



Prospective of IDN TLDs

Uncertainties, Questions and China



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History at a Glance

- Nov. 28, 1990, CN Domain was registered.
- June 3, 1997, China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC) was founded as the registry of CN domain.
- August 2002, the MII released *China Internet Domain Name Regulations*.
 - *Governmental Proclamation on China's Domain Name System (2002, 2006 & 2008)*



Native-Script Names: early days

- **Test-beds of Chinese-character domain names (CDNs)**
 - 1997: Zhongxi Company and CNNIC
 - January 18, 2000, CNNIC officially launched the CDN test-bed.
- **Foreign competitors**
 - NSI, I-DNS, MINC and others
- **Governmental regulations for political and economic reasons**
 - November 2000, the Ministry of Information Industry (MII) established CDN registration system through promulgation of *CDN Regulations*.
 - August 2002, the MII released *China Internet Domain Name Regulations*, which officially recognizes CDNs as an integral part of Chinese domain name system.



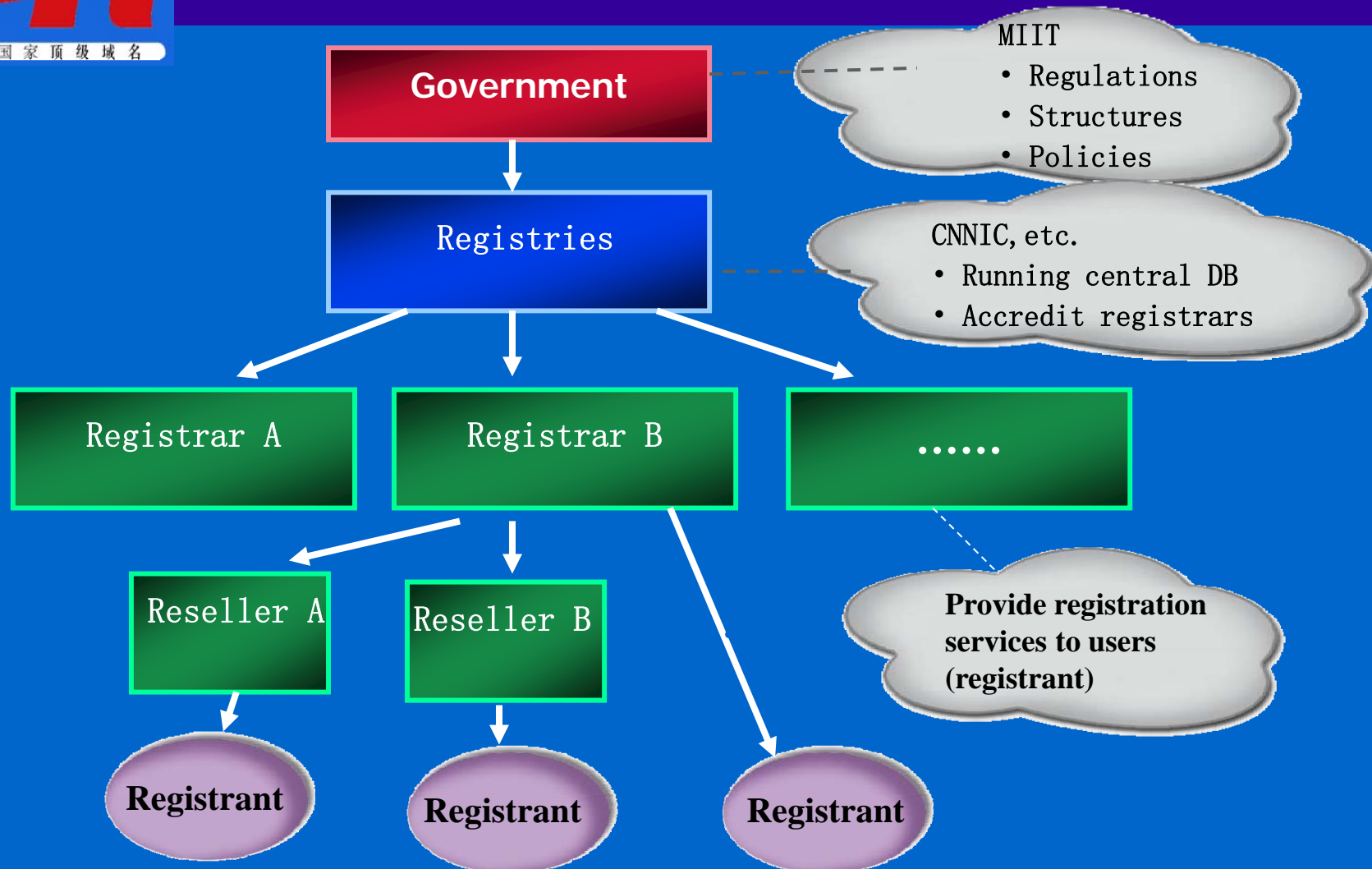
China's Domain Name System

- ASCII TLDs
 - “.CN”
- Chinese-character TLDs
 - “.中国” (China)
 - “.公司” (Company)
 - “.网络” (Network)
 - “.政务” (Governmental Affairs)
 - “.公益” (Public Interest)

**Proclamation on
China's Domain
Name System (2002,
2006 & 2008)**



Structure of DN registration





General Observations

- **On one hand,**
 - CDNs have great market potential.
 - Market will be more competitive, transparent and open.
- **On the other,**
 - Government is enforcing stricter regulatory measures.
 - Strengthening regulation on registries and registrars
 - Obliging registries or registrars to monitor the contents
 - The Sovereign act is potentially conflicting with the DNS under oversight of ICANN.
 - Proclaiming a couple of Chinese-script TLDs out of *global DNS commons*
 - No international treaty like preservation of Antarctica or outer space



Anti-Vulgarity Campaign

- Since 2009 more than 9,000 websites shut down
- 2010 focus shifting to vulgar or pornographic contents on mobile network
- *CNNIC and registrars* condemned for lax management that enabled communication of obscene or pornographic information via domain tasting, fast flux, overseas registrations or other illegal means
- **Enforcement measures**
 - Black-listing domain holders
