

## For Immediate Release

### **.MY DOMAIN REGISTRY AND SKMM TO BEGIN TRIALS OF JAWI, CHINESE AND TAMIL-BASED INTERNATIONALIZED DOMAIN NAMES FOR MALAYSIAN REGISTERED SITES**

**KUALA LUMPUR, Thursday, 9 July 2009** -- .my DOMAIN REGISTRY and the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (SKMM) today announced at the Forum on Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) in Malaysia, that they will embark on a one-year trial of Jawi, Chinese and Tamil script-based Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) support for Malaysian registered sites (example: *دومينريجيستري.idn.my*”, under “idn.my” category created for the trial purpose).

An IDN is an Internet domain name that contains one or more non-ASCII characters. Such domain names could contain letters with diacritics, as required by many non-English languages, or characters from non-Latin scripts. While Internet addresses are now predominantly in Latin alpha numerals, there is now a growing adoption of native language script support being driven by domain registries worldwide such as China, India, Saudi Arabia and others.

On the international front, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) has introduced the Fast Track Process, a mechanism to introduce a limited number of non-contentious internationalized country-code top level domain names (IDN ccTLDs). To this end, ICANN has put together a Draft Implementation Plan that describes processes for countries and territories to request their country or territory name in their local language or script as an IDN ccTLD. There are also separate papers describing proposed implementation details such as documents of responsibilities, IDN table development and usage, technical specifications, financial implications and cost considerations.

“ICANN has held regular meetings and online discussions to obtain feedback from the public and working groups to resolve various issues pertinent to the IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process – a recent gathering being the ICANN meeting in

Sydney, Australia in June. ICANN will be holding another international meeting in Seoul, South Korea in October as part of an ongoing aim to elicit further community feedback. SKMM has been an active participant in ICANN and has been involved especially in initiatives related to the developmental nature of the Internet.” said Encik Abdul Halim Ahmad, Acting Senior Director of the Monitoring and Enforcement Division of SKMM.

For Malaysia, during the Jawi, Chinese and Tamil IDN trial period, registration will be accepted through a .my DOMAIN REGISTRY IDN test bed system (note: this trial IDN registration will be removed before the final IDN service is launched in 2011). .my DOMAIN REGISTRY and SKMM are also encouraging user feedback on the language, technical and policy challenges for implementing IDN for Malaysian domain names.

.my DOMAIN REGISTRY, an agency under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) and regulated by SKMM, is the sole administrator for web addresses that end with the Malaysian or ‘.my’ Top Level Domain (TLD) -- including the registration, maintenance and operation of a central database for all .my domain names.

“We are excited by this trial because it means that by early 2011, .my domain name owners are set to have additional options and a more enhanced way of reaching their Internet audience,” said Puan Shariya Haniz Zulkifli, Director of .my DOMAIN REGISTRY. “This is yet another way .my DOMAIN REGISTRY is continuing to improve the DNS technology and reach available to .my registered domain names.”

“The capability to support Jawi, Chinese and Tamil will certainly help promote our larger objectives, which is to bring domain name technologies closer to the people of Malaysia and give them the option to appeal more directly to their target Internet audiences using a more ‘native’ touch,” said Encik Abdul Halim Ahmad.

“SKMM is collaborating and supporting .my DOMAIN REGISTRY for this trial and also for the full implementation later in a comprehensive manner as this is in line with two of our National Policy Objectives for Communications and Multimedia Industry - to establish Malaysia as a major global centre and hub for communications and multimedia information and content services and to grow and nurture local information resources and cultural representation that facilitate the national identity and global diversity.”

“Indeed, it is our sincere wish to see all participants at this forum fully utilising the platform before us to further discuss ways, issues on IDN Implementation in Malaysia. Through the use of this forum and maybe effective dialogue and collective reasoning, I believe that we will be able to advance towards our goal of the full implementation of IDN in this country and to improve the lives of Malaysian,” added Encik Abdul Halim Ahmad.

Once the IDN support capability trial is completed, all '.my' TLDs will be able to support Jawi, Chinese and Tamil character or script-based Domain Name Service (DNS) resolutions.

For further inquiries about IDN adoption in Malaysia, members of the public can contact .my DOMAIN REGISTRY at [ids@domainregistry.my](mailto:ids@domainregistry.my).

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## **About Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (SKMM)**

The primary role of SKMM is to implement and promote the Government's national policy objectives for the communications and multimedia sector. SKMM is also charged with overseeing the new regulatory framework for the converging industries of telecommunications, broadcasting and on-line activities, in accordance with the national policy objectives set out in the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 (CMA), as well as postal services and digital certifications.

The CMA provides that SKMM undertakes a policy implementation role, while policy decision-making is vested with the Minister. The Minister may also give policy directions to the Commission.

For more information, visit [www.skmm.gov.my](http://www.skmm.gov.my)

## **About .my DOMAIN REGISTRY**

.my DOMAIN REGISTRY [formerly known as MYNIC Berhad) is the sole administrator for web addresses that end with .my in Malaysia. As the national level domain name, .my gives Malaysian businesses and individuals their unique brand identity on the Internet. We register a wide range of domain names i.e. .my, .com.my, .org.my, .net.my, .edu.my, .gov.my, .mil.my and .name.my.

We have a network of authorized resellers nationwide. They are experts in providing one-stop services for all web and Internet needs, from developing website, creating email accounts, web hosting, web design to annual renewal of domain names.

.my DOMAIN REGISTRY assists in developing top level domain policies and is always in the forefront of domain name technologies, carrying out research projects such as IPv6, DNSSEC, ENUM, Anycast and IDN.

We take a forward thinking approach to addressing rapidly evolving domain technologies as we are dedicated to helping Malaysians reach out to the world via the use of .my domain.

.my DOMAIN REGISTRY through the legal entity MYNIC Berhad is an agency under Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) and regulated by Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC).

For more information, please go to [www.domainregistry.my](http://www.domainregistry.my)

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