

هيئة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات
Communications and Information Technology Commission



CITC Internet Projects For 2008

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Recent Internet Development in SA
- National Internet Exchange Point (NIXP)
- IPv6 Task Force
- DNSSEC Pilot Project
- Arabic Domains
- Questions

Introduction: CITC Vision and Mission



Vision

"Universally available, high quality and affordable communications and information technology services"



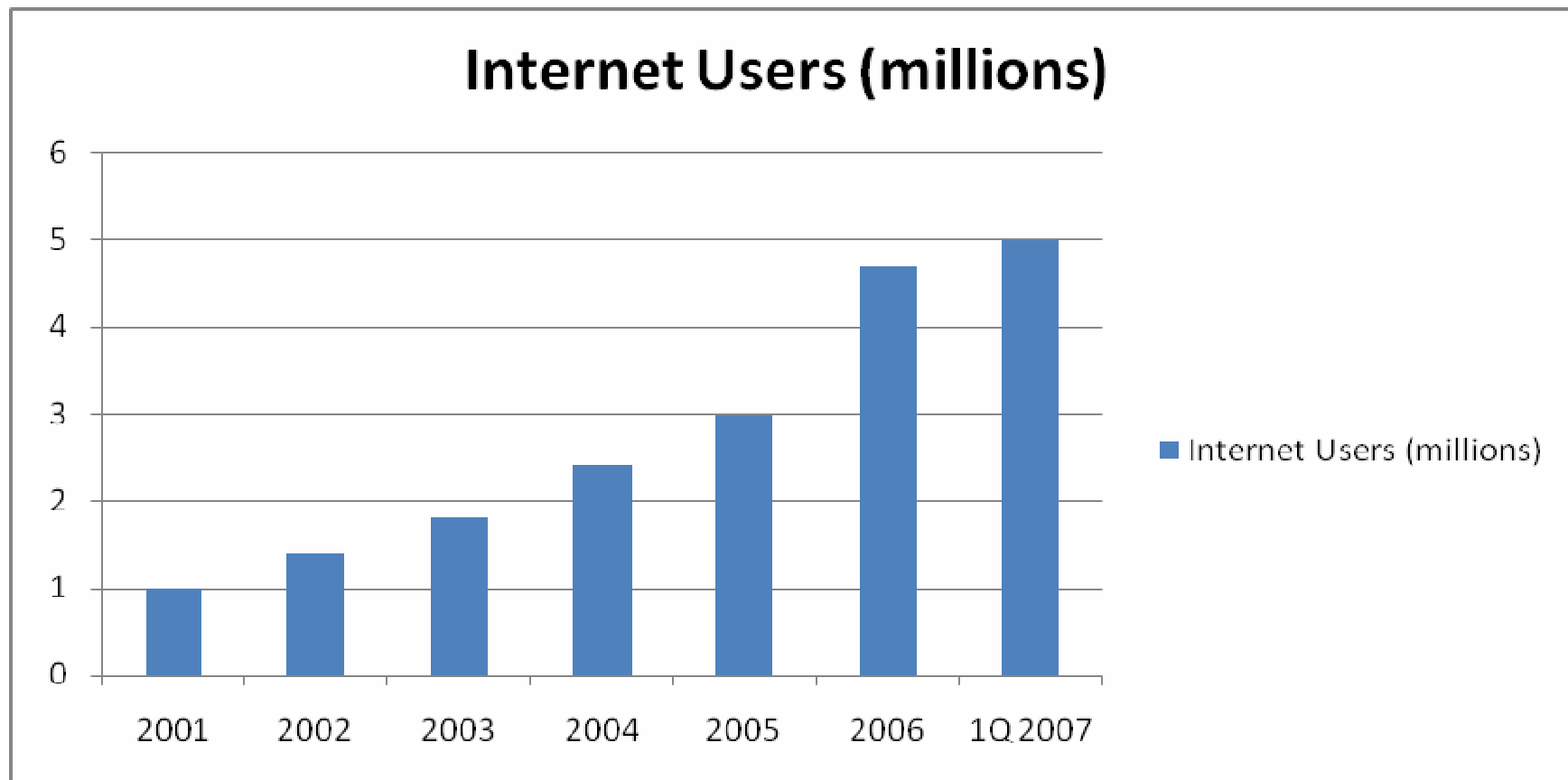
Mission

- Provide a fair, clear and transparent regulatory environment to promote competition, and safeguard public interest and stakeholder rights
- Enable universal availability of advanced ICT services at affordable prices and optimize utilization of scarce resources
- Increase ICT awareness and usage to enhance national efficiency and productivity
- Build and maintain a professional and motivated CITC team

