SAN JUAN – IDN Program Update
Wednesday, March 14, 2018 – 17:00 to 18:15 AST
ICANN61 | San Juan, Puerto Rico

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Good afternoon. Open session IDN program update. Room 209A. Event starts 5 PM to 6:15 PM. March 14, 2018.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Dear all, we will be starting in a minute. Please take a seat. OK. Alright, let's start. Welcome everyone back to the IDN sessions, this is IDN program updates. Just to admin staff to inform you right now, we don' have the Adobe Connect room, the remote participants, if you are listening and would like to make some comment, please send email to icann61.209a@icann.org. We have Amanda here to help us here to read your comments out. OK. Next slide please. For this presentations, we will go through the overview of the IDN programs and progress by me, and then the IDN implementation guideline by Matt, and then to community updates, formality and generation panels and [inaudible] generation panels. We suppose to have a lot of questions on that, please do so, because answering the question will clarify a lot of things for your work.

For the first one, next please. IDN program update. We have basically three main portions of work, of the project. The first one if for the top level, which is divided into [inaudible] TLD and ccTLD for TLD we have [inaudible], and GR2 set. For ccTLD we have the ccTLD fast track process. Then for the second level of the gTLD we have an IDM implementation guideline. Which will have the session in detail later, and the reference second level of the GR. Then the last part is the community outreach and involvement from the last meeting. For the [inaudible] in brief, in the background, in 2008 suggested to move forward we should reduce the opportunities for confusion, for example, we state things and correctors to be used and used [inaudible]. Then the [inaudible] mechanism been born. Then this aims to support the IDN TLD in scripts by the communities globally. It also should provide a secure and stable definition of the valid IDN TLDs. It is also should be able to determine variance of the levels.

Next please. The way they work is because of different scripts has a different way of handling. We form the generation panel by scripts, each generation panel with take care of their own scripts, maybe except the [inaudible] generation panel which has altogether 9 scripts. The task of generation panel is to develop the LGR proposal. In a proposal is comprised of three main portions. The first is, what are the allowed core points to be in. The second is, what is the variance of that, depends on the

definition of the generation panels. The last thing is the rules. For example, in some of the scripts you can have values that go below the correctors and you shouldn't have too that type of level consequently. This is not info grammar or anything, it's because of it will create instabilities in rendering and it can cost the confusable and security issues. When the generation [inaudible] made their proposals, the process will be going to the integration panels, which will come by all these proposal into one single root zone LGR. There might be multiple rounds of revision between the GP and the IP, and after that it will be integrated into the root zone. Next please.

This is the status of our generation panel that we have, we plans to cover all the scripts, 28 scripts in the [inaudible] today. As you can see, only very few script that has not been seated, a lot is already in finalizing stage or active working. This actually approaching to the finalizing of the work. Next please. Further status of the root zone LGR we released the first release in March 2016, and then the second release integrated in, now we have 6 scripts in total integrated into the second release in August 2017. In October 2017, we also have [inaudible] LGR code went to public comment, and just recently January, we have current LGR went to public comments, which will the deadline of the submission of the comment is 17th March. If anybody is interested to submit a comment, please do so. Next please.

Then if we already have the definition of root zone LGR, one thing that it can do, it will be the mechanism that can be determined if the levels is valid or invalid. From the pictures on page 10, when you have this LGR in place, when you take the input as the levels it can first thing, determine if it is invalid or valid, and the second thing is generate the possible variants. It depends on the rules, it's also can designate which variant is allocatable and which is blocked. This is the mechanism of it. Next please. Because going back to the previous slides on the status of the GP a lot of definitions on the LGR is close to the finishing line, so ICANN has called for expert group of study, to make a study on how to implement these definitions. We have called for expert last month, February 2018, and this month we are forming the group. We have quite a good response from multi stakeholder GNSOs, ccNSOs, and ALAC [inaudible]. Next please. The last part of the work for the root zone is LGR2 set. Just to repeat briefly for the one who didn't join last sessions, this two is actually specify for generating the format in our FC17 I40. The two can create, can view, can use the LGR and can manage. It can compare two LGR and it can review what is the new LGR come into effect, the existing one.

