

Joint UNESCO and ITU Global Symposium on Promoting the Multilingual Internet

Abstract

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The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (Florianópolis, 2004) in Resolution 48 instructed Study Group 17 (Security, languages and telecommunication software) to study Internationalized Domain Names (IDN). The belief is that IDN implementation will contribute to easier and greater use of the Internet in those countries where the native or official languages are not represented in ASCII characters.

ITU-T Study Group 17 has been working on IDNs since Moscow meeting in March 2005. SG17 received impressive number of contributions and productive nature of discussions have been held during meetings in Moscow (2005), Geneva (2005) and Jeju (2006). Study Group 17 meeting in Korea, April 2006, gave final approval to the Question (“16”) on Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) that provides direction and focus to ongoing work.

Work on IDNs within “Question 16” includes inter alia multilingual issues relevant to IDN, deployment scenarios for IDN, repository of technical documentation stating the fundamentals of IDN, network security risks accompanying the implementation of IDN, issues regarding the use of regional language tables and web page open to public dedicated to promote Internationalized Domain Names.
