

# **GNSO IDN work**

**Dr Bruce Tonkin  
Chair, GNSO Council  
IDN Workshop  
Marrakech, June 25, 2006**

# Some Wishes

- Existing gTLD operator wishes to introduce an IDN based string that relates to the existing gTLD
- Existing ccTLD operator wishes to introduce an IDN based string that relates to the existing ccTLD
- A party wishes to introduce a new IDN string with no relationship to an existing TLD – essentially a new gTLD
- All new TLDs

# Policy Development Process (PDP)

- Request issues report
- Issues Report
- Initiate PDP with terms of reference
  - Public comment
- Preliminary Task Force Report or Initial Report
  - Public comment
- Final Report for Council vote
- Board Report
  - GAC advice to Board
- Board vote

## **IDN gTLDs - timeline**

- **Draft Issues Report – available now**
- **GNSO formed a working group to consider the draft and identify what issues should be considered within the GNSO PDP**
- **Liaising with ccNSO and GAC**
- **Issues Report – July 06**
- **Decision to initiate a PDP – July 06**

# **GNSO Framework**

- **GNSO working group recommends studying new IDN gTLDs using same framework as used for the new gTLD policy development process**
- **IDNs highlight some of the complexities around introducing new gTLDs**

# Selection criteria

- **Selection of appropriate IDN strings**
- **Selection of an appropriate organization to operate a TLD with a particular string**

# Selection criteria

- **What requirements must an organization meet to be allocated an IDN TLD?**
- **If strings are differentiated with respect to purpose**
  - **Maybe hard to tell when dealing with different scripts and different languages**
- **How many strings are appropriate for a particular TLD purpose?**
- **ccTLDs restricted to ISO3166 table. What IDN strings should be allowed for ccTLDs?**
- **gTLD operators may be prevented from using an IDN string that could be confused with a country name in a particular script and language**

# Allocation problems

- **How to resolve allocation of a string between two parties that both want a particular string?**
- **The same string may have different meanings for people in different parts of the world**
- **Two strings that are technically different may visually look similar**



# **Contractual Conditions**

- **E.g require an IDN operator to comply with IETF standards as well as ICANN IDN guidelines**

# Other issues

- **For two TLD strings for the same purpose, should the same second level strings in these TLDs resolve to the same Internet location?**
- **Should the script used in a string at the second level match the script used in the string at the top level?**
- **Should there be competition between two operators of strings for the same purpose?**
- **UDRP becomes more complex for trademark dispute resolution when add additional scripts**
- **Scope for confusing the human user increases, which leads to additional opportunities for phishing, SPAM etc**

# Next steps for GNSO

- **Update issues report**
- **Identify scope of policy work within the GNSO**
- **Clearly identify policy work that will be done elsewhere – e.g within the ccNSO or GAC**