender.

Registrar function and service

- 4.24 Currently, TVL is the only registrar for .vu domain names in Vanuatu.
- 4.25 TRR acknowledges that comparable to Vanuatu's small population, the number of domain names ending with .vu may not be very large and the market may not be able to accommodate several registrars at the same time, at least initially. Furthermore, the administrative burden on the policy-making and administrative body to ensure compliance by multiple registrars with the standard registration policy may become unduly heavy.
- 4.26 Despite these views it is generally agreed that competition and more involvement by the private sector in the local domain name registration business would be desirable in order to encourage ecommerce and further internet uptake however there is a need for a consistent registration policy to be applied if multiple registrars are allowed.
- 4.27 Against the above backgrounds, TRR will create an approval and registration policy before opening up the registrar and reseller/agent service to more registrars.
- 4.28 TRR is of the view that, during the handover period, we should maintain the existing practice of having a single registrar. TVL which currently manages the registration and assignment of Internet domain names in Vanuatu, under .vu, will continue to provide registration services. Until the new approval and registration policies are finalized and implemented by TRR, no new registrar will be permitted to operate.
- 4.29 All new registrars and existing registrar will need to sign an agreement with their resellers or agents to ensure that the latter adheres to the same set of registration practices and procedures as required by the registrar. The registrar may offer benefits in the form of volume discounts to its agents.
- 4.30 TRR will review the need for multiple registrars at a later stage in the light of operational experience.

Guiding principles and policy considerations for the .vu ccTLD Management

Policy considerations for .vu ccTLD management

- 4.31 TRR is of the view that the policy and governance framework of the .vu ccTLD should cater for the following:
- i. Responsibilities of parties operating within the .vu ccTLD domain name space;
 - ii. Registration of domain names;
 - iii. Fees;
 - iv. Dispute resolution;
 - v. Naming policy for the .vu ccTLD domain names at any other level;
 - vi. Changes to .vu policies (including procedures for changing existing policies);
 - vii. Contact details for the .vu Registry;

The guiding principles of domain name registration

- 4.32 TRR is of the view that appropriate domain name registration policies should be drawn up to strike a balance between encouraging the development of electronic commerce in Vanuatu and guarding against cybersquatting.
- 4.33 Some broad registration and dispute resolution guidelines have been formulated to serve as a reference for TRR for the administration of .vu domain names in drawing up the detailed registration policies and agreements for .vu domain names. These guidelines have been identified as critically importance for the registration of domain names ending with .vu. They are set out below for public comments.
- i. the .vu ccTLD is a public resource and as such should be administered in a way that would maximise the benefits to the local community;
 - ii. the structure of .vu domain names (e.g. the character set allowed for a domain name and the maximum number of characters in a domain name) should adhere to international standards so that domain names ending with .vu can be used globally;
 - iii. registration of .vu domain names should be on a need basis and the domain names are not for trading;
 - iv. the application procedures should be simple to allow efficient processing;
 - v. domain names applicants should avoid infringing upon the intellectual property rights of a third party;
 - vi. Registry entity should not also be a Registrar;
 - vii. Registrars should not reserve names;
 - viii. domain name registrants are responsible for any legal liabilities arising from the use of .vu domain names and should comply with the prevailing dispute resolution policy adopted by the responsible authority.
 - ix. aim to move to and stay on an open and shared Registry;
 - x. any Registrar who meets qualification requirements of TRR will be accepted (from anywhere in the world). Priority will be given to Vanuatu based Registrars;
 - xi. fee structure and pricing is to only cover costs of .vu ccTLD management and Registry services management.

