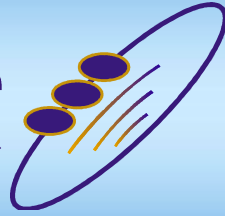


هيئة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات
Communications and Information Technology Commission



Managing .SA ccTLD

Arab Summer School on Internet Governance
Cairo, June 27-30, 2009

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Presented by Abdulaziz Al-Zoman

SaudiNIC - CITC

www.nic.net.sa



Agenda



- ABOUT SAUDINIC
- FACTS AND NUMBERS
- THE FUTURE
- SERVING LOCAL COMMUNITIES



ABOUT SAUDINIC

About SaudiNIC



- A **non-profit** entity that is operated by Communication and Information Technology Commission (**CITC**) – a **government** body

- In charge of administering the domain name space under **(.sa)** since 1995

- **Mission Statement:**
 - to provide an **equitable, just and competent** technical and administrative management of domain name registrations for Internet community in Saudi Arabia.

Some History!



- **1994:**
 - KACST contacted IANA for managing the domain name space for the country code (ccTLD) of Saudi Arabia (.SA)
- **1995:**
 - KACST was delegated the responsibility to look after the management and administration of the Saudi ccTLD (.SA)
- **1998:**
 - ISU was established and SaudiNIC became one of its departments
- **2006:**
 - SaudiNIC was transferred to CITC (Communication and Information Technology Commission).

Staffing

- SaudiNIC started with **two** persons and now it has **7** people:
 - Manager
 - 2 Senior engineers
 - 2 Application developers
 - 2 Registration agents

- The technical support (**administering the servers**) and operation of the DNS servers are provided by the CITC “Internet operation center”

Financing



- SaudiNIC is totally funded by CITC
- Domain name registrations are provided **free** of charge for the purpose of **encouraging** the local community to use and utilize the Internet for e-businesses and other applications.

