Dear Registry Operator and Registrar,

To promote the Universal Acceptance (UA)-readiness of registry and registrar systems, ICANN has conducted a technical study to investigate how to make these systems UA-ready. The study also provides detailed testing criteria and results, added as appendices to the study.

ICANN is planning to publish the “Universal Acceptance Roadmap for Domain Name Registry and Registrar Systems” study towards the end of August 2022 for Public Comment. The Public Comment will seek feedback from relevant technical communities, after which the study will be finalized and shared with registries and registrars to help promote the UA-readiness of such systems.

UA is a technical requirement that ensures all domain names and email addresses can be used by all Internet-enabled applications, devices and systems. This means that systems and applications can input, validate, process, store, and display the following:

(i) All domain names, including those formed by new or longer top-level domains (TLDs) as well as Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs).
(ii) All email addresses, including those in local languages, referred to as Email Address Internationalization (EAI).

UA support is crucial to enabling consumer choice online and achieving digital inclusivity for all users globally. To learn more about UA, click here.

We look forward to receiving your input on this study during the Public Comment period. Please also look for a technical presentation on this study during Tech Day on 19 September 2022, during ICANN75.

In addition, the ICANN org team is in the process of understanding the level of UA-readiness among contracted parties and will be sending an invitation to participate in a short survey in the coming weeks. This will help ICANN org understand the support and training we can provide to contracted parties. We look forward to your participation!

Regards,

Sarmad Hussain
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