Table of Contents

- Creation of IDN Committee
- Members of the IDN Committee
- ICANN IDN Activities Timeline
- Key Issues Considered before Bucharest
- The IDN.IDN Keyword Issue
- The Permissible Code Point Issue
- A Preliminary Framework for non ASCII TLDs
- A Preliminary Registry Selection Policy
- IDN UDRP Review
- IETF (IESG) approval of Internet-Drafts, Oct. 24, 2002
- Issues for Further Consideration
- Recommendations
Creation of IDN Committee

At the September 10, 2001 meeting in Montevideo, the ICANN Board passed a resolution establishing a new IDN Committee "to serve as a general coordination body for the work on policy issues identified in the IDN Working Group Report and such other policy issues that the IDN Committee shall identify."
Members of the IDN Committee

- Vincent Wen-Sung CHEN 陈文生 (TWNIC)
- Mouhamet DIOP (ICANN Address Council Observer, ICANN Director elect)
- Patrik FÄLTSTRÖM (IETF/IESG)
- Qiheng HU 胡启恒 (Internet Society of China)
- Masanobu KATOH 加藤 幹之 (かとう まさのぶ) (Committee Chair, ICANN Director)
- John KLENSIN (Former IAB Chair)
- Sang-Hyon KYONG 경상현 (景商鉉) (ICANN Director)
- Stuart LYNN (ICANN President)
- Elisabeth PORTENEUVE Elżbieta PORTENEUVE (ICANN Names Council)
- Mohd Sharil TARMIZI محمد شحريل ترميزي (GAC Vice Chair)
- Andrew J McLAUGHLIN

Administrative support was provided by:

- David G THOMPSON
- Andrew J McLAUGHLIN
ICANN IDN Activities Timeline

- March 2001- Creation of ICANN Board IDN Working Group (Melbourne)
- June 2001- IDN Working Group Status Report (Stockholm)
- September 2001- IDN Working Group Final Report (Montevideo)
- September 2001- Creation of IDN Committee (Montevideo)
- June 2002- Final Proceeding Report of IDN Committee (Bucharest)
- June 2002- Extension of IDN Committee until Shanghai (Bucharest)
Key Issues Considered before Bucharest

- IDN.IDN Keywords
- Permissible Code Points
- Non ASCII TLDs
- Registrar Selection Process
- UDRP Review
The IDN.IDN Keyword Issue

- The IDN Committee strongly recommends against the introduction of Internet keyword services that utilize the period, or dot ("."), or Unicode characters that can be mistaken for it, as the separator between the different name segments.

- This recommendation is particularly emphatic in the case of non-ASCII Internet keyword offerings.

- The IDN Committee recommends that ICANN and its Domain Name Supporting Organization (particularly the registries and registrars) consider how best to educate Internet users about the differences between DNS domain names and Internet keywords.
The Permissible Code Point Issue

• By ‘permissible code point’ issues, we refer to the problems that might arise from the use of certain non-ASCII characters included in the Unicode Standard within IDN domain name labels.

• At present, the DNS host name specifications limit permissible code points in domain name labels to a restricted subset of 7-bit ASCII.

• In addition to the characters of every language that could be identified and standardized by the Unicode Consortium, the Unicode Standard contains several sets of "characters" that do not, in fact, appear in any conventional human language.
The Permissible Code Point Issue (2)

- The IDN Committee has communicated a recommendation to the IETF that it should proceed conservatively, using an "inclusion-based" approach to the definition of "Internationalized Hostnames", so as to leave out – at least temporarily – the sets of potentially problematic characters, most notably:

  - line and symbol-drawing characters;

  - symbols and icons that are neither alphabetic nor ideographic language characters, such as typographical dingbats;

  - punctuation characters; and

  - spacing characters.

- These comments were submitted for IESG review
A comprehensive selection and implementation process for non-ASCII TLDs would include a number of steps, including:

- Finalization of IDNA standard;
- The decision whether and when to proceed and adopt non-ASCII TLDs;
- Root zone implementation testing;
- Selection of registry operators; and
- Registry-level testing and deployment.

The focus of the next three slides is a preliminary selection framework for non-ASCII TLDs themselves.
A Preliminary Framework for non ASCII TLDs

Brief Explanation of the Six Categories

1. Semantic association with Geographic Units

A TLD string that to a typical reader would be clearly linked to recognized geographic unit, as is the case with the existing ASCII ccTLDs.

2. Semantic association with Languages

A TLD string that to a typical reader would be clearly linked to the name of a language. For example, the Arabic word for "Arabic."

3. Semantic association with Cultural Groups or Ethnicities

A TLD string that to a typical reader would be clearly linked to a cultural group or ethnicity that is not defined by recognized national boundaries. For example, the Kurdish or Swahili peoples.
A Preliminary Framework for non ASCII TLDs

Brief Explanation of the Six Categories (2)

4. Semantic association with Existing Sponsored TLDs

A non-ASCII TLD string that to a typical reader would be clearly linked to an existing ASCII sponsored TLD.

5. Semantic association with Existing Un-sponsored TLDs

A non-ASCII TLD string that to a typical reader would be clearly linked to the existing unsponsored ASCII gTLDs, such as .com, .net, .org, .info, .biz, or .name.

6. Everything else

In this category, we mean to include every word, abbreviation or other string that is not semantically associated with one of the previous five categories.
A Preliminary Framework for non ASCII TLDs
Summary Diagrammatic View

Preliminary Potential non ASCII TLDs

- Semantically Associated With Existing Un-sponsored TLDs
- Semantically Associated With Existing Sponsored TLDs
- Semantically Associated With Geographic Units
- Semantically Associated With Languages
- Semantically Associated With Cultural Groups & Ethnicities

Current Situation

Unsponsored TLDs
Sponsored TLDs
ccTLDs

Incumbency Issues

What Role Might The ccTLD Manager Play?
What Role Might Governments Play?

Everything Else
Preliminary Registry Selection Process

Baseline Considerations
- Technical Competence
- Support from the Relevant Community of Interest
- Commitment to TLD Service and Trusteeship Obligations

Community Considerations

Independent Evaluation
- Independent Evaluation Panel
- Consideration By ICANN Board

Consideration By ICANN Board
UDRP Review

1. Internationalized domain names is highly likely to dramatically increase the opportunities for cybersquatting.

2. The IDN Committee continues to urge the UDRP Review Working Group to consider IDN issues as it performs its review.
IETF (IESG) approval of Internet-Drafts, Oct. 24, 2002

• Internationalizing Domain Names In Applications (IDNA)

• Nameprep: A Stringprep Profile for Internationalized Domain Names
  <draft-ietf-idn-nameprep-11.txt>

• Punycode: An encoding of Unicode for use with IDNA
  <draft-ietf-idn-punycode-03.txt>
Issues for Further Consideration

- Permissible Code Point Issue – e.g. CJK (Chinese-Japanese-Korean) issue -- Registration and Administrative Guidelines (?)
- Second-level IDNA Implementation – Need to slow down (?)
- Whether and when to proceed and adopt non-ASCII TLDs – Need to wait and see (?)
- Need dialogue and coordination among registries doing SLD/IDN implementation?
- User Interface Issues (?)
Recommendations

• Public Awareness and Education

• Continue ICANN IDN Committee – (1) to serve as a general coordination body for the work on policy issues, and (2) to advise the Board as needed in the area of IDN
Thank you very much.

Questions?