

An overview of the .nz proposal to allow registrations at the second level

ICANN Toronto
October 2012



Outline of presentation

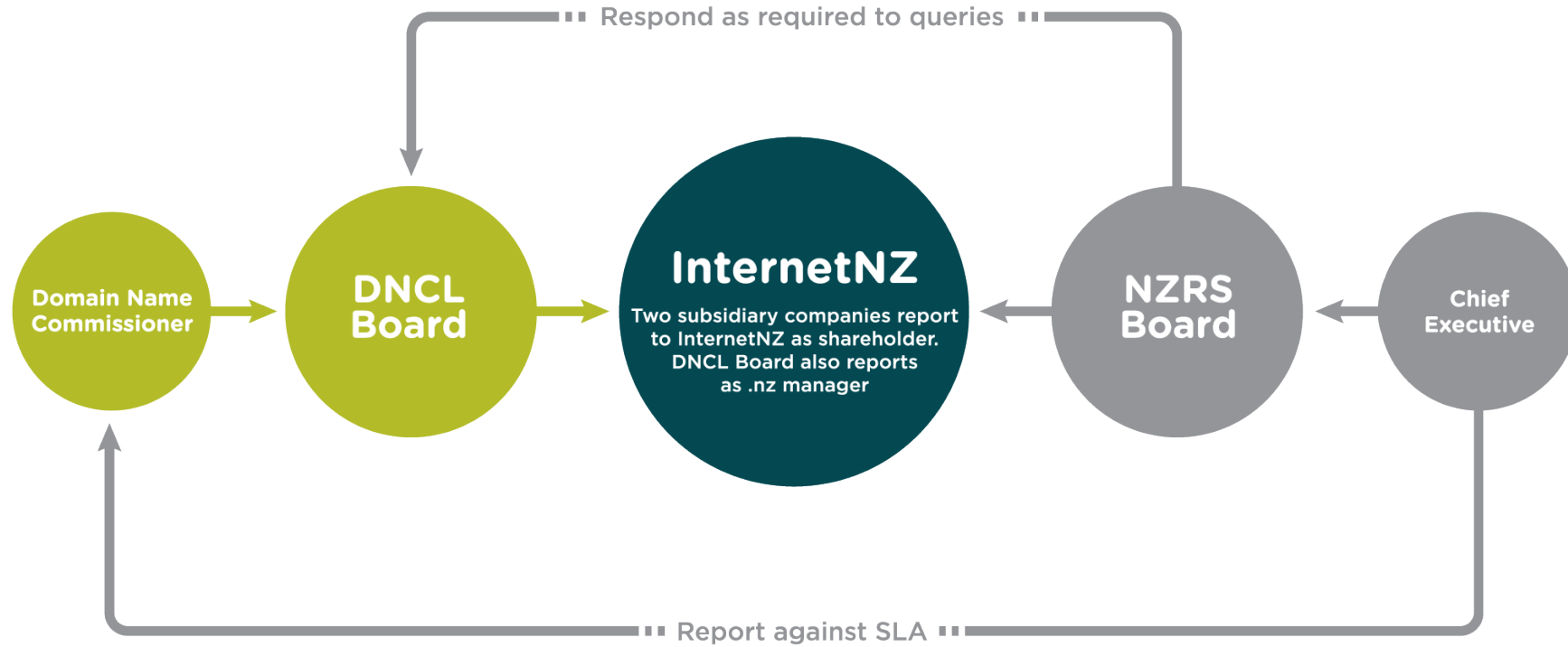
- Brief introduction of .nz
- Consultation approach
- What is proposed?
- Submission summary
- Next steps

Introduction to .nz

- InternetNZ – delegated responsibility for .nz
- Domain Name Commission Ltd – subsidiary company of InternetNZ responsible for policy and managing the .nz space
- NZRS – Subsidiary company of InternetNZ responsible for operating the .nz register



How they fit together...



Our consultation process

- Detailed proposal released 30 May 2012
- Input requested – post, email, web
- Public and online meetings
- Submissions received through online form, email and post
- All submissions published when received
- Consultation closed 27 Sept 2012

What are we proposing?