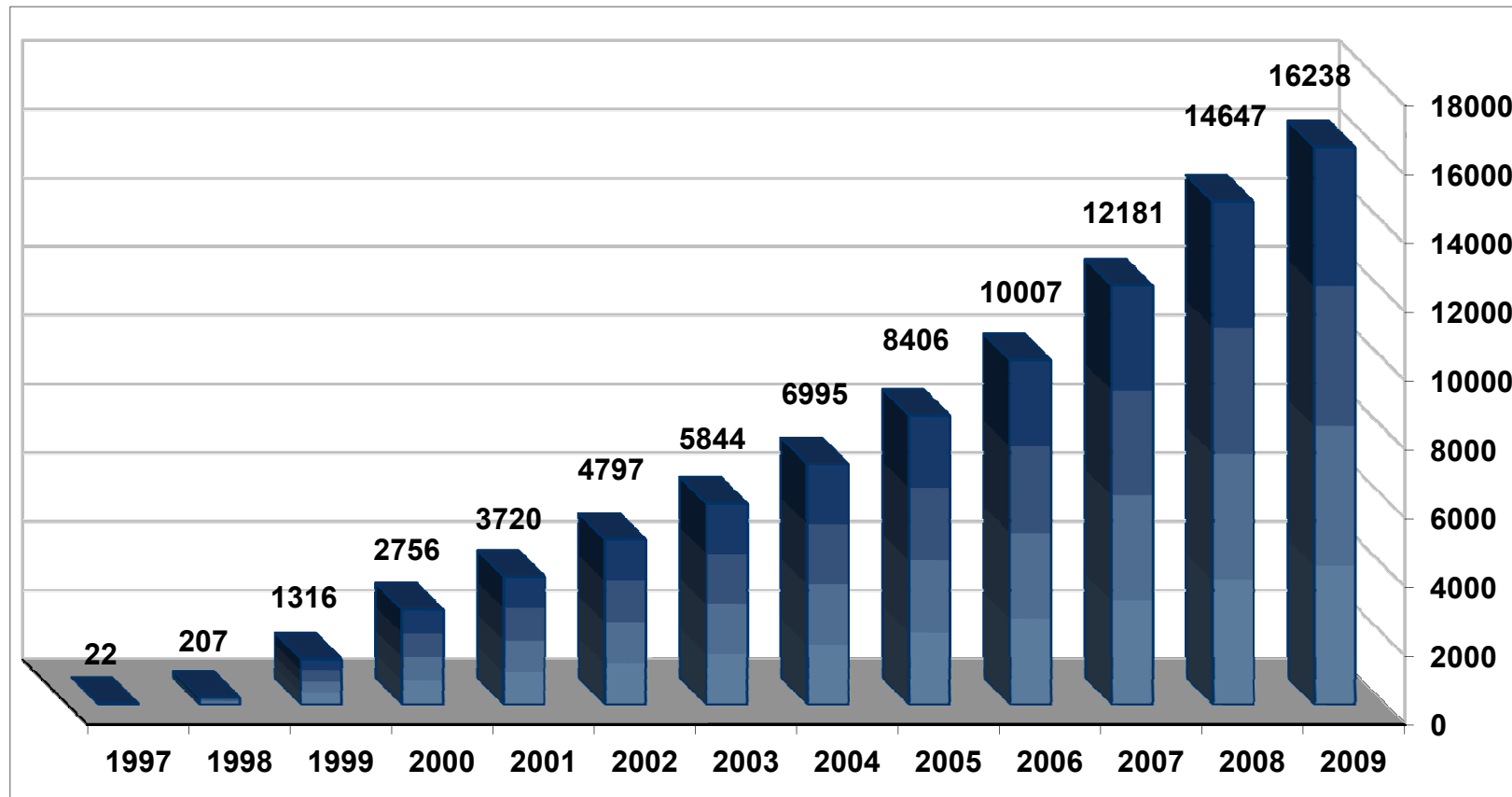


FACTS AND NUMBERS

Statistics



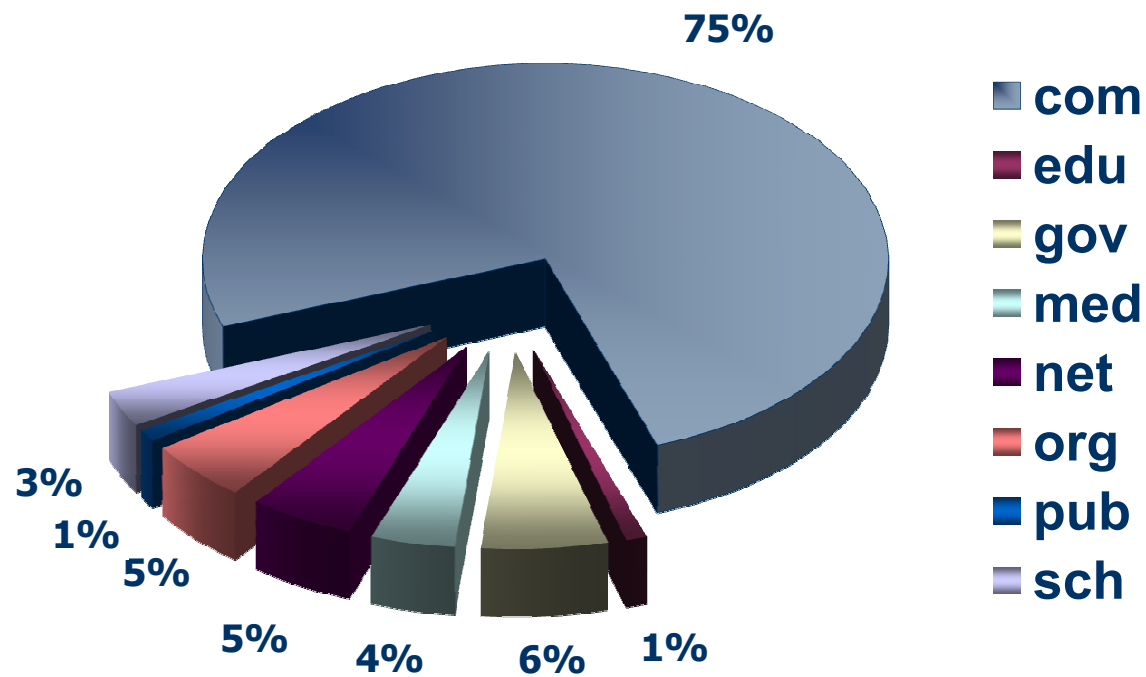
Total number of registered domain names per year by the mid of 2009



Statistics



Total number of registered domain names per sub-domain by the mid of 2009



Regulations

- The "**Domain Name Registration Regulation in Saudi Arabia**" is the guideline for the registration procedure followed by SaudiNIC staff.
- All registrations without exceptions are done according to this regulation on **first come, first served** basis.
- The regulation is **applied equally** over all different type of entities (governmental, educational, private, non for profit, and individuals).

Policy Development and Updates



- Registration regulations have gone through a number of **major revisions**.

- Regulation developments were done through **group efforts based on “.sa PDP”**
 - SaudiNIC
 - CITC staff
 - Public Consultation and interested parties such as
 - Universities, service providers (ISP,DSP), private sectors, Ministry of Commerce, and individuals.