Introduction: Internet Users



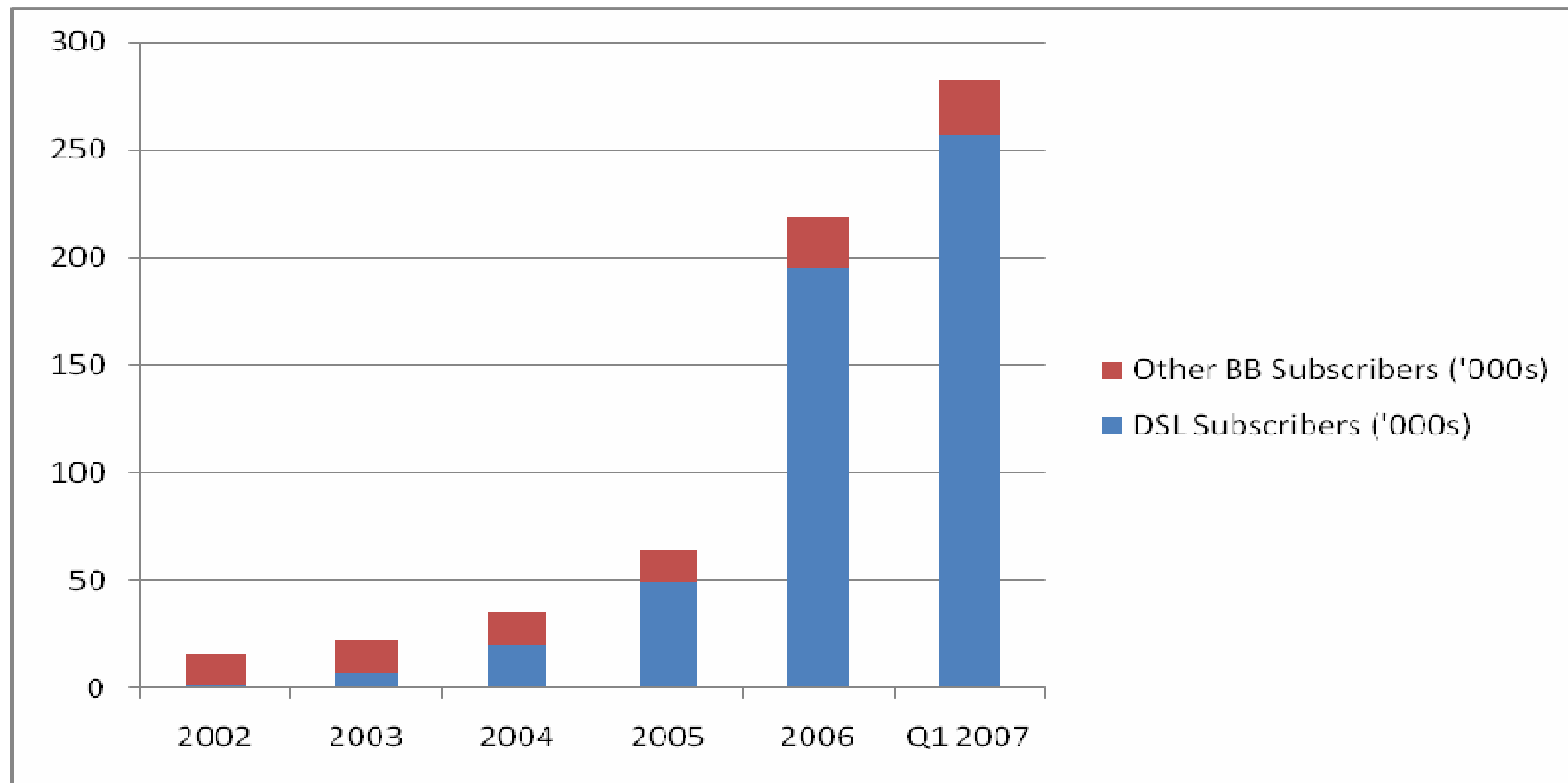
- Q1-2007 about **5,000,000** Internet users in SA