Domain naming standards and Reserved list

- 4.34 Some countries have adopted a reserved list of well-known names such as country names and trademark names so as to minimise the chance of cybersquatting. These lists are maintained and approved by the appropriate authorities of the ccTLD administration. An Example of a country with reserved lists is Hong Kong.⁵
- 4.35 ICANN also has some latest developments in tackling cybersquatting of prestigious international names. These developments are now being practiced by some countries overseas.
- 4.36 In light of these developments, TRR may draw up a reserved list of well-known international trademarks, service marks, brand names and names with taboo or cultural value for Vanuatu and make it available for public reference on the Internet.
- 4.37 In drawing up this list, reference could be made to the reserved lists prepared by other ccTLD registration authorities. TRR is of the view that this exercise should include consultation with other agencies such as the Cultural Center and Intellectual Property Office (IPO).
- 4.38 While it may not be possible to draw up an exhaustive list of such words, domain name applications should be assessed on a case by case basis.
- 4.39 As a general principle in protecting the registration of Internet domain names in Vanuatu, names should avoid words which are:
- i. taboo and have cultural value in Vanuatu;
 - ii. obscene;
 - iii. scandalous;
 - iv. indecent;
 - v. contrary to law or morality.
- 4.40 TRR will acquire an updated reserve list of domain names from TVL as soon as practicably possible in order to construct a national reserved list. This information is confidential to TRR;
- 4.41 The structure of .vu domain names (e.g. the character set allowed for a domain name, the maximum number of characters in a domain name, etc.) should adhere to international standards so that domain names ending with .vu can be used globally.
- 4.42 Where a request for a DN does not fall within the permitted parameters and is not in the reserve list then a ccTLD review committee will take the decision as to whether the DN should be issued.
- 4.43 The ccTLD review committee will be chaired by TRR and consist of representatives from:
- i. Religious groups
 - ii. Education
 - iii. Culture
 - iv. Chamber of commerce

"First come, first served" principle

- 4.44 Most domain name Registrars worldwide adopt the "first come, first served" principle in their registration process. The process involves the domain name registrar checking that the domain name in

⁵ https://www.hkdnr.hk/register/domain_name_reserved_list.jsp

the application has not been previously registered. The process does not involve determining whether or not the requested name breaks any copyright or intellectual property rights. The process could involve checking a trademarks registry maintained by the IPO if any such database exists.

- 4.45 Due to the lack of mechanisms set up in Vanuatu to perform such checks and the difficulties surrounding checking trade marks, trademarks will not be checked and that domain names should be registered on a "first come, first served" basis. The Registrar should not assume the responsibility for checking whether a domain name being applied for may infringe the rights of a third party.
- 4.46 The domain name applicant bears all legal liabilities arising from the use of the .vu domain name therefore the applicant should be asked to declare, when making an application, that to its best knowledge, the domain name applied for does not infringe upon the intellectual property rights of a third party.
- 4.47 Clear policies and agreements will be set up by TRR to ensure Registrars practice the first come first served principle but yet safeguard against domain name cybersquatting.

Local presence

- 4.48 As the cyberspace has no geographical boundaries, consideration may be given to opening up the registration of domain names under .vu to interested parties outside Vanuatu (e.g. in the United Kingdom, both local and foreign companies are eligible to register under the .co.uk domain). Such a policy would attract more domain name registrations under .vu. On the other hand, .vu is a public resource of Vanuatu which also denotes a geographical association and location to Vanuatu. Some countries allow only local companies or multinational organisations with a local presence to register a domain name under their ccTLDs. At present TVL has opened up domain registration both globally and in Vanuatu.
- 4.49 Companies and organisations registered or incorporated in Vanuatu will be allowed to register domain names ending with .vu. after agreeing to comply with .vu ccTLD policies.
- 4.50 Local registered companies will be encouraged to take up domain names ending with the .vu ccTLD in order to represent local presence instead of registering a domain name under another domain level e.g. .com.
- 4.51 Further consideration is required on:
- i. Whether domain names in any way reflect the nature of the business. The current practice of TVL allows the registration of a domain name bearing no similarity to the corresponding company name. This allows flexibility but may encourage cybersquatting.
 - ii. The number of domain names per registrant organization. Experience in other places shows that a restrictive registration policy for multiple domain names per registrant organisation will see registration of domain names under the gTLD instead of the ccTLD.

Renewal of domain names

- 4.52 TRR will develop policies to ensure .vu domain names are used to the greatest benefit for the local community.
- 4.53 Domain names which are no longer required for their original purpose should be made available for registration by others. This means the domain names go back into the available pool after necessary checks have been performed.

- 4.54 All .vu domain names should be subject to renewal fees as is the current situation.
- 4.55 Renewal fees should be charged to cover the administrative cost involved and to enable the registration authority to operate on a self-financing basis.

