17 November 2006

Khaled Fattal
Chairman & CEO
Multilingual Internet Names Consortium (MINC)
Office of the Chairman
IBE House, 10 Mays close
Singapore 119213

Dear Khaled,

It was good to see you again recently at the IGF.

Please find attached the timetable for the IDN implementation on top level domains which was released during the IGF.

We value the efforts you and MINC have made in working with ICANN in developing key parts of this timetable. Further, I appreciate very much your participation in the ICANN President's Advisory Committee on IDNs.

I look forward to your, and MINC's, ongoing advice and cooperation as you move to the finalization of this very important process with the internet community.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Twomey
President & CEO

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IDN ROADMAP

20 June 2003	ICANN supported by leading IDN Registries such as cn, info, jp, org, tw, announced the commencement of global deployment of Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) in the second level domain.
21 October 2003	Advisory Concerning Registry Requests for Authorization to Offer IDN Registrations
18 February 2004	ICANN approves a temporary set of procedures to improve the mechanisms for transferring IDNs between registrars.
3 June 2004	ICANN Announces IDN Workshop to be held 21 July 2004 in Kuala Lumpur
18 November 2004	ICANN Announces IDN Workshop to be held in Cape Town, South Africa
23 February 2005	ICANN Statement Regarding IDN Homograph Concerns
14 September 2005	Formal Call for Papers Concerning Deployment of Internationalized Top Level Domains
20 September 2005	Draft Revised IDN Guidelines: Public Comment Period
17 October 2005	Draft Revised IDN Guidelines The French version of the draft revised Guidelines for the Implementation of Internationalized Domain Names ("IDN Guidelines")
31 October 2005	IDN Guideline Revision Update
7 November 2005	Final Proposed Draft IDN Guidelines Posted
14 November 2005	IDN Guidelines Version 2.0 Finalized. The revision focuses on eliminating spoofing between labels
17 November 2005	Implementation of Internationalized Top Level Domains. As previously announced, IDN workshop will be held during the ICANN Vancouver meeting
27 February 2006	IDN Guidelines Posting of Version 2.1
28 May 2006	Policy Issues relating to IDN at the top-level - Preliminary Issues Report. On request from the GNSO Council, ICANN staff prepares a preliminary Issues Report setting out policy issues for introduction of IDNs

23 June 2006	PIR Releases Principles for the Foundation of Top Level IDNs
5 October 2006	ICANN Establishes Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) News Feed
11 October 2006	Review and Recommendations for Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)
19 October 2006	IDN Laboratory Testing: ICANN has engaged Autonomica AB to develop, conduct and report the results of laboratory testing. The laboratory technical tests of the viability of internationalized top level levels and the effect they may have on the DNS are being done before insertion of such labels in the root servers. The laboratory test focuses solely on a replicate that is as close as possible to the server software of the various root servers. As such it is not a test that includes the end-user perspective, or a live root test
31 October 2006	IDNA Protocol Review and Proposals for Change

Where We Head Next

- ICANN laboratory testing of top level IDNs in the root

  o Crucial for DNS resolver reactions

  o Allows Testing of maximum and minimum length IDNs, other variations

- ICANN testing of IDNs in live Root Zone File

  o Crucial for Browser and other applications reactions

- Cooperative, multi-stakeholder IDN policy formation

  o Adoption of new gTLD (and IDN) rules

  o Identification of IDN ccTLDs

  o Specification of characters allowed in IDNs

  o Note potential disputes over who has rights to IDN TLDs

- Implementation and testing of infrastructure and application software

- Installation of IDN TLDs into root zone file by ICANN

ICANN is also in the process of developing and implementing an outreach plan to insure better coordination among all bodies that are necessary for the implementation of internationalized top level labels into the Internet.