Introduction: Broadband Penetration



- Q1-2007 about **257,000** DSL lines in SA



Recent Internet Development in SA



- **Part of CITC Responsibilities:**
 - Domain name services management (.sa ccTLD)
 - National Internet content filtering
 - Development and Promotion of Internet in Saudi Arabia
- **Some of CITC recent Activities**
 - IT strategy definition and identification of key initiatives
 - The Internet Usage project
 - The CERT-SA and SOC
 - The anti-spam legal framework
 - **National Internet Exchange Point**
 - **IPv6 Task Force**
 - **DNSSEC Pilot Project**
 - **Arabic Domain Names**

National Internet Exchange Point (NIXP)



- **Objective**
 - Keeping local traffic locally in KSA (Security, Quality, Costs, etc.)
 - Facilitating the inter-networking between Services Providers
 - Guidelines and standards for peering
 - Coordination between Service Providers
- **Methodology (Done)**
 - Analyze current Interconnection situation in KSA
 - Consultation with DSP and stakeholders
 - International Benchmark and Best Practices
 - Gap Analysis
 - Solutions and Plan
- **Implementation (A phase approach will be carried)**
 - Establishment of (National Peering Policy)
 - Infrastructure set-up as National Internet eXchange Point to facilitate and expedite the adoption

IPv6 Task force



- **Several IPv6 pilot project have been initiated in Saudi Arabia; since 2003**
 - KACST, STC, ..others.
- **The Goal is to initiate IPv6 Taskforce in Saudi Arabia**
 - Facilitate the IPv6 adoption in Saudi Arabia by encouraging the deployment and raising the awareness
- **Methodology**
 - Studying the current status of the IPv6 worldwide development and the international IPv6 supportive bodies
 - Develop approaches to facilitate adoption of IPv6 in Saudi Arabia
 - Set Strategies toward moving Saudi Arabia to IPv6.
 - Develop and Update policies, guidelines, procedures,
 - Raise awareness and readiness to IPv6

DNSSEC Pilot Project

- **DNSSEC is becoming more and more mature and becoming a best practice especially for ccTLD**
 - CITC decided to launch a pilot project on DNSSEC in Saudi Arabia
- **Goal**
 - Evaluating means to improve the reliability of the DNS infrastructure in SA, and to keep up to date with international developments with regards to DNSSEC
- **Methodology**
 - Assessment of the international status quo of DNSsec development
 - Assisting CITC in incorporating DNSsec in its SaudiNic (.sa) DNS system and it's implementation
 - Implementation of the required infrastructure for piloting DNSsec and setup a test-bed system for evaluating DNSsec
 - Development of a key management policy and procedure, based on/extending the current CITC domain name administration procedures

Arabic domains: Introduction



- Current ASCII-based domain names are **incapable** of representing Arabic characters
- Difficulty to reach Arabic sites using English DNs (**pronunciation & spelling** problems)
- Full Arabic domain names will **encourage** Arab users to widely use the Internet
- Less than 10% who can speak English in the Arab world

Arabic News paper

صحيفة الشرق الأوسط

www.al-sharqalawsat.com

www.asharqalawsat.com

www.asharq-alaowsat.com

www.elsharkelaosat.com

...



E-government Site

يسر

www.yasser.gov.sa

www.yaser.gov.sa

www.yasir.gov.sa

www.yassir.gov.sa

...



Arabic domains: Solution Levels



1 Linguistic issues

To define the accepted Arabic character set to be used for writing Arabic domain names

2 Arabic TLDs

To define the top-level domains of the Arabic domain name tree structure (i.e., Arabic gTLDs, and ccTLDs)

3 Technical solutions

4 Arabic root servers

IETF, MINC, ...

ICANN/IANA, MINC, ITU, ...

Arabic domains: What have been done



- Conduct number of **consultations** and **scientific researches** about Arabic domain names.
- Perform **local testing** on Arabic domains (موقع.com.sa)
- Participated in establishing number of **pilot projects** for supporting ADN :
 - Gulf pilot project 2004 (under gulf council countries)
 - Arab pilot project 2005 (under the Arab league)
- Develop many **tools** and **systems** that supports Arabic domain names
 - Browser plug-in “Arabic.Arabic”
 - Registry system
 - IDN/ADN converter and many other tools
- Participated in many **conferences** and **events** and share our experience in ADN.
- Participated in the new ICANN Arabic **example.test** domains (مثال.إختبار)

Arabic domains: ADNPP (1)



- Arabic domain Name pilot Project: is a **test bed** for Arabic domain names (ADN) in the Arab world.
- This will allow all Arab countries to early **experience the use** of Arabic domain names
 - identify their needs
 - agree on standards
 - locate possible problems
 - and develop required tools and policies
- The project is **not commercial** and had been initiated by a non profit organizations and will **continue** as a test bed until the recognition of Arabic TLDs by concerned international bodies
- There are **two committees** for the project: technical and steering committee” (both **headed** by CITC).