Dispute Resolution Guidelines for .vu Domain Names

Domain name dispute resolution mechanism

- 4.56 The dispute resolution procedure is depicted in both Annex B and C.
- 4.57 The line of communication for handover period is represented by the broken arrows labeled with letters F and G. Full descriptions of the roles and responsibilities of parties operating in the .vu domain namespace including dispute resolution reporting lines are set out in Annex D.
- 4.58 It is common practice that policy-making and administration body (in this case, TRR) is not involved directly in the handling of disputes arising from the registration or use of domain names. This arrangement would maintain the policy-making and administrative body's position as a neutral organisation when a dispute arises. This will also be the case during the handover and transitional periods.
- 4.59 The dispute resolution body should be separate from TRR. This body should comprise representatives from agencies including the Media Association of Vanuatu, the Vanuatu Council of Chiefs, and a representative from the IPO in order to facilitate a tribunal for the early resolution of domain name disputes.
- 4.60 TRR will create the relevant arbitration and mediation policies and procedures for dispute resolution that would be used by the dispute resolution body.
- 4.61 Disputes will be handled by an independent arbitration panel provided by the dispute resolution service provider. TRR, registry and the registrar will not be involved in the arbitration process.
- 4.62 TRR and the dispute resolution service providers will agree on a stipulated service level including turn-around time, dispute escalation procedure, availability of qualified panelists to serve the arbitration panels and other factors that need to be taken into consideration in dealing with disputes.
- 4.63 The arbitration panel will inform the disputed parties once a decision has been made. In the event that the registrant loses, an appeal against the decision may be made to the courts in Vanuatu within a specified period. If no appeal is made within the stipulated period, the domain name of the registrant will be deleted from the domain name database.
- 4.64 The domain name registrar receiving complaints against domain name will take no action until it receives instructions from the registrant or an order of a court or a dispute resolution service provider handling the concerned dispute. This balances the registrant's needs and the claimant's intellectual property rights.
- 4.65 TRR will be used as the highest appeal place for dispute resolution that a claimant feels was not handled fairly by the dispute resolution body. Taking a domain dispute to a Vanuatu court is discouraged as the dispute resolution procedures should be fair and transparent enough to not warrant a court hearing.