The online is now in development as the link in the presentations is also open source, distributed as BSD license so feel free to adopt and modify it to meet your needs. The user

guideline is also at the link, and the two will require username, password. I can be find on page 3 of the user guide. Then go to the ccTLD work, we have the ID and ccTLD fast track and this is the status so far. Now we have 58 ccTLD level from 40 countries and territories. The letters when we have is more attending dot MR in Africa. Next please. This is just an explanation of the previous map. Also there is currently under review is the fast track process itself, it has been in action since 2015 and right now we have quite good progress. We already have been to two public comments and currently it is at the risk and mitigation steps for the next version of the process. Next please. For the second level, we have different second level ID and tables, these are the table that are already in the format of LGR format, IFC 7940, [inaudible] guidelines that is focused on the security and stabilities. Currently, we have 27 for the second level reference published already. You can see the list of group latins, [inaudible], also others. Next please.

For the last part communications and outreach since the last meeting that we report. For the direct outreach we did the trainings on IDN in Maldives as they are going to form the panel soon, also in December 2017 we do the training to [inaudible] generation panels, which is newly seated in Sri Lanka. Back to back on that, we have new [inaudible] generation panel face-to-face meeting because in Sri Lanka, they are using [inaudible].

Then we also have the latin generation panel face-to-face meeting in January in Belgium. We also published a blog, please check it out because besides it's enjoyable to read about the 11 scripts that is coming from South Asians, it also provides some of the technique, how they manage the cross script variance among those scripts. Other stuff is we also update the work during the ICANN meetings, we are currently doing now, the webpage icann.org/idn will be the main page of our communications, also the communities we keep pictures, we maintain for all the generation panels, so we just currently create a new one for [inaudible] generation panel as well.

Lastly, the mailing list. We have mailing list for all the GPs and also the IP. Thank you. That is all for the IDN update, you can follow us on icann.org/idn and IDN program at icann.org for email. Thank you. That's the first one in the agenda, let me pause for a few minutes and see if there are any feedback or questions here on online.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Date of IDNs. We can have a vote on IDN adoption? What is the adoption of IDNs? How do we get that information?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK. Adoption as in number of domain names in IDN? We probably have to take that comment back and get back to you. We might have to work with the universal acceptance?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Universal acceptance will not have that data.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: You can [inaudible], you can see the level published by [inaudible].eu regards to domains names inside Africa and the Middle East.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: For example we have some TLDs which have gone into [inaudible]. Are there any scripts which has been applied by people for TLDs on those scripts? Is there any uptake of those? Why I am interested in all that, is because communities putting too much of hard work, many years of work going into the system and what is the result of that. Are there any uptake? Are there any adoption? Are we just doing the waste work? There is no use of that. I am just wondering that our time is put on constructive use.

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UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK. Thank you, so we have [inaudible] wants to come in online and then Matt.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you [inaudible]. I also wanted to point all of you to the annual report which is published by [inaudible] which actually publishes the numbers which different IDN TLDs are as far as registrations are concerned. That data actually is available and please let us know and we'll actually follow up and share a link with you for that report as well. Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Hi, this is [inaudible]. In my surveys of various domains I see about 2% of domains being xn// IDN domains, if that's a useful number.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Matt please.

MATT: We're not only talking about IDN TLDs, of the new gTLDs, more than half of them have IDN defined under them, on second level. We don't know how much that is actually used. Some of them have a hundred of IDN tables, so supporting many scripts and

languages but how much is it used. I think that that would be very interesting to know.

AJAY: Let me reply for your question please. The main goal of [inaudible] in order to give outlook of our decision and... you said that [inaudible] was used, the percentage of IDN domain name is somehow low.

MATT: I'm say 2% I thought was decent, I wasn't saying it was low.

AJAY: Yeah. Seems low. The main goal of universal acceptance group to make some [inaudible] plans in order to [inaudible] IDNs and get [inaudible] of people online. [Inaudible] USG to encourage people to visit software developers and software programmers in order to enhance all of that and makes our user trust application. It makes the application compatible with IDNs and ERs.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We have Dennis next.

DENNIS:	Thank you. I want to respond to Ajay, because it sounded to me that, why are we doing this work? To me it's not about... it might be interesting to know the uptake of IDNs, which is roughly 2-3% of global domain names, right now. That is referencing the UAD report. It sort of goes back to the chicken and the egg example, right. We're doing this work in order to enable communities using their own scripts in TLDs and domain names. If we do not do this, we will far... those communities and script communities will be far from actually using this technology. Again, it is an interesting data point to know, where we are today, but we're not doing... that point is not driving our effort, it's going far beyond that. It enable those script communities, language communities, to use their own scripts in domain names and identifiers.

