

IDN Variant TLDs

Issues Project Update



Why this project?

- Long standing request from a number of IDN user communities.
- Board instructed staff to develop an issues report on the subject.

<http://www.icann.org/en/minutes/resolutions-25sep10-en.htm#2.5>



IDN variant TLDs as of today

- Applicants may declare variant strings for the TLD in its application.
- No variant TLD strings are delegated until variant management solutions are developed and implemented.



Scope of the Project

1. Create a glossary of terms vetted with technical and linguistic communities.
2. Identify challenges (requirements) of IDN variant TLDs based on:
 - a) linguistic accuracy
 - b) technical feasibility & accuracy
 - c) usability (including minimize user confusion)
 - d) accessibility and
 - e) security and stability



Final Proposal Published

- Published final proposal based on public comments received on 20 April 2011
 - Addition of Greek Case Study
 - Refine the Indic case to become the Devanagari case study



Call for Volunteers

- Published call for volunteers for six case study teams
- Received 70+ applications across six case study Teams
- Completed and published selection of team members
- Selected case study coordinators



Case Study Teams

- Comprised of community experts in DNS, Registry/Registrar operations, Linguistics, Security, Policy, and IDNA
- Led by a Case Study Team Coordinator
- Teams will have regular teleconference calls and face-to-face meetings
- ICANN will provide support for case study teams



Consultants / Experts

- Andrew Sullivan – DNS & IDNA expert
- Nicholas Ostler – Linguistic expert



Local Host Organizations

- **Arabic:** Qatar Supreme Council of Information and Communication Technology (ictQATAR)
- **Chinese:** Chinese Domain Name Consortium (CDNC)
- **Cyrillic:** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)



Local Host Organizations

- **Devanagari:** Department of Information Technology (DIT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India
- **Greek:** Institute of Computer Science of the Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH-ICS)
- **Latin:** The Internet Infrastructure Foundation - Registry Operator for .SE



Definitions Document

- Need to define the terms that are being used
- Initial document developed
- Case Study Team feedback required
- Two types of definitions
 - Existing References (IDNA, Unicode 6, RFC 3743, draft-ietf-appsawg-rfc3536bis-01)
 - New Definitions (to be finalized)



Definitions Document

- The Project asks that case study teams use the terms only as defined.
- If a term is defined in a way that the team finds undesirable, or if there is not a term for something the team needs to discuss, the Project prefers the team to define a new term so that it is always clear what a given term means.
- The goal of this restriction is to minimize the difficulty later during the harmonization step.



How to stay informed?

- Mailing list for anyone who wants to participate:

<https://mm.icann.org/mailman/listinfo/vip>

- Community wiki:

<https://community.icann.org/display/VIP/Home>



And the work begins ...

- Case study team members met in Singapore for a full day working sessions on Saturday
- Case study coordinators will present a summary of their work from the Saturday sessions



What's Next ...

- Periodic teleconferences
- Intercessional meetings
- Issues report from each case study team by 30 September 2011
- Final issues report by 15 December 2011



Arabic Case Study

*Sarmad Hussain, Professor and Head, Center
for Language Engineering, Al-Khwarizmi
Institute of Computer Science University of
Engineering and Technology Lahore, Pakistan*



Arabic Case Study Team

- Sarmad Hussain - *Coordinator* (Pakistan)
- Abdulaziz Al-Zoman (Saudi Arabia)
- Behnam Esfahbod (Iran)
- Fahd A. Batayneh (Jordan)
- Huda Sarfraz (Pakistan)
- Khaled Koubaa (Tunisia)
- Manal Ismail (Egypt)
- Mohamed El-Bashir (Sudan)
- Raed Al-Fayez (Saudi Arabia)
- Siavash Shahshahani (Iran)
- Syed Iftikhar H. Shah (Pakistan)