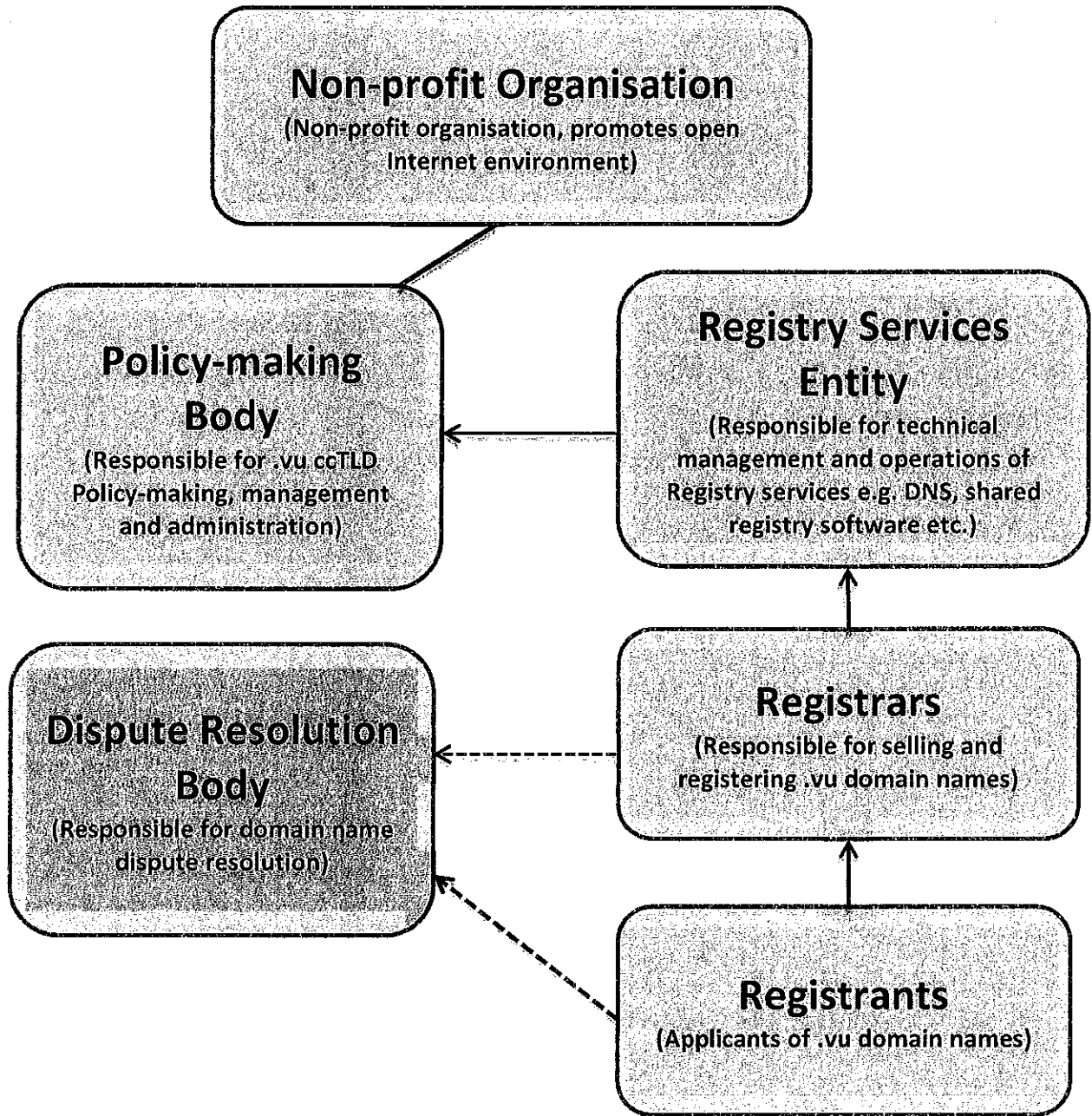
Policies and agreements envisaged for .vu ccTLD management

- 4.66 TRR will be the policy-making and administration body of .vu ccTLD.
- 4.67 A set of policies and agreements that TRR considers important in the handover and transitional periods, and envisages developing immediately after the consultation phase, are set out in Annex E.