AJAY:	This is exactly, I think, my point. I think we are doing our work because we believe in that mission very prominently, and today morning I was speaking in this DNA conference and I pulled up their site, 336 million domain names are registered now. 334.6 million. I just hear it is 2%, if this is true, this is not a small number at all. From the IDNs perspective considering we just started on IDN association, not very far. But I am yet to see, myself, if a single advertisement, single mail, single mailer, telling their IDN. I have not yet seen. We might have so many

domains, and that's the reason I was just wondering and maybe we can discuss this in this group or later sometime in an appropriate forum, where we have certain scripts which have gone to the root zone and you and me are both on the same page. This is for the community to adopt the language and the TLD, but are there any applications? That is what I am asking. Are there any takers of the domain names? Are there any people using it? These 2% people, I just wonder, are the people who block their brand, who are interested to block their brand and it's just lying there. We are really not addressing the language community as such today. How do we reach there? Is another question that comes in. That's the reason I asked the number and what is the uptake and how people using it. If the forty scripts have one TLD root zone, are there any, and one year almost has passed, is there any application under the script for TLD? There's a question I wanted to ask.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Mark please.

MARK: All good points. You say reports about 300 million domain names, but in fact if you're talking non IDN domain names, probably 97% of them are not used. They are just parked domain names.

AJAY: This is all [inaudible] domain names, not IDNs.

MARK: OK. What I am saying is, all the non IDNs, probably 97% of them are not used by end users. They are just parked. You have a brand, I have a brand name and then I reserve to my brand name in 27 different TLDs. I am not using them. The actual usage, the domain name registration compared to the actual usage of domains is completely different. It may happen, I don't know, it happen that the actual IDNs the percentage of actual use, in terms of configuring my web server or my whatever, is maybe higher than the normal non IDN domain names. I'm not sure we know it, there are ways to discover that, but then it's just the usage from the owner of the domain name. But then, are the actual end users using this is yet another question. We need to be careful on describing what usage means because there's different facets and they don't mean the same thing.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Just as a data point. I collect Google's transparency report, which lists domains that are used by enough people for email that Google actually notes statistics about them. I have 150,000 of those, 8 are IDNs. At least in terms of large prominent email

domains, very little so far. But one can also look at numbers like Alexa, those domains are in use. If you wanted to look for usage rather than just registration, there are some things that show live domains not just registered sites.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Any sites you can point to?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: For Alexa, this is certainly a daily download of it from the University of Michigan. The Google transparency report is easily found on their website and you can download their data. I keep an accumulative list of that data, but they publish about 30,000 domain names each day, that were used 8 days ago. They don't give you live data, it is delayed slightly. If you like, come talk to me and I will show you some resources. But, yes very light usage for email and lots of software like my mac can't reply to the email that you sent me with the ID and I had to reply to you by other means. So, yes.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [inaudible] correct me if I'm wrong please. I think our colleague here said about most of the domain names or a percentage of the domain names, or email addresses in IDNs in India is not

used. I don't think it is not the case in India. As the government [inaudible] and a deal with customers, [inaudible]. Am I right?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Correct. There is a different reason, if we get into the discussion we will have EI focused discussion on that. I can reply you later. This is partially correct, partially disappointing data there. There is a reason for that, everybody do not support EI. That's a challenge which we are struggling with. My question is only on one point and I think we have got a fair discussion also on that. Once the LGR has gone to the root zone, is there any uptake of the applications for TLDs? That's my source of another point. The next question is obviously, the uptake of IDNs and real activity on the IDNs. I think we are fairly connected with that industry, all of us here, has anybody seen one active IDN, I want to know. There may be 2% registration, has anybody seen one active IDN that is there and people are using it. Can we name 1, 2, 3? Answer is there is none, that is what worries me. I think we need to work on that also.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: No active IDNs, that is of course incorrect. I mean there are active IDNs used in Sweden. There are definitely active IDN used in China and other countries. Or are you talking about active IDN TLDs or IDN at any level?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I don't know about Sweden. I was in China as a [inaudible] workshop and we found none there. There are people who are registered. We have in India more than 100,000 IDNs registered, more than 100,000. [inaudible] the day before yesterday, for the best IDN in the registrant, but I know the traffic, unfortunately there's no traffic on those IDNs. There may be few. When I say [inaudible]. I am saying it is a very small meagre number and we don't see them as an example here. When I see Verisign on IDN, Microsoft on IDN, when I see Google on IDN, when I see Microsoft on IDN, then it's an IDN option. To me right now, Twitter on IDN, Facebook on IDN. Right now, they are not. [inaudible] 20 domains, whether we like it or not, like this the truth. Google, Microsoft, Verisign, Twitter, Facebook, Amazon, Paypal, these are the 15-20 domains which people use in their day-to-day life. If you want to bring people online, and it is said, this is our mission, we need to have these companies start their IDNs and then get people from the community scale and then everybody will follow. I think this is not the agenda right now here, I just want to take the number here right now, and if we can have an update on any applications being filed on TLDs for the LGR which has gone to the root zone, that will be very helpful to know.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Excuse me, so maybe let me try to address two points. The first thing, the uptake of if the LGR is going to integrate it into the root zone, then what happens. For now, we don't have the... because it's a root zone, the consequences row hasn't happened yet. But this is not finalized, but this is one of the previous lies that now we have the expert study group taking a look of how can we capture all these definitions into implementations. That is one way, another way for the new round of gTLD is not finalized but a lot of possibilities that people are looking at if LGR will be mandatory for the application guidebook. In the simple what meanings if LGR has not finished, you cannot apply for that scripts, but this is not finalized. But, it's the possibilities. Right now for the root zone LGR itself, you probably don't see the application yet as it is not in implementations. That's first point. The second point is very good, that maybe in the update we probably need some numbers, like how can this already be used, I'll take that to be our homework and we try to come up with some meaningful index or some numbers to see how far we are. Thank you.

