Task Force on Arabic Script IDNs: Overview and Progress

@ ICANN London Meeting (June ‘14)

Task Force on Arabic Script IDNs (TF-AIDN)
Middle East Strategy Working Group (MESWG)

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Community Driven Way forward:
Task Force on Arabic Script IDNs

• Creation and oversight by community based Middle East Strategy Working Group (MESWG; https://community.icann.org/display/MES/MESWG+Members )

• TF-AIDN Objectives: a holistic approach
  – Arabic Script Label Generation Ruleset (LGR) for the Root Zone
  – Second level LGRs for the Arabic script
  – Arabic script Internationalized Registration Data
  – Universal acceptability of Arabic script IDNs
  – Technical challenges around registration of Arabic script IDNs
  – Operational software for registry and registrar operations
  – DNS security matters specifically related to Arabic script IDNs
  – Technical training material around Arabic script IDNs
Membership

• Currently **26 members** – applications still being received

• From **15 countries** – Australia, Egypt, England, Ethiopia, Germany, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, and UAE

• Speaking than **nine languages** – Arabic, Malay, Saraiki, Sindhi, Pashto, Persian, Punjabi, Torwali, Urdu, with **expertise** in use of Arabic script from East Asia, South Asia, Middle East, North Africa and Africa

• Coming from **diverse disciplines** – academia (linguistics and technical), registries, registrars, national and regional policy bodies, community based organizations, technical community
Task Force on Arabic Script IDNs

• Membership open, community based
• Details and interests of members posted by MESWG
• Discussions publicly archived
• Details at http://lists.meswg.org/mailman/listinfo/tf-aidn
• Background and Introduction to TF-AIDN
  – https://community.icann.org/display/MES/Task+Force+on+Arabic+Script+IDNs
• Workspace, news and document archive
  – https://community.icann.org/display/MES/TF-AIDN+Work+Space
• Email Archive
  – http://lists.meswg.org/pipermail/tf-aidn/
## Arabic Script TLDs Assigned or Delegated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic Script</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>الجزائر</td>
<td>1. Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>عمان</td>
<td>2. Oman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ایران</td>
<td>3. Iran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>امارات</td>
<td>4. Emirates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بازار</td>
<td>5. Bazaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>پاکستان</td>
<td>6. Pakistan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>الاردن</td>
<td>7. Jordan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بھارت</td>
<td>8. India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>المغرب</td>
<td>9. Morocco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>السعودية</td>
<td>10. Saudi Arabia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>11. Sudan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ملیسیا</td>
<td>12. Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>شبکة</td>
<td>13. Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>سوریہ</td>
<td>14. Syria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>تونس</td>
<td>15. Tunisia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>مصر</td>
<td>16. Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>قطر</td>
<td>17. Qatar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>فلسطین</td>
<td>18. Palestine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>موقع</td>
<td>19. Site</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### SUMMARY OF THE CODE POINTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>No. Of codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISALLOWED by MSR</td>
<td></td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALLOWED by MSR</td>
<td></td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Allowed by IDN2008</td>
<td></td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>339</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Submitted to MSR**: 172
- **Discussion on codes to be handed over to LGR**: Work is under process
IDN Variants Needs and Challenges

**Security and Stability Needs**

- یان کستان پال کستان
  - U+0643  U+06A9
- xn--mgbai9a5eva00b  xn--mgbai9azgqp6j
- 120+ cases of visually same or similar Arabic script characters identified by case study team
  - Variants must not be allocated independently
  - Variants may need activation to allow user access (w/ different KB)
- 16 IDN ccTLD applications with 4 applications with variants

**Security and Stability Challenges**

- Consistency and innumerability
  - Consistent across and within TLDs
  - Minimal activation for manageability
- Management tools
  - Registration
  - Configuration and Maintenance
  - Security and Monitoring
- Usability in applications
  - Browsing, emailing, etc.
  - Searching, privacy, etc.
Progress

Work Accomplished
   – Arabic Script Generation Panel
   – Principles for Inclusion, Exclusion, and Deferral of Arabic Script Variants
   – MSR Analysis and Feedback
   – Principles on Variants
   – Code Points for LGR

Outreach to the Community
   – Launch at the Arab IGF Meeting in Algiers
   – Presentation during the IGF in Bali
   – Outreach during the ME DNS Forum
   – Presentation to the community at ICANN Singapore
   – Presentation to the community at the APTLD Meeting
Current Work and Next Steps

• XML Manual [June 30, 2014]
• Finalize the discussions on Code Points [August 28, 2014]
• Finalize the discussions on Variants [September 30, 2014]
• Whole Label Rules – Aug – Oct 14
  – Document principles for whole label variants
  – Define whole label variants
  – Release for Public Comments
• Finalization – Nov – Dec 14
  – Finalize LGR for Arabic script
  – Submit to ICANN/IP
  – Release for Public Comments
تريما كاسيه
شكرًا
شكری
با سپاس
شكر
Thank You