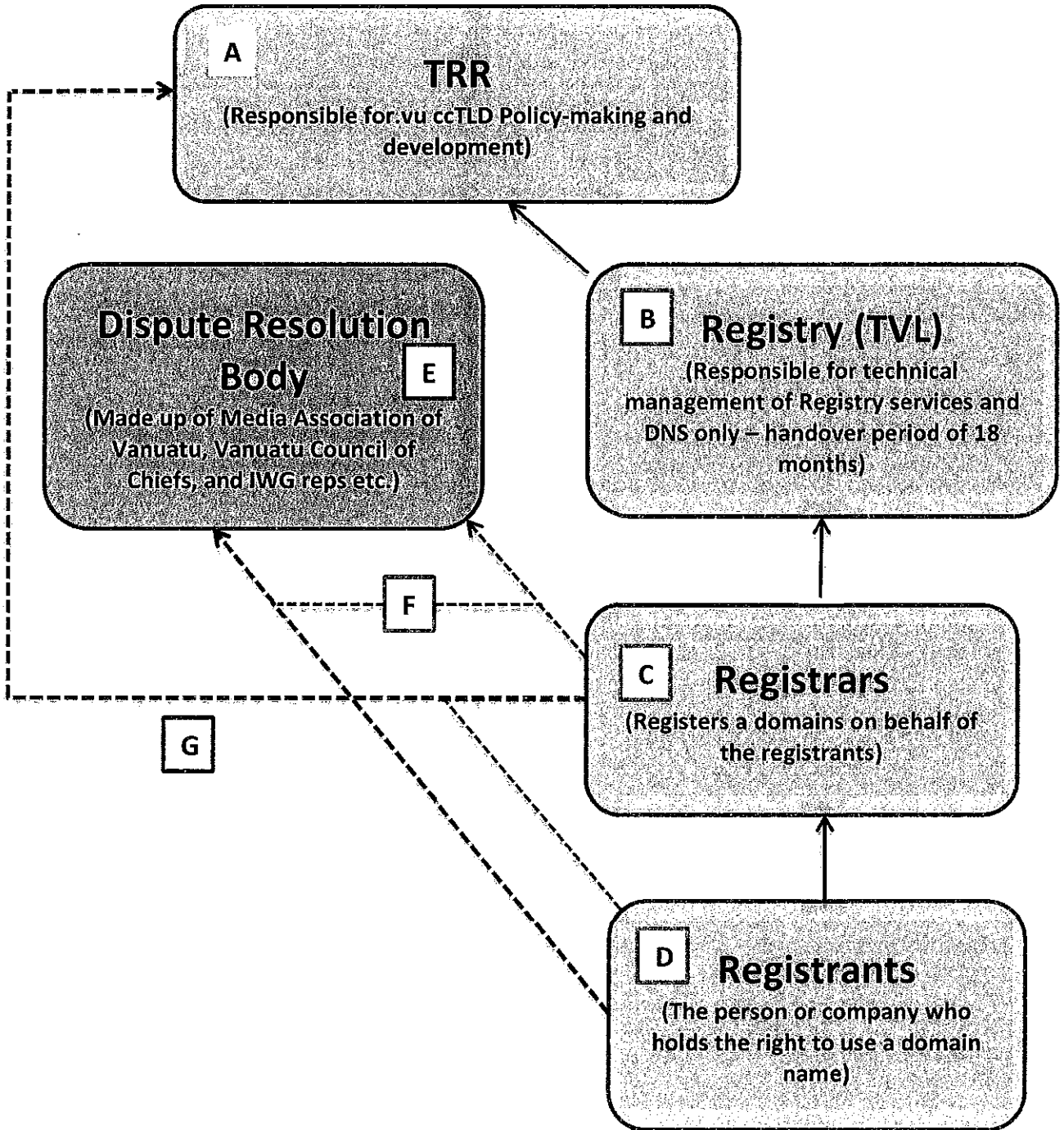
5. ANNEX A: COMPARISON OF NETWORK INFORMATION CENTERS

	ICANN	.au Domain Administration of Australia (auDA)	.nz Domain Name Commission	Singapore Network Information Centre (SIGNIC)	Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited (HKIRC)	China Internet Network Information Centre (CNNIC)	Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA)
History	Established in 1998.	Established in 1999.	Established in 1995.	Established in 1995.	Established in 1990.	Established in 1997.	Established in 1998.
Type of entity	Non-profit formed from global Internet community.	Non-profit and self-funding.	Non-profit society.	Non-profit subsidiary of Singapore Government.	Non-profit organisation.	Non-profit subsidiary of the Republic of China.	Non-profit private corporation.
Governance	Board of Directors (BOD) with a Chief Executive Officer (CEO).	BOD with an EO.	BOD with a CEO.	BOD with Government official as Chairman.	Board of Management.	CNNIC and Chinese Academy of Science.	BOD with appointed Director.
Source of income	Fees collected from domain name operations.	Fees collected from domain name operations.	Fees collected from domain name operations.	Fees collected from domain name operations.	Fees collected from domain name operations.	Fees collected from domain name operations.	Fees collected from domain name operations.
Registry	Outsourced to Network Solutions Inc.	AusRegistry Pty Ltd.	.nz Registry Services (NZRS).	Operation of SIGNIC.	Operation of HKIRC.	Operation of CNNIC.	Operation of CIRA.
Registrar	Global accredit registrars.	Multiple registrars.	Multiple registrars.	Multiple registrars.	Multiple registrars.	Multiple registrars.	Multiple registrars.
An alternative dispute resolution procedure	ICANN accredited dispute resolution service providers.	Dispute is referred to commercial dispute centre.	Independent, impartial service of .nz DNC.	No.	Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC)	China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC) and Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC).	Operation of CIRA.
Website	http://www.icann.org/	http://www.auda.org.au/	http://dnc.org.nz/	http://www.signic.sg/	https://www.hkirc.hk/	http://www1.cnnic.cn/en/index/index.htm	http://www.cira.ca/