VICTOR: Just one data point. I see at least 600,000 domains under the Russian suffix.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Sorry, can you say your name as well?

VICTOR: Victor [inaudible].

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you.

VICTOR: That one is by far the most active, the next one is less than one tenth, somehow that is the biggest use of ID suffix in the root, RF.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK. Thank you. Maybe let me move to the next item on the agenda. Yes [inaudible].

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Page 15 please. Yeah, minor point Korea is included in mix script, and China also [inaudible] Chinese is also mixed. Something is missing here, please also view this as key [inaudible] must be included in mixed scripts I guess.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK. Thank you. Matt please.

MATT: Thank you very much, This is about the idea in the [inaudible] guidelines. So we have a working group so that creates a new version, updated version of the guidelines, so this is the agenda and I want to say that this is a short presentation of the work. We had a full presentation 2 days ago in a separate session. The purpose of the guidelines is to give, to help the implementation on the second level. Here we are not talking about the root zone, here we're talking about the second level. That is for any TLD, both IDN TLDs and [inaudible] TLDs, that have IDN support. These guidelines are binding for TLDs that are under contract with ICANN, the registry agreement with ICANN. For other TLDs such as the ccTLDs, it's a best current practice. Next slide please. The work started out in July 2015, and now we are processing second public comment that was out for ICANN 60 and now ICANN 61 have replies to those comments that have come. Next slide please. We have representation of different support organizations, and yes... I represent the ccNSO. Next slide please. In the guidelines there are a number of recommendations and you see the groups of recommendations. So, transition that is from IDN 2003 to 2008, today we only talk about 2008 but actually there was a version before. Format of IDN tables, that's about LGR, that we recommend as or require as the format for new tables. Consistency between tables and practice around that variance. Similar [inaudible] yeah. The draft is of course available for anyone to read. Next slide please.

The next step is that we finalize the guidelines after the second round of comments and that final proposal is to be put for the ICANN board to adopt of return for updates. We welcome feedback, of course, even though there is no comment period. You can find the draft, the current draft in the Wiki that we have. Yeah, that's the end. Any questions on the guidelines, I don't know if all of you were at the session 2 days ago, then you have heard this, but, more lengthy. We have some discussion at that time. OK. Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK. Thank you. Before we move on, let me reiterate again for the email address to send the comment in is icann61-209a@icann.org. Let's move on to the community updates. The first one is Latin generation panels. Matt it is you again, thank you.

MATT: Thank you. Yes. This is an overview of the Latin generation panel work. This work is for the root zone, it's to create the repertoire of code points of latin script code points for the root zone, and also creation of variant rules. Within the Latin scripts and between Latin and other scripts. These are the headlines for the presentation, next slide please. Work started in 2016, and in 2017 the group was seated during the fall. The group has

collected information from 209 languages using Latin script as the alphabet for their language. During that work, we found code points that were beyond MSR2, but were needed for some of those languages. We sent in a proposal for an extension of MSR2 and some of these code points have been preliminary accepted by the integration panel. Preliminary added to the upcoming MSR3, next slide please. If we look at Latin script, it's the writing system which has the most spread over the world. We see that it's used in both North and South America, in Europe, in most parts of Africa, used in parts of Asia, and it is used in Australia and areas around. It is very spread and secondly it's also has a very linguistic spread, meaning the languages using Latin script are very different with very different needs of expressing features. Next slide please.

