Memorandum of Understanding

Between

The Ministry of Information and Communications Technology
(“MICT”)

and

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
(“ICANN”)

Individually (“Party”) and collectively (“Parties”)

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) has been entered into between: The Ministry of Information and Telecommunications Technology (“MICT”) in the State of Qatar And The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (“ICANN”).

Whereas :

• MICT connects people to the technologies that enrich their lives, drive economic development, and inspire confidence in the future. MICT is entrusted with two primary authorities: as the country’s independent and fair regulator of the telecommunications market, and as the government body that nurtures innovative technologies to benefit those who live and work in Qatar; and
• MICT is the statutory authority empowered to regulate the telecommunications and information technology sector in the State of Qatar; and

• MICT has the authority and mandate to manage Qatar’s Country Code Top Level Domain (“ccTLD”) registry for the State of Qatar through Qatar Domains Registry, Communications Regulatory Authority; and

• ICANN is a public benefit, not-for-profit corporation with operational hub offices located in Los Angeles, Istanbul and Singapore. As a global multi-stakeholder organization, ICANN facilitates the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet’s unique identifier systems through coordination and collaboration; and

• The community expects ICANN, as a global organization, to perform its role in an open, accountable and transparent manner and inclusive of the diversity of stakeholders in the greater Internet ecosystem. ICANN’s values are preserving and enhancing the operational stability, reliability, security and global interoperability of the Internet, and respecting the creativity, innovation and flow of information made possible by the Internet.

NOW THAT the Parties hereto have agreed as follows:

Article (1)
Objectives

This MOU aims at continuing the coordination between the Parties, especially in the areas of developing the Domain Name industry and supporting the use of Internationalized Domains Names, as well as promoting the multi-stakeholder model of Internet Governance at the national, regional and global levels.
Article (2)  
Nature of Commitments

This MOU is but an expression statement of the mutual intentions of the Parties. The execution of any specific activities or projects under this MOU will require the signing of a separate and formal agreement between the Parties documenting the relevant activity or project and outlining each party's obligations thereto.

Article (3)  
Scope of Cooperation:

The Parties' cooperation hereunder shall include:
1. Promoting the use of Internationalized Domain Names including those in Arabic Script;
2. Supporting the development of the Internet Domain Name industry in the Arab region;
3. Raising awareness about ICANN's mission and coordinate to strengthen participation by Arab stakeholders in the different constituencies of ICANN;
4. Supporting the implementation of ICANN's Middle East engagement strategy;
5. Supporting the global multi-stakeholder Internet Governance model, and strive to develop multi-stakeholder mechanisms at national and regional levels.

Article (4)  
Financial Commitments

This MOU shall not cause any financial obligations on any one of the Parties hereto as a result of enforcing any of its rights or executing any of its obligations hereunder.

Article (5)  
Relationship Between the Parties

The Parties hereto are independent and separate entities. Neither is a partner, agent or employee of the other. Neither party shall have authority to make any statements, representations or commitments of any kind, or to take any action that shall be binding on the other party.
Article (6)  
Confidentiality  

Neither Party shall be entitled to receive any right, title, or interest in, or any license or right to use, any of the other Party’s confidential information, copyright or trademark or other intellectual property rights, unless otherwise agreed to between the Parties in writing.

Article (7)  
Exclusion of Liabilities  

Except to the extent required by applicable law, neither party nor any directors, officers or employees of either party will be liable to the other party for any damages of any kind, whether direct or indirect, including economic damages or injury to property or lost profit.

Article (8)  
Channels of Communication  

For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the working arrangements to be established by the Parties in the framework of this MOU, the contacts for communication in the first instance for the Parties will be:

For ICANN  
Attn: Baher Esmat, Vice President, Stakeholder Engagement, Middle East  
Regus Selenium Plaza  
Hakki Yeten Cad. Selenium Plaza No:10/C K:5&6  
34349 Fulya, Besiktas, Istanbul,  
Turkey  
Tel: +90.212.381.8727  
Email: baher.esmat@icann.org

For MICT  
Attn: [Mohamed EL Bashir, Technical Affairs Dpt. Manager, Communications Regulatory Authority]  
Al Nasr Tower B, Corniche Road
Either Party may, by notice in writing to the other party, designate additional representatives or substitute other representatives for those designated in this Article.

**Article (9)**

**Disputes Resolution**

Any disputes or difference that may arise between the Parties hereto, relating to the interpretation and/or implementation of this MOU, shall be amicably settled between the Parties through negotiation and consultation means.

**Article (10)**

**Amendments**

This MOU may be amended with the written consent of both Parties. Any such amendment shall form an integral part of this MOU, and shall take effect as of the date of signature thereof.

**Article (11)**

**Duration**

This MOU shall enter into force on the date of its signature by both parties and remains in effect unless terminated by either Party sending an advance written notice to the other. It shall terminate twenty (20) days after the date of receipt of such notice.
WHEREOF, the Parties hereto, each acting through its duly authorized representative, have executed this MOU in two (2) originals in the English language, each of which being equally authentic, this ........day of ........., 2014.

**MICT**

The Ministry of Information and Communications Technology “MICT”

**ICANN**

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (“ICANN”)

Signature: [Signature]

Printed Name: Fadi Chehadé

Printed Title: ICANN President and CEO

Dr. Hessa Al Jaber

Printed Name: [Signature]

Printed Title: Minister of Information and Communications Technology