



IDN President's Advisory Committee

Status Report

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Background

- IDN had a significant role in the debate regarding ICANN's governance.
- Peaked in the November 2005 WSIS meeting.
- November 23rd – ICANN announces the IDN PAC to *“provide the Board and ICANN community with advice on issues that relate to IDN policies, in particular issues that impact the implementation of IDN especially at the top level”*.
- IDN workshop held in Vancouver.

History

- ICANN launched a testbed of IDN.com (Hybrid IDN) in 2001 through Verisign.
- People are not using these names.
- Those who need IDN are waiting for a full IDN: <IDN>.<IDN-TLD>
- Technology developed in the University of Singapore in 1998.
- Several implementations of <IDN>.<IDN-TLD> since 1999 using plug-ins or ISP's DNS patch.
- Verisign used the same technology for its <IDN>.com plug-in.
- An IDN TLD in the root zone will cancel the need for plug-ins or DNS patches.

Current IDN PAC proposal

- After its 3rd con-call, the IDN PAC announced on March 14 the timetable for a proposed test of IDN TLDs.
- Technology to be tested:
 - DNAMEs – an alias to the TLD (new solution).
 - NS-Records – root entry of an IDN TLD (based on the known technology).

Problems with the test

- Katho committee for IDN said **policy should be resolved before technology** (since technology is already available).
 - Not clear if there was really a decision to go for a test in the Vancouver workshop. Also - 10 out of 22 IDN PAC members voted on the announcement.
 - DNAMEs is a solution that explicitly dictates policy.
 - Current Project Draft says:
 - Only current registries can participate.
 - Free registrations. No policy for registrations.
 - Names are deleted after 60 days.
- Problems: Only incumbents. Public confusion. Can be exploited for Phishing and Pharming.***
- Most parts of DNAME test can be done in a lab (NS-records already tested).