Our view that we started out with MSR2, but we will go over to MSR3 when that is done. We already assume that at least those code points that've been accepted that will. Only use lowercase letters or consider lowercase letters, of course, only those are part of MSR2 and only those are P valid. Nothing else is considered. We can see the unical ranges that includes Latin script, we started out with a list of 455 languages and that list includes both well spread and well used languages as well as languages with maybe uncertain writing system and very few users. To sort out, we used an index the EGIDS scale, expanded

graded intergenerational disruption scale. That classifies languages from 1 to 8, where 1 is the highest and we primarily looked at the languages of 1 to 4, and those are 180 languages and then we have added a few languages of level 5, those with many users. Yes. We have seen 279 Latin script code points in our work, this includes both normal characters and also marks. Next slide please. This is the representation of the members of the group. Next slide please. The challenges of the work is that there are many languages and also very varied available material for those languages. Some languages are very well described and easy to find information online. Other languages are more sketchy described, so it's much harder to determine what they really use. There are many code points and, yeah... so here again, we looked at 180 languages of EGIDS 1 to 4. Then we added not 120... there were 120 of level 5, of those we looked at 29, we selected languages with at least 1 million users. The work as I've said before, it is both to determine their repertoire to be included and also the variants to be defined, the variant rules to be defined. We divided this work into 2 subgroups, so next slide please. Most work has been done in the repertoire group, most members there. Yeah. We can take next slide please. 195 of the MSR2 code points have been tested so there's 80 code points, 85 code points that have not been tested, so they are not included. There are 3 additional code points that were not in MSR2, that we have proposed for MSR3, or actually we proposed more as

been talked about earlier today but 3 have been accepted for MSR3. Now we are working with the variant rules with [inaudible] script, with Greek script, with Armenian script, within Latin script, respectively. That work is still ongoing. Next slide please.

The goal is to finalize this by the end of the second quarter this year. Anyone else from the… there are more members here from the last generation panel, anyone else want to add something to my presentation? The next slide there are questions, comments.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK. Thank you Matt.

AJAY: These LGRs for Latin, already I see a lot of TLDs in Latin character sets which are there. Will it have an impact on recursive or retrospective impact on like distinctly these?

MATT: If I remember it correctly, there were two IDN TLDs with Latin script in the new gTLD round. Both of them were German, so there were not very much interest of Latin IDN TLDs. I don't think there is any IDN ccTLD based on Latin script. I mean, IDN, of course ASCII but not IDN. Does anyone know of any? No. The

interest of... it's quite natural. I mean, ASCII covers very much need and if you add IDN, then you decrease the amount of users that can input that character.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK [inaudible] comments or like you said IDN ccTLD for Latin is not allow in the fast track process at the moment. OK. Without any other question, let's move to the next item. [inaudible] generation panel updates by Doctor Ajay.

AJAY: Thank you [inaudible]. This is actually data from [inaudible] based out of India and this is the basic agenda which we are going to cover. Introducing MGBP members, that's first taken [inaudible] cross-variant to what we have done there and future round of action. Next slide please. We are a panel [inaudible] ia script name, that's the region and this is named as a panel. This script covers [inaudible]. There are 9 scripts which they are now being covered. It covers almost 45 languages, under those scripts. We have a geographical coverage also in between 4 countries, between India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Bangladesh. We are yet to go to Bangladesh but we have visited Sri Lanka and Nepal for face-to-face meetings. For Nepal we went for [inaudible] because the use [inaudible] in Nepalese, and we went to Sri Lanka for [inaudible] to finalize that. [inaudible] uses

11 out of 22 [inaudible] languages which you call it official languages. India is a little difficult, the country in terms of languages, we can imagine 22 official languages are there. We do not have any national language, so there is, if somebody wants to communicate with the government of India, he can communicate with any of the languages and it is allowed. Not required one specific language, other than English of course. [inaudible] is used by 45 other languages in India as I have already mentioned and their script, it is also used in other countries also, Fiji, Mauritius, and everywhere else. It is happen going to have to some impact also, a very small population, but still uses it. Next slide. This is a work panel, I don't know how many members are usually there and us. We are 56 members and now we are actually 60 members. We added 3 more [inaudible] members and one in Canada. We are almost 60 members, so it is a large panel, so whenever we have the call we have many members joining in and participating. That is very good, and because of 9 scripts we need many people to participate. I am joined by 2 more co-chairs which are [inaudible], and the rest of the team members are also playing their role by script are also listed here. Next.

