IPv6 in Turkey

As we all know, the Internet currently relies on IPv4 as the network layer addressing protocol which amounts to around 4 billion addresses available globally and exhaustion of this huge address space is likely to occur very soon according to estimates. Governments have been increasingly interested in transition to IPv6. Involvement of governments in IPv6 transition in different countries indirectly leads private sector to participate in IPv6 transition.

Turkey is also one of those countries who believe in the opportunities that IPv6 will offer, so E-Transformation Turkey Executive Board which is responsible for giving important decisions about Turkey's transformation to information society, decided to give Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA) of Turkey, the regulatory authority for telecommunications in Turkey since year 2000, the missions of raising awareness, preparing a roadmap and developing measures and policy proposals regarding the transition to IPv6 with collaboration of all related stakeholders.

In this scope ICTA is gathering ISPs and other related parties to raise awareness about IPv6 since 2006. Additionally, a project named "National IPv6 Infrastructure Design and Transition Project" funded by government is kicked off on February 2009 and completed in February 2011. ([www.ipv6.net.tr](http://www.ipv6.net.tr)) In collaboration with National Academic Network Center and two national universities, ICTA actively participated in this Project which provided an IPv6 testbed for ISPs to test their IPv6 services; estimated the total IPv6 transition cost in Turkey, drew a roadmap IPv6 transition in Turkey and researched security aspects of transition. At the end of the project; a honeypot security software namely KOVAN and a IPv6-enabled videoconference software namely Fi6en are produced which will be distributed by ICTA to interested parties for free. During the project, an IPv6 workshop is organized in May 2010 and an IPv6 conference is organized in January 2011, in both organizations high number of participation from very wide range of participant profile was achieved. National IPv6 Infrastructure Design and Transition Project contributed building up an IPv6 know-how in the collaborators of the Project as well as public and private sector which are indirectly involved in the Project by organized activities, conducted surveys, etc.

We are also very proud to inform you that with the collaboration of ICTA and Ministry of Transportation and Communications, a prime ministry circular, "Plan for Public Sector's Transition to IPv6" , was published in the Official Gazette dated 12.08.2010 and numbered 27779. According to this circular; governmental agencies have to meet some predefined levels of IPv6 support. In this context, ICTA is following the developments regarding IPv6 transition in Turkey.

Appendix: Turkey’s Plan for Public Sector’s Transition to IPv6 