- To extend the .nz domain name space by allowing anybody to register domain names at the second level
- Currently .nz has 15 second level domains for registering under – 6 moderated and 9 open 2LDs

Existing 2LDs

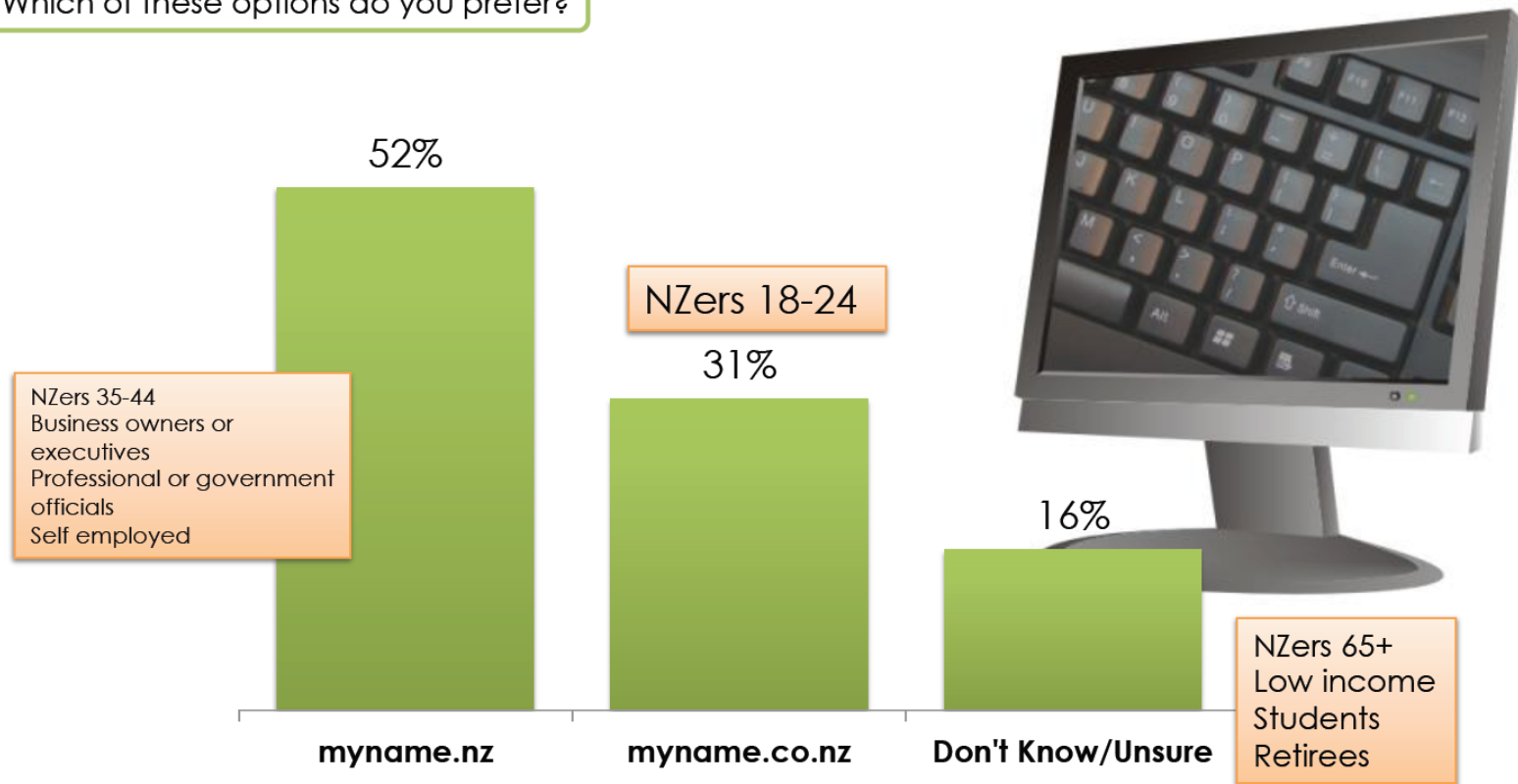
- .ac.nz
- .co.nz
- .cri.nz
- .gen.nz
- .geek.nz
- .govt.nz
- .health.nz
- .kiwi.nz
- .iwi.nz
- .mil.nz
- .maori.nz
- .net.nz
- .org.nz
- .parliament.nz
- .school.nz

red = moderated 2LDs



myname.nz is preferred over myname.co.nz reflecting the ease of use and distinctiveness highlighted in previous questions.

Which of these options do you prefer?