The interesting part, and I think this is something which I wanted to share with everyone is, I joined this panel and almost this time when we were struggling to collect the volunteers had

started. This was the status in January 2007, 17, and [inaudible] was only a discussion right now. No other discussion had started at that time. Next slide. This is where we are today. You can see that we have progressed in almost every script, actually [inaudible] LGR is for a final comment from IP as soon as we hear from IP, if we do not hear any of the further change, it's likely to go for public. We have already done 7 rounds with IP for the document and that has really helped us. Thanks to IP for bearing us for many rounds and this [inaudible] because we wanted to create our framework and learning ready for all their scripts. We know what IP needs, and this is the strategy which we followed that let us do one script first, learn from that what is required by IP and then follow that and complete that task by the community itself first. That really helped us to speed up the things further. That we need not to go through each script and do over mistakes and come back with the same changes. That has really helped us to speed up the matter, and we knew exactly what IP will need and this was briefed to the review panel and this is where we are. We have almost done all the scripts for, we call it phase 1, which means we have done at least one round of all their scripts except [inaudible] right now with IP. We have heard the feedback from that. [inaudible] we had issues so we are I think sorting out this and by April we should be able to close that also, and send at least one round. We have them ready but it is not yet in the sending stage to IP. Next. This

is the history that goes like that, which we, most of the things you all know, 2010 alliance had started, but 2014 dot parrot had started in India. The government of India had started dot parrot and there are many variants also which the government are trying parrot with [inaudible] which are there by block in government. They are not available for the [inaudible] for domains, but these TLDs were blocked by the government of India. We have 4 TLDs available there, dot parrot, dot [inaudible] dot parrot, dot [inaudible] dot parrot, and one more is also there. We have these domains are also available, which are actively used and available for registration. [inaudible] was seated in 2015 and that is how this is started, I already shared with you the current status. Next.

I think you will agree that in one year we achieved a remarkable progress in this year, and how we achieved this I am just trying to share with you these 17 points of actions which we followed very clearly. Once I joined this panel we discussed with our co-chairs and the members, and we said that we would have no rejection policy for anybody who wants to contribute. That really helped us to, people to participate. Because I have seen in the community work, a lot of people do not apply if they have a fear of rejection, and they are good, and we need them there. We held a welcome and we wanted to have a lot more people and that's the reason we could increase the number base and we

have activity there. One more thing which I finalized is, we have a prefixed date for a conference call, every fortnight and a conference call with a fixed agenda pre circulated to the community. So that everybody is aware that he's supposed to update and get back to the community, and update everyone what is happening in the script and what has been done. Face-to-face meetings were done with the full numbers, and we were almost 20 of us to which were in Nepal and we were in Sri Lanka. Follow up with a fixed date and time, so one thing that we really helped and we had an ICANN source with us in India which is [inaudible] to follow up in between the 15 days time. That helped us that if somebody wants some source to be helping, if they want some guidance, if they want some further feedback in between and who wants to communicate with some ideas with the expert, we ensure that it happens during those 15 days and progresses further. We also finalized a champion, so we did not leave this to the entire community with no accountability, we also identified among the community one champion, who would like to coordinate and update to the entire community. Because obviously you can't hear everyone and there are 9 scripts, we had 9 champions, and all of them are going to help these 9 champions. We organized a process [inaudible] mostly led. Where we had 2 people or 3 people talking to each other and solving the cross script issues and once they finalize that these are the cross script issues they can't solve, the it reaches the

community and we look at both of them. What's resolved and what is required to be resolved. We also follow the motivation on a conference call and appreciation on a call when somebody is delivering on time than really early, all of us appreciate that work and that really also helped us to reward people to focus and deliver the result, that people lack. Led by example, so I ensured that I will join every call, and I have attended myself more than 40 calls in the last 1 year. No matter where I am, I have joined that call and attended that call and ensured everybody joins that call. This gives no excuse to anyone not to join that call, and we give flexibility that if it's a 1 hour, 1 and a half hour call, you do your 5 minute update and you can leave. It's not very difficult different to, it is not forced to stay for one and a half hour. You are fine to update and then you can go. This worked very well and people accepted that. We also had government stakeholders that's very interesting and I personally went and met the secretary IT government of India, and requested them to give us the linguistic experts to us, which they did, and they are not on our mailing list but they are available to consult right now. We can consult with them, we can talk to them and I do that talk on offline basis with them, whenever we need some guidance and approval of what we are going through.

