Proposed Service

Name of Proposed Service:

*Cyrillic script for .???? and .??????*

Technical description of Proposed Service:

*For both ?????? (xn--80asehdb) and .????? (xn--80aswg) CORE intends to provide registration only in Cyrillic Script label, mainly for Belarusian, Bulgarian, Russian and Ukrainian.*

*In fact this is what is indicated in the respective applications (see responses to Q14(c), 14(d), 14(e), 15, 16, 18 and attachment to Q44, containing the IDN Table). except that the response to Q44 contained an error, and only mentioned Russian language.*

*According to our applications, and to IDN Implementation Guidelines, CORE wishes to offer second-level registration as follows:*

_Type: IDN only; no ASCII second level registrations_
_Variants: no variants allowed_
_Tables: one single table (Cyrillic script)_
_Languages/Scripts: Cyrillic script (mainly for Belarusian, Bulgarian, Russian and Ukrainian)_
_Script, according to ISO 15924: Cyril 220 (mainly for be, bg, ru, uk, according to ISO-639-1)_
_IDN Tables: Single table, for Cyrillic script (as shown in our responses to Q14(e) and the IDN Table attached to the respective Q44.*

*All these elements are the same as currently listed in Exhibit A, point 2.3.1, except that it should say "Cyrillic script (mainly Belarusian, Bulgarian, Russian and Ukrainian)" instead of "Russian language"*

Consultation

*Please describe with specificity your consultations with the community, experts and or others. What were the quantity, nature and content of the consultations?*
The IDN table was created by Iliya Bazlyankov and Grigor Gatchev in 2007-2009 for one of the registry applicants in the IDN ccTLD fast-track application process in Bulgaria after consultations with Bulgarian language experts. Then in 2009 in its third version, the table was redesigned and aligned with the IDN tables developed by Register.bg for .BG and EURid for .EU.

In 2012 the table was adapted for the ICANN new gTLD applications to include characters from Russian, Ukrainian and Belarusian languages as well. The updated table allows users from Bulgaria, Russia, Ukraine and Belarus to fully use their languages on the Internet.

a. If the registry is a sponsored TLD, what were the nature and content of these consultations with the sponsored TLD community?:

N/A

b. Were consultations with gTLD registrars or the registrar constituency appropriate? Which registrars were consulted? What were the nature and content of the consultation?:

N/A

N

c. Were consultations with other constituency groups appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

N/A

N

d. Were consultations with end users appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

N/A

e. Who would endorse the introduction of this service? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:


All registrars and domain-name resellers in the relevant linguistic areas are interested in providing registrations for the said languages, as discussed in ICANN meetings and regional or national internet forums. Users of Bulgarian, Belarusian or Ukrainian languages also have shown interest, as there are currently no gTLDs in their languages. CORE has not carried out specific consultation in the matter as their intention has always been offering registrations in that script for those languages, and it has directly communicated that option to registrars and users.

f. Who would object the introduction of this service? What were (or would be) the nature and content of these consultations?

We are not aware of any such possible objection, and don't foresee any.

Timeline

Please describe the timeline for implementation of the proposed new registry service:

CORE plans to launch both TLDs in later September or early October 2013 with registrations available in Cyrillic script for those languages.

Business Description

Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered:

The service will be offered exactly as described in the Agreement, but not limited to Russian language only.

Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service:

CORE has provided for years IDN registrations at the second level for the Registries for which serves as Registry Backend Operator. For this concrete service, CORE has passed the evaluation on exactly it intends to offer, except that there was a textual error in the drafting of Q44 (but not in Q14-15 and the IDn Table attached to Q444, which were all correct).

Please list any relevant RFCs or White Papers on the proposed service and explain how those papers are relevant.: 
The relevant documents are RFCs 5890, 5891, 5892, and 5893, as well as the ICANN IDN Guidelines.

CORE will fully comply with all of the, which also endorse the use of script-based IDN Tables and services, not only language-based ones.

Contractual Provisions

List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service:

Exhibit A, paragraph 2.3.1

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the reporting of data to ICANN:

None

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the Whois:

None

Contract Amendments

Please describe or provide the necessary contractual amendments for the proposed service:

The required Amendment affects only Exhibit A, paragraph 2.3.1.

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

2.3.1 Russian language.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

2.3.1 Cyrillic script (mainly Belarusian, Bulgarian, Russian and Ukrainian).
Benefits of Service

Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service:

There is currently no gTLD for cyrillic-based languages. The proposed IDN Table and related service would allow users of a number of languages using Cyrillic script to register names in standard, commercially-oriented, not geographically bound gTLDs.

These would not encompass all Cyrillic languages users, as some of them, such as Serbian, have characters that could not be included in the table without using variants (which would in itself change the nature of the service). Hence the proposed service, as described in the application, is the widest possible use of Cyrillic script without variant issues that CORE could offer.

Competition

Do you believe your proposed new Registry Service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain:

It is a relatively neutral service. From the other five other IDNs in Cyrillic characters which are open to third party registrations, only .kom seems to offer registrations using characters beyond the strict Russian language alphabet.

If anything, users of the DNS speaking Bulgarian, Ukrainian and Balrusian (and other languages) will benefit from the possibility to register domain names in gTLDs, which is today unavailable to them.

How would you define the markets in which your proposed Registry Service would compete?:

Cyrillic-speaking areas, mainly those were Belarusian, Bulgarian, Russian and Ukrainian are used.

What companies/entities provide services or products that are similar in substance or effect to your proposed Registry Service?:

Some ccTLDs offer second-level registrations in one or more Cyrillic script languages, but IDN.ASCII is very different in nature to IDN:IDN. The Russian IDN ccTLD has been active for some time now, but only accepting registrations in Russian, not in the other Cyrillic languages, as far as they use any non-Russian character.

In view of your status as a registry operator, would the introduction of your proposed Registry Service potentially impair the ability of other companies/entities that provide similar products or services to compete?:

No. The ability to register specific codepoints as part of a domain name, that is, the acceptable characters, can only be defined at the Registry level.

Do you propose to work with a vendor or contractor to provide the proposed Registry Service? If so, what is the name of the vendor/contractor, and describe the nature of the services the vendor/contractor would provide?:

No. It is an internal service offered by CORE.

Have you communicated with any of the entities whose products or services might be affected by the introduction of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please describe the communications?:

No other company would be affected.

Do you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please submit them with your application. (ICANN will keep the documents confidential).:

N/A

Security and Stability

Does the proposed service alter the storage and input of Registry Data?:

No
Please explain how the proposed service will affect the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to Internet servers or end systems:

_In no foreseeable way._

Have technical concerns been raised about the proposed service, and if so, how do you intend to address those concerns?:

_No._

Other Issues

Are there any Intellectual Property considerations raised by the Proposed Service:

_No._

Does the proposed service contain intellectual property exclusive to your gTLD registry?:

_No._

List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service:

_N/A_

Any other relevant information to include with this request:

_N/A_