The Persian Language and Arabic Script IDNs

RIPE NCC Regional Meeting

Tehran, Iran

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Community Driven Way Forward

- Creation and oversight by community based Middle East Strategy Working Group (MESWG)

- https://community.icann.org/display/MES/MESWG+Members

- TF-AIDN Objectives: A Holistic Approach
  - Arabic Script Label Generation Ruleset (LGR) for the Root Zone
  - Second level LGRs for the Arabic script
  - Arabic script Internationalized Registration Data
  - Universal acceptability of Arabic script IDNs
  - Technical challenges around registration of Arabic script IDNs
  - Operational software for registry and registrar operations
  - DNS security matters specifically related to Arabic script IDNs
  - Technical training material around Arabic script IDNs

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Membership

- Currently **29 members** – applications still being received

- From **17 countries** – Australia, Bahrain, Egypt, Ethiopia, Germany, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, U.A.E., U.K., U.S.A.

- Members of **nine language communities using Arabic script** – Arabic, Malay, Saraiki, Sindhi, Pashto, Persian, Punjabi, Torwali, Urdu, with further **expertise** in use of Arabic script from East Asia, South Asia, Middle East, and Africa

- Coming from **diverse disciplines** – academia (linguistics and technical), registries, registrars, national and regional policy bodies, community based organizations, technical community

Reaching out to the TF-AIDN

- Membership open, community based
- Details and interests of members posted by MESWG
- Discussions publicly archived
- Details at http://lists.meswg.org/mailman/listinfo/tf-aidn
- Background and introduction to TF-AIDN
  - https://community.icann.org/display/MES/Task+Force+on+Arabic+Script+IDNs
- Workspace, news and document archive
  - https://community.icann.org/display/MES/TF-AIDN+Work+Space
- Email archive
  - http://lists.meswg.org/pipermail/tf-aidn/

Arabic Script TLDs Assigned or Delegated

1. الجزائر
2. عمان
3. ايران
4. امارات
5. بازار
6. پاکستان
7. الاردن

8. بهارت
9. المغرب
10. السعودية
11. سودان
12. مليسيا
13. شبكة
14. سورية

15. تونس
16. مصر
17. قطر
18. فلسطين
19. عراق
20. بازار
21. موقع

Work Accomplished/Challenges Encountered

- Work accomplished
  - Formation of Arabic Script Generation Panel
  - Establishing principles for inclusion, exclusion, and deferral of Unicode code points
  - Analysis of Maximum Starting Repertoire (MSR) and feedback to Integration Panel (IP)
  - Analysis of code points for Label Generation Rules (LGR)
- Issues encountered mainly due to
  - Representation of scripts as a proxy of language
  - Lack of data on orthographies
  - Lack of representation of script/language communities

Progress - Next steps

- XML representation
- Finalize the discussions on variants – Nov/Dec 2014
- Whole Label Rules – Jan 2015
  - Document principles for whole label variants
  - Define whole label variants
  - Release for public comments
- Finalization – Jan/Feb 2015
  - Finalize LGR for Arabic script
  - Submit to ICANN/IP
  - Release for public comments

Persian Language Context

- An integral part of the work of the TF-AIDN
  - Conservatism at top level – Script level standard
    - Only letters in active common use included
    - ZWJ (zero with joiner) and ZWNJ (pseudo space) not allowed
    - (optional removed) diacritics not allowed
    - Digits not included
  - Consistency at second and third levels?
    - How does one define lower level LGR to give a consistent and predictable user experience?
      - Character set, variants and label level constraints.

      i.e. http://ایران.ایرنیک.وب/IDN

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Universal Acceptance Challenges

- Internationalized email in Arabic script
- Predictable and secure user experience in internet specially WEB technologies
- Network management tool support for Arabic IDNs
- Ease of hosting and utilizing IDN for domains
- Community out reach to the application developers

با سپاس

تریما کاسیه

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Thank you