Our team will need, and when we submit LGR we will need their certificates to file that this is OK document. It is important to get them in loop to finalize. Collaborative document, one more positive which i created is recreated Google doc shared document. So there is no person that owns that document. This document is available to you in a shared availability and anybody can update anything, put a comment there. That allows people to work at their own convenience, and there is no need to share with anybody on a mailing list, this reduces the number of emails and it also allows people to comment freely and talk freely, and not depend on anybody else. This also created the documents faster, and get their state very quickly. Of course, I already mentioned taking support from ICANN XML. We were offered to have XML creation because we are doing so many scripts and some of us who cannot create XMLs quickly, so [inaudible] really helped us in creating those last mile quickly XML conversions. We used that help whenever it is required. Then we did make the proposal to go to IP when it is complete, we decided the phases. That we had the early feedback from IP. This obviously loaded the IP very much for sure, and I know that... and thank you very much for support that work that we... so we can complete it. Without your support we could not have done that, for sure. I really acknowledge on this platform and thank you for that. We created a sub group, and this about sub group which is very healthy, most importantly this work sub

group is allows people to be reminded that there's a meeting going to start in 5 minutes, that also helps very well. If somebody has a question, he can raise this point, he does not have to wait another 15 days for a meeting, or he need to email the mailing list somebody will respond. He can just put simply on about sub group and get a response from somebody, and also an exchange of mobile numbers automatically happens. I think this has also brought us all together. This group also helps us share the success stories, so that way you become more close to communicate, otherwise you don't know and you just know the names. Personal cost to group leaders with expert connect and this is what I did and I think it helped, when a new member wanted to join. I ensured a personal talk with him or her and motivated him and tell her that this is what work is and we require a timeline basis work, and I hope that you are willing to serve this country, serve this linguist community and then you join. Then obviously, they are already sold on this opportunity and we also had one latest thing which I forgot to mention and [inaudible]. Two people in our group are there as a trainer, how to look at MSR, how to look at... what work is required, what is variant, so we have two people who train the new member for two hours of orientation and the training and get them through [inaudible] proposal, this is how the proposal looks like and this is a capability that we require and this the [inaudible] we require from you. This is also helped us. Obviously there is enough

responsibility, who is going to look at varient, how is going to look at report data, how is going to look at the history, appendix, and all that stuff. I think that our champions did it very well with a collaborative approach. Next.

I think the cross script variant analysis mechanism was very clearly defined, because we had cross script variants and as I already told, we had a cross script champions meeting and let them decide what is variant and is not variant, and we follow this mechanism of three colors to talk among us. This really helped us to communicate more faster and quickly reach to a conclusion. We just ask are you on red, yellow, or green. That is all. This way our [inaudible] submissions and we get to a conclusion and decision. That was, we have very less variants, we decided very less variants and all the scripts, wherever exact matching is there, of course we put them in variant, otherwise we put all of them in an appendix, wherever we thought they were very similar. We put a guideline and an appendix which I think Japanese also agreed with me during the last workshop, that they have also done the same way, to put an appendix and say this looks to be similar and while considering for the TLD registration, the [inaudible] panel can look into. Another time that can be taken into consideration, not while submitting the application. Next. I think this is the future timeline and we are [inaudible] in March, and hopefully some other IP can confirm

whether we can go live and [inaudible] public comments in March, hopefully yes. Then from April we are having meeting in Bangladesh for finalizing all the scripts we are going to do, at least for second round of, or third round of discussion with IP and then submit to IP for final feedbacks and by August I think we want to go all LGRs with public comments. That's the target we have, hopefully community is working very hard, all the [inaudible] are working very hard for that and we are committed to deliver that kind of result. IP is going to become part [inaudible] from us. Next slide. Yes. Thank you very much. This is our, we are on social media also, this is what we also created uniquely to also share and people connect with the social media and whatever we are doing is also available on our public forum, so people can freely see what is going on. I want to also thank [inaudible] for continued support for this. Thank you very much.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Thank you Doctor Ajay. We have about 7 minutes left, please Matt.

MATT: I have a question about the variants and well similar, how many variant pairs approximately have you created in how many in the appendix, just the rough figures?

AJAY: It is not a straight answer, it depends on the script by script. I think few scripts do not have any variants and few scripts have variants and we have less than 10 variants as a variant definition. Around same number 10-15 in an appendix.

