IDN Variant TLDs

Issues Project Update
Why this project?

• Long standing request from a number of IDN user communities.

• Board instructed staff to develop an issues report on the subject.

http://www.icann.org/en/minutes/resolutions-25sep10-en.htm#2.5
IDN variant TLDs as of today

- Applicants may declare variant strings for the TLD in its application.
- No variant TLD strings are delegated until variant management solutions are developed and implemented.
1. Create a glossary of terms vetted with technical and linguistic communities.

2. Identify challenges (requirements) of IDN variant TLDs based on:
   a) linguistic accuracy
   b) technical feasibility & accuracy
   c) usability (including minimize user confusion)
   d) accessibility and
   e) security and stability
Final Proposal Published

• Published final proposal based on public comments received on 20 April 2011
  - Addition of Greek case study
  - Refine the Indic case to become the Devanagari case study
Call for Volunteers

- Published call for volunteers for six case study teams
- Received 70+ applications across six case study Teams
- Completed and published selection of team members
- Selected case study coordinators
Case Study Teams

• Comprised of community experts in DNS, Registry/Registrar operations, Linguistics, Security, Policy, and IDNA

• Led by a case study team coordinator

• Teams will have regular teleconference calls and face-to-face meetings

• ICANN will provide support for case study teams
Consultants / Experts

• Andrew Sullivan – DNS & IDNA expert
• Nicholas Ostler – Linguistic expert
Local Host Organizations

- **Arabic**: Qatar Supreme Council of Information and Communication Technology (ictQATAR)
- **Chinese**: Chinese Domain Name Consortium (CDNC)
- **Cyrillic**: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Local Host Organizations

- **Devanagari**: Department of Information Technology (DIT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India

- **Greek**: Institute of Computer Science of the Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH-ICS)

- **Latin**: The Internet Infrastructure Foundation - Registry Operator for .SE
Definitions Document

• Need to define the terms that are being used
• Initial document developed
• Case study team feedback required
• Two types of definitions
  • Existing References (IDNA, Unicode 6, RFC 3743, draft-ietf-appsawg-rfc3536bis-01)
  • New Definitions (to be finalized)
Definitions Document

- The Project asks that case study teams use the terms only as defined.
- If a term is defined in a way that the team finds undesirable, or if there is not a term for something the team needs to discuss, the Project prefers the team to define a new term so that it is always clear what a given term means.
- The goal of this restriction is to minimize the difficulty later during the harmonization step.
How to stay informed?

• Mailing list for anyone who wants to participate:

  https://mm.icann.org/mailman/listinfo/vip

• Community wiki:

  https://community.icann.org/display/VIP/Home
And the work began ...

• Case study team members met in Singapore for a full day working sessions on Saturday

• Case study coordinators presented a summary of their groups’ work on Monday public session
What’s Next ...

• Periodic teleconferences
• Intercessional meetings
• Issues report from each case study team by 30 September 2011
• Final issues report by 15 December 2011
One World

One Internet

Questions
Thank You