- They get reviewed by **legal experts**

- Approved by the senior management (**CITC board**)

Regulations Major Points

- **The Applicant must be:**
 - Physically in KSA,
 - Has a local representative in KSA , or
 - Owning trademarks or trade names that are registered in Saudi Arabia.

- **Domain contacts:**
 - Administrative contact: manage the domain name and must from the entity requesting the domain name
 - Technical contact: should be the one who are looking after the DNS servers.
 - Requester contact: who fills the online form.

- **The Applicant agrees that:**
 - information submitted is true
 - domain name does not violate the right of a third-party
 - it will not be used for any activity not permitted in KSA
 - will inform SaudiNIC for any changes in the information
 - will not register domain names for the purpose of selling them

.sa Space Structure



- **com.sa** : Entities that provide commercial services
- **edu.sa** : For educational and training institutions
- **sch.sa** : For all types of schools
- **med.sa** : Entities that provides health services.
- **gov.sa** : For Governmental entities
- **net.sa** : Entities that provide Internet-related services
- **org.sa** : For non-profit organizations.
- **pub.sa** : For individuals (including personal names)

Dispute Policy

- Any disputes between parties over the rights to use a particular domain name are to be settled between the contending parties using **normal legal methods**.
- SaudiNIC exempts itself from all responsibility for the verification of rights to a name. **SaudiNIC cannot act as arbiter** of disputes arising out of this kind of conflict.

Registration Procedure - External



□ Registration steps



Domain availability

Checking the availability of the domain name using our (whois) service.



Hosting

Setting up the DNS server then testing them using the tools available on our website.



Request submission

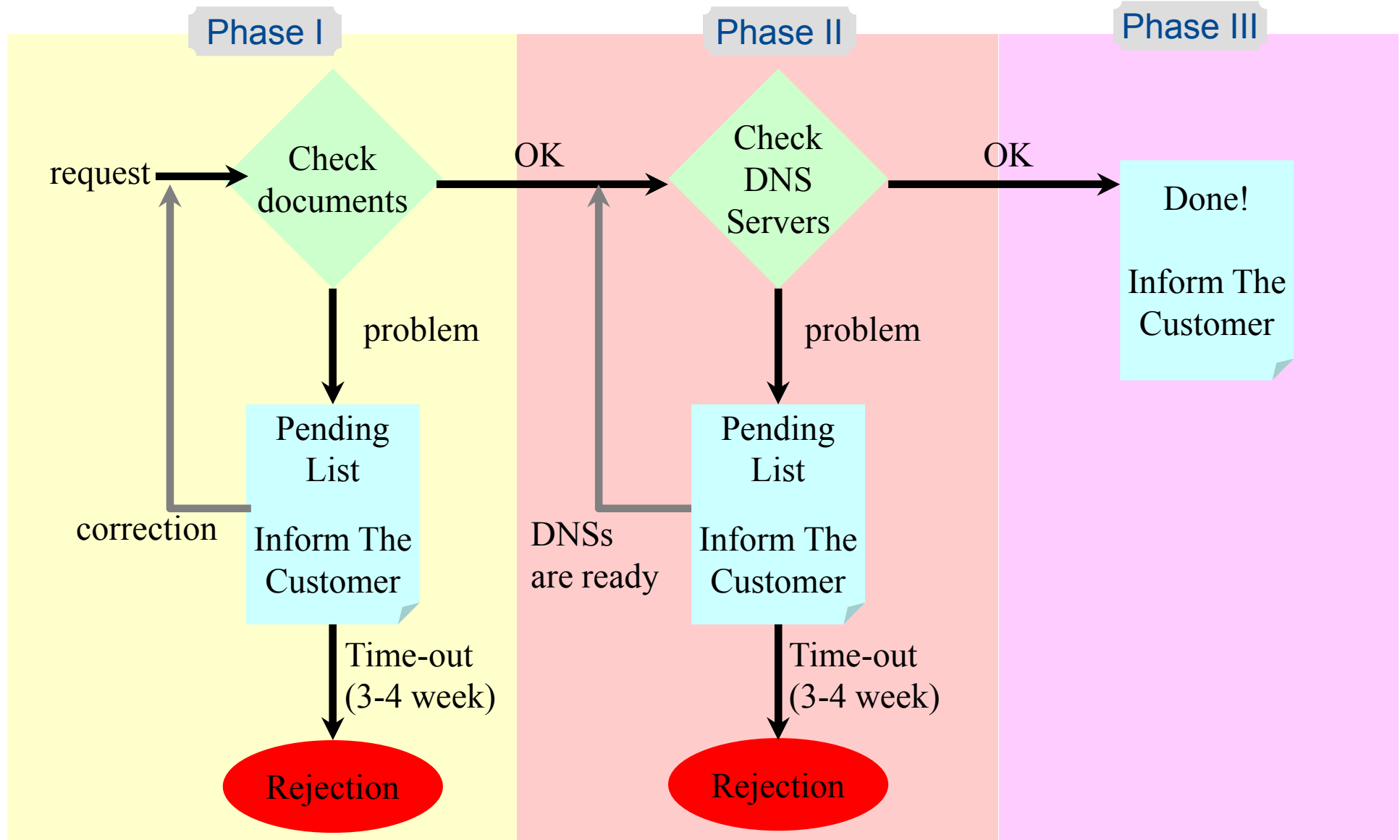
Filling up and sending the registration form available on our website.