MATT: OK, quite few.

AJAY: Quite few, yeah. Just to elaborate, Matt. You will appreciate that, what we thought is let us the creativity of the users to register TLDs, not to block them at te registration level. Of course, we don't want phishing and [inaudible] looking similar, but that can be taken care by similarity panel, that is our job. However, we thought that we should not put them on the rule check itself, that we block them right away and not allow them to even file an application and be creative. I think this principle is accepted by everyone and that's how we decided how it is going to be.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Any others?

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UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I want to make a small comment. This is [inaudible], I'm assisting the [inaudible] script, like the project Ajay just presented. We have created profiles in social media platforms with this strategy to involve the community in a big way during public comments phase. Because, we being a very diverse language community and what the panel is doing, this is straight away accessible to the general public and we're going to run some awareness campaigns so that more and more people join this and we have less complications at a later stage. Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: [inaudible] here, sorry for the remote participants, but I just showed reports from the cross script from MBGP, so this is how… I'm sorry. They doing…how can I… not this one… OK. So basically it goes in pair wise, they [inaudible] so on. Is not all complete 9 by 9 because of the script doesn't have the cross variants, but the way it is, for example, they have the section that these are exactly should be defined as variant because of the identical, they also have the list that become yellow or orange here means that it is similar and goes to the appendix, not in the XML. They also listed all the thing that already raised and discussed and decided is green, meaning it's not similar enough and won't be in the proposals but so they know that it has been discussed. This is just the sample of how they managed.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We found in fact that most of the [inaudible] between two scripts because most of the time it's really by pair. We found like [inaudible] we found that many case it was just with use two set of scripts, maybe there is one case that is three. But typically it's only between two because each of the scripts tend to be grouped by where they came from, there's a consideration that it does only matter when the [inaudible] is confusing because it is never using [inaudible]. This was not true in [inaudible] scripts where you would have a lot of marks that were confusable but it doesn't matter as it is never used in isolation, it has to be attached to a base character. [inaudible] it doesn't matter if a glyph is confusable if it cannot be used in isolation in the writing system. [inaudible] otherwise you have all those marks that looks exactly the same across script, but it doesn't matter as they are not used alone.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Just for the record. [inaudible], am I correct to say that this document is available on our community page?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It's there, just not the latest version. I will update after.

EN

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: You have the community page, but that will be available. If you want to... this page, look at this. You will see an updated version, there are documents there. Yeah.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK, we have 3 minutes, anymore comments or questions?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I'm getting the [inaudible] update from you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Asking a question. In fact we found that anything that we want you to add or consider is usage, I know it is not part of the rule but it still should be part of the documentation is the thing about [inaudible] script kind of need it [inaudible]. We may ask at least for to have a quick, how is it affecting you? Because, why we asking that is some degree also be used as reference for different levels where that restriction does not exist. It may be useful as a guideline for somebody looking at your document to know what to do if they get... if they don't have the context joiner restriction. Obviously, you don't have to add anything on XML, because you can't do anything with them but if you could have a quick... especially for [inaudible] it is going to be an issue because you need it for [inaudible] I guess for some. It is going to restrict them a bit more than usual, even the name of the

country cannot be presented with other joiners, that's kind of bad. That's the restriction we have to live with is. Anyway, that's a minor thing. There's a few things that but yeah, we think it's pretty ready to go. Close.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I think I appreciate this little point and we have already our view on that. The moment you send us, we should get back to you in 24 hours to finalize it. Thank you very much.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK. If there is no any other questions or I will this meeting to the end. Thank you everybody for joining physically and online. I appreciate everybody effort, the GP and the IP and hopefully altogether we can work and finish the thing soon. Thank you.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: One question which Matt stopped me in the last session, and this is the session I wanted to ask now, discussion with Korean, Japanese, and Chinese people. Do you have any idea of [inaudible] what is the adoption in your country? [inaudible] Koreans for you. Any idea for that? Yeah domain name. I could not hear you... second level.

EN

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: I cannot remember exactly, I'm not the registry but about 10,000 or 100,000 I can't remember.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Do you think there is an eruption of IDNs? People are now using it and advertising it?

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: It has been registered and they are used, but not much popular.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: OK.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER: We probably have to leave the room. Make it available for the next one, can stop the record now. After we off the record, I just want to inform you that. Happy birthday [inaudible], this is birthday today, incase anyone wants to give a big hug, happy birthday.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]

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