DNC Undertakings

- No changes to existing registrations
- Existing second level domains stay the same.
- No changes to moderated second level domains (.govt.nz, .health.nz, .parliament.nz, iwi.nz, .mil.nz and .cri.nz).
- Wholesale fees for second and third level registrations will be equal

Consultation Paper

- Detailed paper included drafts of policies based on how we proposed it could be implemented
- Number of questions asked through the consultation paper focused on key aspects of the proposals

Question 1

- Should the New Zealand domain name space be extended to allow registration at the second level, for example yourname.nz?
 - A simple yes / no to enable an easy calculation of the simple majority saying yes or no

Question 2

- Are there any other undertakings that the Domain Name Commission should make while developing/implementing the policy?
 - Undertakings on some key aspects to provide a measure of assurance in our approach

Question 3

- Should new second level domains be created to cater for particular interest groups, such as .wine.nz or .sport.nz?
 - If registrations are permitted at the second level, it is unlikely that any further second level domains will be created. If there is a specific requirement for any then they need to be identified and created before general registrations start

Question 4

- Should new moderated second level domains be created to cater for domain names that require special protection, such as .bank.nz?
 - A similar question to the previous one but focused on names where the wrong use of the word could cause issues with legislation

Question 5

- Should the registration of some names such as .com.nz or .gov.nz, be prohibited at the second level to minimise potential confusion? What names, if any, should be prohibited?
 - Any change to the structure of .nz will create some confusion but can this be minimised by making sure there can't be names at the second level that are confusingly similar to a current .nz second level domain?

Question 6

○ Do you agree with the rationale for the Sunrise Period that would enable existing .nz domain name holders first chance to register names at the second level? Why?

- Sunrise period proposed provisions:
 - Names registered at time of publication of consultation paper eligible
 - Only those registrants could apply for their name at the second level during the sunrise period
 - A different process applies where there are multiple registrants with the same domain name in different 2LDs
 - Earlier date applies to domain names held by people associated with the InternetNZ Group

Question 7

- Who should be allowed to register a domain name at the second level when there are competing registrations at the third level?
 - Is there a possible option for an appropriate third party to obtain a name in a case where a conflict exists or should it be restricted to the current registrants?

Question 8

- Assuming only persons with a conflicting third level domain name may apply, how should that conflict be resolved? By consent? Or some other mechanism?
 - Proposal was for consent – all agree which registrant can register the name, or that the name become a second level domain
 - If no consent, then the name could not be registered at the second level

Question 9

- Should the Domain Name Commission consider extending its Dispute Resolution Service for a limited period to cover particular sub-domains when considering whether a name registered at the second level infringes a complainant's rights?
 - registrant registers a generic name and then creates sub-domains as a service for others eg shop.nz
 - people used to .nz having three levels so confusion about what the registered domain name is
 - DRS requires 'rights' in the domain name but the domain name is a generic word

Question 10

- Is the approach as outlined in the proposed amended policy in Appendix C appropriate? Why?
 - To use would require:
 - registration at the second level is of a generic word
 - complainant has rights in the third level name
 - complainant already complained to registrant of the name but the site has not been taken down
 - Resolution would take the form of an ‘order’ to remove the sub-domain, with an undertaking it not be created again. If no undertaking was given, the domain name would be removed from the .nz Domain Name System so the name does not resolve.
 - Would apply for 2 years

Question 11

- Are there any other comments you would like to make relating to this consultation?
 - If we missed something, we're sure we'd be told about it here

Submission summary

- 115 submissions received
 - 72 (63%) disagreed
 - 37 (32%) agreed
 - 6 (5%) didn't state but commented on process

Submissions – reasons against

- Current registrants would feel compelled to register resulting in a duplication of domain names
- Additional costs would be incurred as a result of requiring additional registrations and making associated changes
- The confusion and uncertainty it would create would increase phishing and other security issues
- There is no demonstrated benefit from the change
- The current system is effective and well understood

Submissions – reasons for

- The current system is a historical artefact and there is no reason to force people into a restricted set of 2LDs
- 2nd level domain registration is a worldwide experience and it is appropriate here
- Will enhance pride and identity in NZ brand
- Forward looking strategy that will make .nz a viable option

Next steps

- After reviewing the submissions, the DNCL Board has decided to seek additional information and carry out further research
- As part of this, likely that some submitters will be asked to expand on their issues and discuss possible solutions
- Work to be undertaken over next few months with a second consultation planned for early 2013

http://dnc.org.nz/second_level_proposal_c1

<http://dnc.org.nz>

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