Official documents

Sending the registration request letter and necessary official documents.

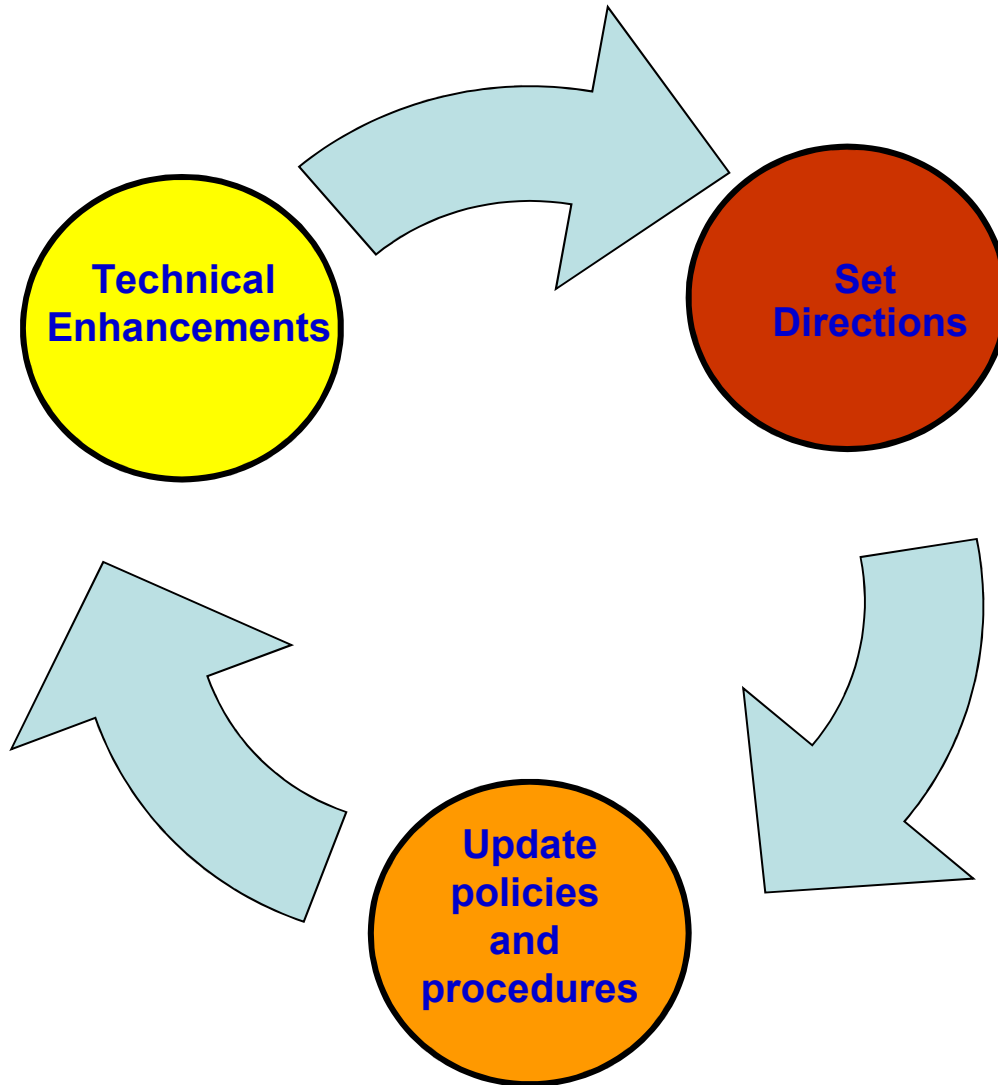
Registration Procedure - Internal





THE FUTURE

Our Live Cycle



Next Directions

- Developing **Dispute Resolution Policies** and procedures
- **2LD** registration, e.g., www.example.sa
- Registration **fees** (Collecting payments)
- Supporting Resellers and **Registry-Registrar** system
- **User Accounts** and online services
- **Electronic archiving**
- Increasing public **awareness** (continuous effort)

Future work : Main Phases