6. ANNEX B: IDEAL STRUCTURE FOR VANUATU OVER 5 YEAR TRANSITIONAL PERIOD



7. ANNEX C: PROPOSED STRUCTURE FOR VANUATU IN 18 MONTHS HANDOVER PERIOD



8. ANNEX D: PARTIES OPERATING IN THE .VU CCTLD DOMAIN NAMESPACE

Note: The letters in column 1 of this table references the different components in the proposed 18 months handover structure as shown in Annexes B and C. Full descriptions of the different policies and agreements for instance DNSP1, DNSP2 are provided in Annex E.

Structure Component	Description
A	<p>TRR is responsible for all .vu ccTLD policy making and development in order to ensure the structure and governance framework agreed works best to suit Vanuatu's needs. TRR will have an agreement between itself and the approved Registry and registrars.</p> <p>Policy documents DNSP1, DNSP2 and DNSP3 govern TRR's responsibilities and obligations in the domain name space.</p>
B	<p>Registry (TVL) is the entity that operates the Registry database, providing access to Registrars. Registry (TVL) operates from out of TRR appointment and policies pertaining to registry services provision. In the new plan, TVL is only being responsible for technical management of Registry services during an 18 month handover.</p> <p>The authoritative record of .vu domains is managed and operated by the Registry.</p> <p>DNSA1 and internal Registry terms & conditions govern the responsibilities and obligations of the Registry (TVL).</p>
C	<p>Registrars - the entities that register domains on behalf of the registrants.</p> <p>Registrars are independent parties who have TRR's approval to perform registrar roles. They have access to the register database subject to agreement to comply by Registrar and Registry service obligations.</p> <p>DNSA2 and DNSA3 govern the responsibilities and obligations of the Registrar.</p>
D	<p>Registrant is the person or company who holds the right to use a domain name.</p> <p>DNSA3 and internal Registrar terms & conditions govern the responsibilities and obligations of the Registrant.</p>
E	<p>The Dispute Resolution Board (DRB) is appointed by TRR from Media Association of Vanuatu, Vanuatu Council of Chiefs, IWG representatives and other prominent people from academia or the judiciary arm. The DRP works according to a dispute resolution policy and does not have power to independently resolve issues about the meaning or scope of the dispute resolution policy. The DRP may refer the issues to TRR (final high appeal body) for resolution by the TRR in consultation with the dispute resolution body.</p> <p>DNSP3 governs the responsibilities and obligations of the DRB.</p>
F and G	<p>These represent communication and reporting lines of the model.</p> <p>If a party feels the DRB has not satisfactorily resolved a conflict, the case may be appealed and escalated to TRR.</p> <p>No direct conflict communication occurs between TRR and the Registrars and Registrants.</p>

9. ANNEX E: ENVISAGED POLICIES FOR .VU CCTLD MANAGEMENT

No:	Reference	Title	By:	Description
1	DNSP1	Roles & Responsibilities of Parties Operating in .vu Domain Name Space Policy	TRR	Sets out the roles, responsibilities and rights of every party involved in the management and operations of .vu domain name space (DNS): TRR, Registry, Registrar, Registrant and Dispute Resolution Body.
2	DNSP2	Domain Name Operations Policy	TRR	Sets out the requirements for operating on the Register including registering, managing, cancelling and transferring domain names.
3	DNSP3	Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy & Process	TRR	Set out dispute resolution procedures in situations where two parties are in dispute over who the registrant of a .vu domain name should be or other domain name conflicts.
4	DNSA1	Registrar Connection and Access Agreement	Registry (in line with .vu ccTLD management policies).	Agreement between Registry and Registrar for Registrar to connect to and access the shared Register system. Agreement shall be read in line with .vu ccTLD policies.
5	DNSA2	Registrar Operations Approval Agreement	TRR	Agreement that sets out the terms and conditions relating to authorised .vu registrar. Agreement shall be read in line with .vu ccTLD policies.
6	DNSA3	Registrant Operations Agreement	TRR	Agreement that sets out the terms and conditions relating to registrants. Agreement shall be read in line with .vu ccTLD policies.

-End-