

Statement of Interest for the IDN Variant TLDs Issues Project

1. Your Name:

Sarmad Hussain

2. Current employer and position:

Professor and Head, Center for Language Engineering, Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan.

3. Type of work performed:

Research, Development and Teaching in Local Language Computing (Localization, script processing, speech processing and language Processing)

4. Identify any financial ownership and/or senior management/leadership that are interested parties in IDN Variant TLDs related topics:

I am honorary member of .Pakistan IDN ccTLD committee formulated by Ministry of IT, Govt. of Pakistan.

5. Identify any type of commercial or non-commercial interest in IDN Variant TLDs related topics. Are you representing other parties? Describe any arrangements/agreements between you and any other group, constituency or person(s) regarding your nomination/selection as a team member:

I am working in the capacity of a researcher, not representing and commercial or non-commercial interest. My work is motivated by personal and professional interest to make local language computing available to populations.

6. IDN Variant Case Study Team members are expected to demonstrate knowledge or expertise in aspects related to the IDN Variants. Please, identify any knowledge, expertise or experience you have that would be relevant to the work on IDN Variant TLDs Issues Project:

I have been working in the context of IDNs for many years now, and have been involved in the IETF process for the formulation of IDNA 2008 protocol and its analysis for many scripts (see <http://www.pan10n.net/english/Outputs%20Phase%202/RRCs/RRC-Technology/IDNFeedbackofPANL10nproject.pdf>). I have also been member of the IDN Implementation Guidelines team at ICANN and have authored a book titled "From Protocol to Production: Implementing the IDNs" (available at <http://www.pan10n.net/english/outputs/From-Protocol-to-Production->

[Implementing-IDNs-291009.pdf](#)). I have been an active member of Arabic Script IDN Working Group (ASIWG) and also a leading member of the IDN ccTLD development process for Pakistan.

I have been involved in development of standards for local languages in Pakistan and across developing Asia (through various projects, including PAN Localization project), and member of various relevant national and international committees. I have a BS in Electrical (Computer) Engineering, and MPhil in Computer Speech and Language Processing and a PhD in Linguistics.

7. Describe any tangible or intangible benefit that you receive from participation in such processes, for example, if you are an academic or NGO and use your position to advance your ability to participate, this should be a part of the statement of interest, just as should employment by an organization that has an interest in IDN Variant TLDs:

My participation develops my capacity and thus advances my career as an academic. The experience also helps me get more involved nationally and internationally in voluntary and project based research, development and evaluation, e.g. my work at SSAC, as a member of IDN ccTLD Committee for Pakistan, as a member of DNS Stability Panel, as a Teacher in the university, etc.