 - True, precise and complete registration information
 - *Stopping resolving unregistered websites*
 - *Stopping resolving domain names identified by the authority*



Who?

- **Who is eligible to become the registries of Chinese-character gTLDs?**
 - **CNNIC: “.中国(中國)” [.China]**
 - **KNET (Northern Dragon Central Network): .公司、.网络(網絡) (???) [.Company, .Network]**
 - A corporation invested by Chinese Academy of Science and backed by CNNIC
 - **China Organizational Name Administration Center(CONAC): “.政务(政務)”、“.公益”(???) [.Governmental Affairs, .Public Interest]**
 - A department in the governmental agency responsible for bureaucratic management and reform of Central government



Who?

- Can anybody else apply with ICANN for a Chinese-character gTLD and become a registry?
- *China Internet Domain Name Regulations*
 - Any organization that applies for *setting up* Domain Name Registry or Registrar within the territory of the People's Republic of China shall be approved by MIIT.



What?

- **Five Chinese-character TLDs specified by the Proclamation**
 - “.中国” (China)
 - “.公司” (Company)
 - “.网络” (Network)
 - “.政务” (Governmental Affairs)
 - “.公益” (Public Interest)



What?

- **May any other Chinese-character strings become gTLDs?**
 - For instance, “.互联网(Internet)”
- *China Internet Domain Name Regulations*
 - Chinese domain name system shall be announced by the MIIT via the Proclamation, which may be adjusted and updated if necessary.



Why?

- **Should ICANN care about the territorial governance when evaluating and delegating Chinese-character gTLDs?**
 - *The other sovereign states may follow.*
- **Should only China worry about the system proclaimed unilaterally?**
 - *Is the Proclamation sort of preliminary EoIs?*
- **Could the issue be resolved diplomatically?**
 - *Saving the DNS from segmentation*
 - *Engaging China in the international Internet community*



How, When & Where?

- **DAG v.3**
 - **Contention on morality and public order**
 - *China Internet Domain Name Regulations*
 - 9 categories of contents prohibited from being registered or used as domain names
 - **Should all applications for IDN TLDs be deemed community-based?**
 - **Could the ban on single and two-character be removed or adjusted?**
 - For instance, someone applies for gTLD strings such as “.爱(love)” or “.博客(blog)”



Thanks Welcome to China!