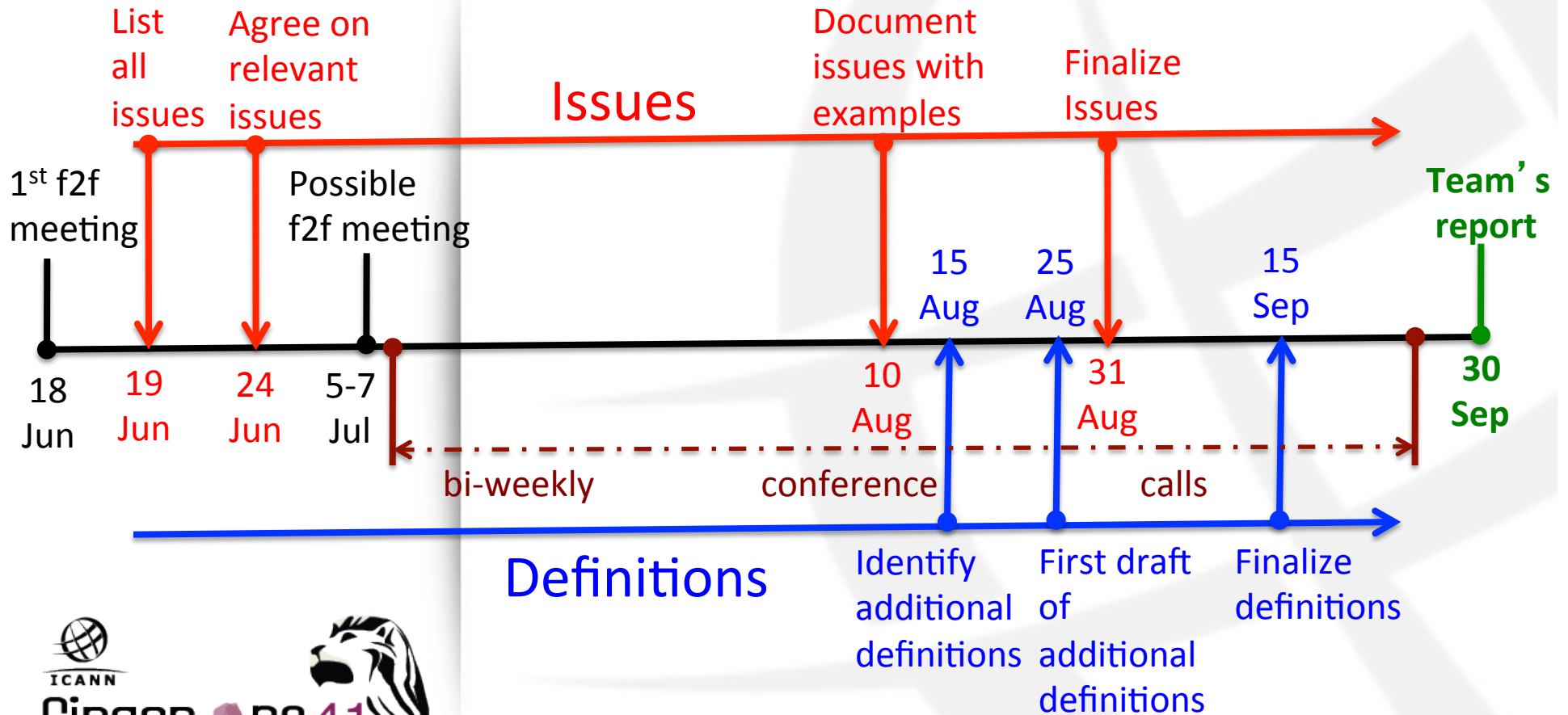


Challenges in Arabic Script

- پاکستان پاکستان
(U+06A9) (U+0643)

- پِر پِر
(U+0691) (U+0631 + U+0615 ر ط)

Arabic Case Study Timeline



Chinese Case Study

*Prof. Xiaodong Lee, VP&CTO, CNNIC;
Chinese Academy of Sciences*



Chinese Case Study Team

- Coordinator: Prof. Xiaodong Lee (VP & CTO, CNNIC)
- Local Host Organization: Chinese Domain Name Consortium (CDNC)



