IDN Status Report

Tina Dam
Director, IDN Program
ICANN
A few observations from the week:

- Imagine every day explaining to users by phone or email: when they can register a full IDN
- The processes currently underway are difficult to understand for the general user who is urgently waiting
- The fact that you are here or work in the icann community automatically gives you an obligation to make stable and sound decisions as quickly as possible
- That includes understanding how IDN works
- IDNs are not new, they exists at 2nd level
- Build on second level experience and start conservatively at the top level
- Gaining experience is not the same as performing an experiment (IDN wiki is experiment, fast track is not)

See http://delhi.icann.org/
TLD Allocation and Delegation Policies and Processes

- IDN meetings and sessions Delhi
  - Focus was on IDN Fast Track Policy Process

- Currently ICANN follows:
  - ISO3166 list for ccTLD delegation
  - Previous introduction of new gTLDs

- None are adequate for IDN TLDs

- Policies are developed bottom-up processes
  - Through GNSO, ccNSO, GAC
IDN Policy Processes

- Three policy processes underway
  - IDN ccTLD fast track
    - Delhi workshop input concentrated on:
      - Limitation by criteria not numbers
      - “Contractual” relations and fees/costs
      - Timeline fit together with “new gTLD process”
  - ccNSO PDP for future process
    - Seek input to IDN Issues Report (by 26 Feb 07)
    - Answers are being generated to “Issues Paper”
  - Process for introduction of new gTLDs
    - Including IDNs and objections based option
.test IDN wiki set-up

- More than 500,000 page requests so far
- IDNwiki purpose:
  - Introducing users to IDN TLDs
  - Applications test facility for applicability
  - Registry applicant test/usability facility

15 October 07 launch
http://idn.icann.org

Includes Hindi and Tamil
IDNwiki test results

- Primarily browser experience
- Word processing software such as:
  - Word and PDF
    - keeps formatting and url links work
- Invalid XHTML 1.0
  - Changed href to be RFC compliant
- Support of other script/languages
  - Amharic (Ethiopian script) is first addition
    - On 4th level, pending last translations
  - Others can be added if moderators are available
IDNwiki Test Results

- Email Body
  - formatting is lost, but url functionality kept
- Email Protocol (IETF)
  - Close to release as experimental standard
  - Encourage implementation → standard track
  - Clients implementing IDN email protocol will be included in wiki
IDNA protocol revision

- Proposed revision at IETF
  - from extremely hard working participants
- Unicode version independent
  - Three categories by procedure not table
    - Protocol-valid (some only with contextual rules)
    - Disallowed
    - Unassigned
- IDN Guidelines to be re-worked followed completion of protocol revision
- Attempting to plan for educational sessions on the difference between protocol versions
Thank You!

For more information, please visit: http://icann.org/topics/idn