Arabic domains: ADNPP (2)

■ Participated Countries:

- United Arab Emirates
- Saudi Arabia
- Qatar
- Oman
- Palestine
- Egypt
- Tunisia
- Syria
- Jordan
- ...

■ It is open for any Arabic country (ccTLD admin)



United Arab Emirates
[United Arab Emirates Network Information Center](#)



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
[Saudi Network Information Center](#)



State of Qatar
[Internet Qatar](#)



Sultanate of Oman
[Oman Telecommunications Company](#)



State Of Palestine
[Ministry of Telecom and IT](#)



Arab Republic Of Egypt
[Ministry of Communications & Information Technology](#)



Republic Of Tunisia
[Tunisian Internet agency](#)



Syrian Arab Republic
[Tunisian Internet agency](#)



Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
[National information technology center](#)

Arabic domains: “Arabic.Arabic” Plug-in (1)



- **Problem :**
 - Phase 1 of the pilot project requires participation from ISPs to join the pilot project in order for their users to reach Arabic domain!
 - This limits in expanding reaching any user on the internet

- **Goal: Enable Arabic users to reach Arabic domains:**
 - Independently from the ISP
 - Independently from any service/connection type.

- **The solution:**
 - Develop a browser plug-in that enable the user reaching Arabic domain names in easy and smart way.
 - The plug-in should convert any Arabic domain name to a real & reachable domain name registered in the current DNS (e.g. xn--?????.adn.sa).
 - It is approved by ADNPP (2007).

Arabic domains: “Arabic.Arabic” Plug-in (2)



▪ Version is 1.1

- Supports Windows OS (2000, XP)
- Works with IE 6
- Auto update checking.
- Support the IDN punycode converting (IDNA)
- Interacts only with Arabic domain names (participant counties)
- Support the ADNPP non-plugin solution (old way)
- Change the Arabic domain name to real domain:

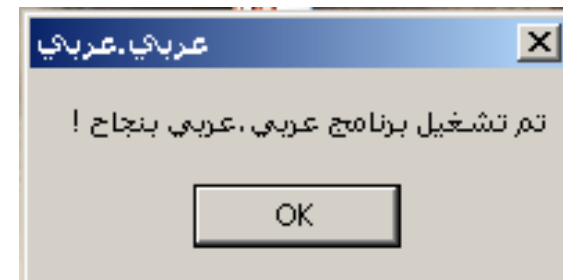
موقع.السعودية ← موقع.adn.sa ← xn--4gbrim.adn.sa

▪ Version is 1.2 :

- Windows OS (2000, XP, Vista)
- Works with IE6 & IE7

▪ Version is 1.3.beta (FireFox & IE) :

- Support most OS (Windows ,Linux)
- Support IE7 & Firefox
- Recognize spaces in domain names
- Add the default country to the domain name



Examples: IE6



The screenshot displays the Microsoft Internet Explorer 6.0.6002.1806.0 browser window. The address bar contains the URL 'http://الإنترنت.السعودية/'. The page content includes the 'internet@sa' logo and the text 'الإنترنت في السعودية'. A search bar is visible on the left. The main content area features a section titled 'طلب مرئيات العموم في تطوير الهيكلية التنظيمية لمكافحة الرسائل الإقتحامية (SPAM)' with a date of ١٨٠٠٨٢٠٠٧. The text discusses the request for public comments on the organizational structure for combating SPAM.