Member Highlights

- Prof. Tseng and Dr. Wang: Current CDNC co-Chairman and Secretary
- Prof. Lee and James Seng: Main Contributors to RFC 3743 and 4713 (foundational documents for Chinese variants), former IETF IDN and EAI Working Group Co-Chairs
- Prof. Zhang: Contributors of the Unicode CJK Repertoire and IANA Chinese Variant Table



Member Highlights

- Joseph & Yoneya: Two IETF working group co-chairs on internationalization related issues
- Registry representatives some of which operate IDN variant TLDs
- Well-represented community members in the Asia Pacific Region



Cyrillic Case Study

*Alexei Sozonov, co-CEO of Regtime.net ,
ICANN Accredited registrar*



Cyrillic Case Study Team

- Alexey Sozonov (Coordinator)
- Alexei Mykhaylov
- Alexey Ptashniy
- Daniel Kalchev
- Iliya Bazlyankov
- Oksana Prykhodko
- Saso Dimitrijoski
- Sergey Sharikov
- Vladimir Shadrinov



Cyrillic Case Update

- Working on the necessary definitions for the Cyrillic script
- Team member cover a number of languages that use Cyrillic but not all
- Team felt coordinators should interact and share issues and progress



Cyrillic Case Update

- Team will have weekly calls
- Team will be working closely with Andrew Sullivan for technical advice
- Progress will be shared in the wiki and the open mailing list for broader input from community



Devanagari Case Study

*Dr. Govind, Senior Director
Government of India, Ministry of
Communications & Information Technology,
Department of Information Technology*



Devanagari Case Study Team

Dr. Govind (Coordinator)

Amardeep Singh Chawla	Manish Dalal
Bal Krishna Bal	Prabhakar Kshotriya
Basanta shrestha	Pramod Pandey
Bhavin Turakhia	Raiomond Doctor
James Galvin	Rajiv Kumar
Jitender Kumar	Satyendra Kumar Pandey
K. B. Narayanan	Shashi Bharadwaj
Kalyan Kale	Tulika Pandey
Mahesh Kulkarni	



Summary of Discussions

- The “Definitions” need to be suitably worded to accommodate the nuances of complex script like Devanagari
- Character variant Definition:
 - Difficult to define preferable variant.
 - One to one mapping of code point and its variant is not the case in Devanagari, however multiple code points sequence may have variants. Hence the “language variant table (as given in RFC 3743)” suggested needs to accommodate this requirement.



Summary of Discussions

- The word “Registered” needs to be changed to “allocated”, and “Activated” to be changed to “Delegated”
- Suggestion to each case study group to produce a table containing an explanation what they understand on the each definition, if that fits or not their case study, and provide example(s).
- The same to be shared with all the case study group members



Next Steps

- Weekly meetings (teleconferencing) planned starting from Monday 27 June 2011.
- 6 July 2011 conference at New Delhi on “New horizons in IDN with specific reference to gTLDs”
- Face to Face meeting planned in Pune, India on 21 and 22 July 2011.



Greek Case Study

*Panagiotis Papaspiliopoulos
on behalf of Vaggelis Segredakis, FORTH-ICS,
Administrator of the .GR Domain Registry*



Greek Case Study Team

- Vaggelis Segredakis (Coordinator)
- Asimina Giannopoulou
- Catherine Tsapikidou
- Evangelos Melagrakis
- Fotia Panayiotou
- George Papapavlou
- Giannis Papaioannou
- Panagiotis Papaspiliopoulos



Latin Case Study

*Jothan Frakes, Volunteer at Mozilla Project;
Volunteer Curator, PublicSuffix.org
New TLD Consultant, Jothan.com*



Latin Case Study Team

- Jothan Frakes (Coordinator)
- Andrzej Bartosiewicz
- Cary Karp
- Eric Brown
- Francisco Obispo
- Giovanni Seppia
- Harald Alvestrand
- Nadya Morozova
- Wil Tan
- Will Shorter



One World

One Internet

Questions



Thank You

