Proposed Service

Name of Proposed Service:

IDN Tables request to add additional languages

Technical description of Proposed Service:

.QPON Domains seeks approval to add Internationalized Domain Names offerings in the following languages. The IDN Tables for each language have been uploaded to the GDD Portal for the .QPON TLD. Thank you.

Arabic
Danish
Dutch
German
Finnish
Hungarian
Icelandic
Italian
Japanese
Korean
Lithuanian
Latvian
Norwegian
Polish
Portuguese
Swedish
Chinese
Russian
French

Technical description of Proposed Service:

.QPON Domains seeks to allow registrars to register the aforementioned IDN languages at the second level, by querying the registry system with the PUNY code variation of each IDN SLD. .QPON Domains, through its back-end provider, Neustar, already offers IDN registrations for Spanish. Thus far, there have been no technical issues with the Spanish IDN offering, and
Consultation

Please describe with specificity your consultations with the community, experts and or others. What were the quantity, nature and content of the consultations?:

_We did not feel it was necessary to have consultations with the community because it is very common that IDNs are offered from most TLDs, as well as we already have an IDN for the Spanish language, with no objections, issues, or concerns from the community._

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

_N/A. .QPON is not a sponsored TLD._

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

_Neustar said they never had any Registrars object to having IDNs added, and we feel that offering a wider variety of languages allows for a wider use of the Internet users, and our obligation to offer the availability to as many people from different cultures around the globe. Neustar already offers the proposed IDNs at all of the Registrars that we have in our Registrar Network._

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

_Expanding the .QPON's IDN offerings to a level already offered by a number of other registries, constituency consultation did not seem necessary. It's very common, and we haven't heard of any issues or conflicts regarding offering multiple IDNs._

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

_we will follow the same procedures, protocols, and specifications in our offerings of the aforementioned IDN languages._
We didn't feel it was appropriate, or necessary to consult with end users.

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

If approved, we will be offering the proposed IDNs to all of the Registrars in our Network. The Registrars in countries where the languages are prevalent will almost certainly endorse these additions. We did not perform consultations regarding this. I'm pretty sure all of the Registrars in our network already offer IDNs for many other registries, as well as they already support our Spanish IDN.

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

I don't think anyone.
N/A

Timeline

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

If approved, .QPON intends to implement the new IDNs within 3 to 6 months. Chinese, Japanese, and German will be the first ones we will implement.

Business Description

Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered:

Every registrar that has signed an RRA for .QPON will be granted the opportunity to offer all of the IDNs, on non-discriminatory and equal terms. The expanded IDNs will be offered to the Registrars at the same fee rate as the non-IDN offerings and the current Spanish IDN offerings.

Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service:

Neustar is experienced and has executed this process many times in the past. The same quality assurance will be given as
is given to the current Spanish IDNs. Neustar has already implemented the proposed IDNs in other TLDs, and the experiences gained from those offerings will allow a seamless introduction of the new IDNs for .CLUB. Neustar is prepared to perform testing on each of the IDNs prior to implementation. This testing will include, but not necessarily be limited to, registering a number of IDN domain names in a test environment.

Please list any relevant RFCs or White Papers on the proposed service and explain how those papers are relevant:

The following RFCs, listed at http://www.icann.org/en/resources/idn/rfcs, are relevant to the offering of IDNs: RFC 5890
RFC 5891
RFC 5892
RFC 5893
RFC 5894
RFC 3454
RFC 3490
RFC 3491
RFC 3492
RFC 3743
RFC 4185
RFC 4690

They describe the implementation requirements and guidelines for offering IDN registrations. .QPON Domains will comply with each of the relevant IDN RFCs for .QPON.

Contractual Provisions

List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service:

Currently, Section 4.3 of Exhibit A of the .QPON DOMAINS Registry Agreement with ICANN for .QPON lists the offerable IDN languages. 4.3.1 specifies that Spanish is an offerable language. If this RSEP is approved, Section 4.3 of Exhibit A should read:
4.3.2. Danish
4.3.3. German
4.3.4. Finnish
4.3.5. Hungarian
4.3.6. Icelandic
4.3.7. Japanese
4.3.8. Korean
4.3.9. Lithuanian
4.3.10. Latvian
4.3.11. Norwegian
4.3.12. Polish
4.3.13. Portuguese
4.3.14. Swedish
4.3.15. Chinese
4.3.16. Russian
4.3.17. French
4.3.18. Italian
4.3.19. Arabic
4.3.20. Dutch

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

Additional IDNs will have no impact on .QPON Domains’ reporting of data to ICANN, except that the registrations of the new IDNs will be included in the reports to ICANN.

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

No effect, except that the new domains will be searchable in the Whois.

Contract Amendments

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

Currently, Section 4.3 of Exhibit A of the .QPON DOMAINS Registry Agreement with ICANN for .QPON lists the offerable IDN languages. 4.3.1 specifies that Spanish is an offerable language. If this RSEP is approved, Section 4.3 of Exhibit A should read:

4.3.2. Danish
4.3.3. German
4.3.4. Finnish
4.3.5. Hungarian
Benefits of Service

Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service:

This will expand availability of the .QPON domains across more languages. The primary benefit of offering .QPON in the aforementioned IDN languages is that it will allow .QPON to become a more global brand. .QPON is a word that has been adopted in a number of languages, and refusing those consumers the right to register .QPON in their native language would give an unreasonable preference to English language speakers.

Competition

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

Offering registrations for .QPON in the aforementioned IDN languages would have a positive impact on competition because it will give consumers greater choice in deciding what web address to use.

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

.QPON Domains plans to promote each IDN primarily in its dominantly spoken market. For instance, .QPON Domains will
promote Chinese IDN registration primarily in China, and German IDN registration primarily in Germany. However, we are sensitive to the fact that languages are spoken outside of their place of origin, and we are therefore placing no geographical restrictions on registration of IDNs.

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

.biz, .co TLDs. Other TLD registry operators have chosen to offer a broad array of IDN languages, including Google, Verisign, Donuts, dotLatin, and Neustar (among many others). All Registry Operators who offer IDN registrations at the second level offer the same services we seek to offer.

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

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.: 

Yes. .QPON has a contract with Neustar to offer all registry services, including all IDN services.

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.: 

Yes. We have consulted with Neustar regarding the viability of offering additional IDN languages at the second level. They have assured us there shouldn't be any issues.

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).:

.QPON Domains has no documents to submit.

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

No, the proposed service does not alter the storage and input of Registry Data.

Please explain how the proposed service will affect the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to Internet servers or end systems:

The aforementioned IDNs will have no impact on throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of the responses to Internet servers or end systems.

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

No technical concerns have been raised about the proposed service.

Other Issues

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

The only Intellectual Property issue with offering new IDNs has already been resolved by the TMCH requirements, which state that upon release of the IDN names, each of the names will be subject to a 90 day claims period.

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

No

List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service:

None

Any other relevant information to include with this request:
1) The entire IDN list that we provided is languages and not scripts.

2) Variants will be handled as specified in Exhibit A.