Examples: IE7

Welcome to the SABIC homepage - Microsoft Internet Explorer

http://سابك.السعودية/

http://سابك.السعودية/

Search this site: search keywords English | عربي

سابك
sabic

Sitemap | Contact Us

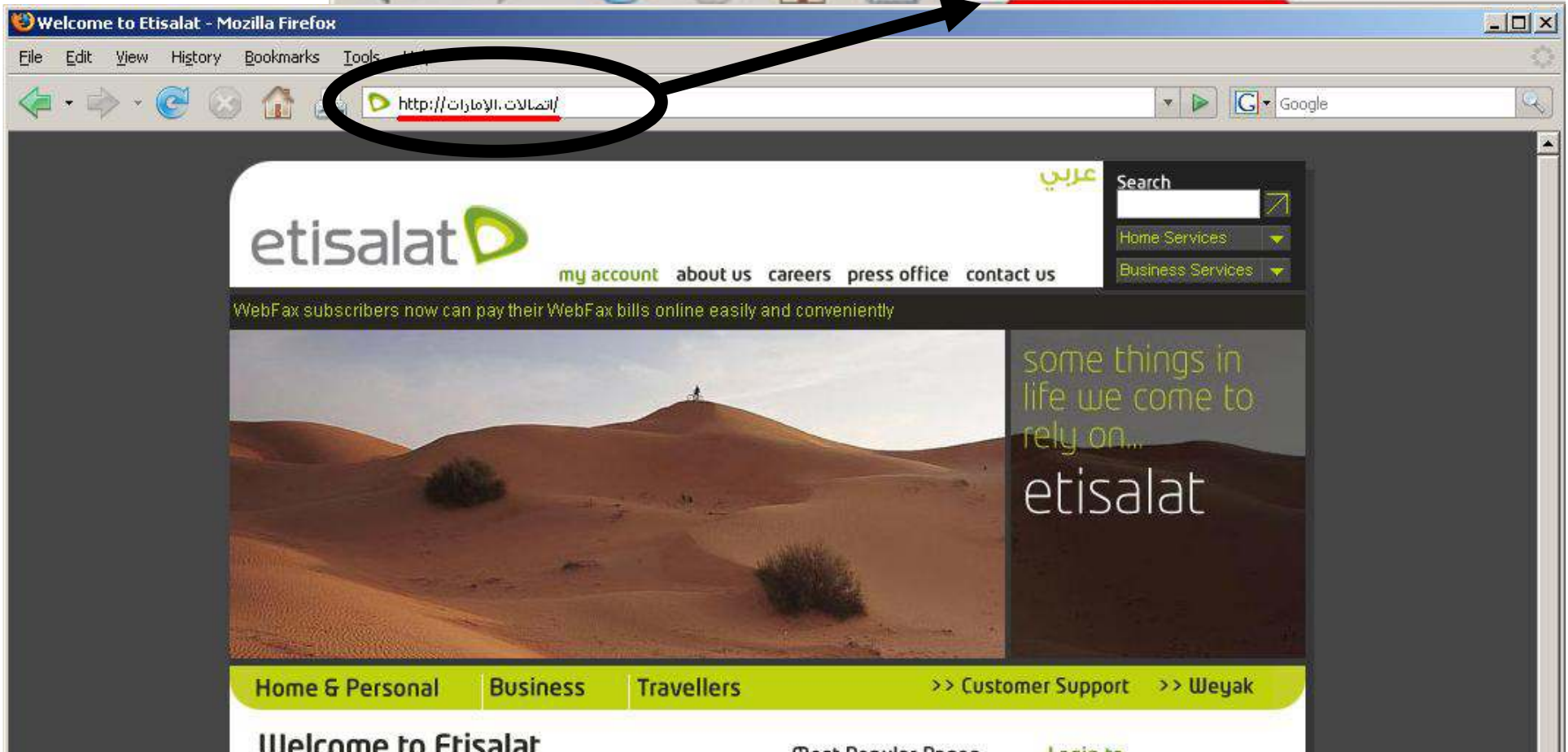
»» SABIC is awarded "Petrochemicals company of the year" Platts - 2006

DELHI JUBAIL WELCOME TO SABIC Global LONDON

SABIC Select your region :

HOME | OUR COMPANY | PRODUCTS & SERVICES | NEWS & MEDIA RELATIONS | OUR COMMITMENTS | CAREERS | INVESTOR RELATIONS

Examples: Firefox



For more information



- **CITC**
 - www.citc.gov.sa
 - هيئة الاتصالات السعودية
- **Internet in Saudi Arabia:**
 - www.internet.gov.sa
 - الإنترنت السعودية
- **Saudi Network Information Center:**
 - www.nic.net.sa
 - مركز التسجيل السعودية
- **Arabic domain name pilot project:**
 - www.arabic-domains.org

Thanks



أي أسئلة؟

Questions?

