



## Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) Request

April 11, 2019

### Registry Operator

ShortDot SA  
29, Boulevard Grande-Duchesse Charlotte  
Luxembourg, Luxembourg L-1331

### Request Details

Case Number: 00921888

This service request should be used to submit a Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) request. An RSEP is required to add, modify or remove Registry Services for a TLD. More information about the process is available at <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/rsep-2014-02-19-en>

Complete the information requested below. All answers marked with a red asterisk are required. Click the Save button to save your work and click the Submit button to submit to ICANN.

### PROPOSED SERVICE

#### 1. Name of Proposed Service

Complying with Local Law

#### 2. Technical description of Proposed Service. If additional information needs to be considered, attach one PDF file

This Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) request is submitted by ShortDot SA (Registry Operator) for the .icu Top Level Domain (TLD).

Registry Operator seeks to comply with applicable local laws which require the submission of accurate data for storage in the Registry database and the subsequent checking of that information to ensure it is correct. Registry Operator implements this under its abuse policy and existing technical functionality authorizing the suspension of names.

The process works as follows:

1. Domain names are registered at the Registry Services Provider as normal by registrars, the systems used to do this are those that passed a previous MSA and PDT. Names appear in WHOIS and the zone file as normal after registration.
2. Some national laws require that within a prescribed timeframe that:
  - a. Domain names are in themselves legal in national law (Domain Name Validation "DNV")
  - b. Registrant's Real Names are validated (Real Name Validation "RNV")
3. Registry Operator (either directly or via a third party with suitable qualifications authorized by Registry Operator) tracks registrations for which the particular national law applies and ensures that within the prescribed time frame names either pass any relevant DNV and RNV. If names do not pass then they are treated as abusive registrations as they are not consistent with law.
4. Where a name is to be treated as an abusive registration in this setup a notification is sent to the Registry Services Provider and appropriate action taken in accordance with the current status of the domain to appropriately alter the server statuses that are applied, delete or otherwise alter the state of the domain.

If additional information needs to be considered, attach one file

## CONSULTATION

3. Please describe with specificity your consultations with the community, experts and or others. What were the quantity, nature and content of the consultations?

Registry Operator's consultations with the community are described below.

3a. If the registry is a sponsored TLD, what were the nature and content of these consultations with the sponsored TLD community?

n/a

3b. Were consultations with gTLD registrars or the registrar constituency appropriate? Which registrars were consulted? What were the nature and content of the consultation?

Registry Operator has consulted with various registrars who have strongly encouraged Registry Operator to implement the DNV and RNV processes. Without these processes being implemented, impacted registrants would be unable to use their domain names due to noncompliance with national laws, and consequently registrars receive many complaints from impacted registrants.

3c. Were consultations with other constituency groups appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?

Consultations with other constituency groups were not appropriate as no other constituency group is affected by Registry Operator's efforts to comply with applicable national laws.

3d. Were consultations with end users appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?

Registry Operator has, directly and through its registrar partners, communicated with many impacted registrants about these registrants' desire to legally use their domains. Without exception, the impacted registrants desire for Registry Operator to comply with the applicable national laws so that they can use their domain names legally.

3e. Who would endorse the introduction of this service? What were the nature and content of these consultations?

All parties, including registrants, and registrars who are affected by the applicable national laws would endorse Registry Operator's desire to comply with these laws.

3f. Who would object the introduction of this service? What were (or would be) the nature and content of these consultations?

No parties have any legitimate reason to object to Registry Operator's compliance with national laws.

## **TIMELINE**

4. Please describe the timeline for implementation of the proposed new registry service.

Registry Operator intends to implement this service as soon as it is approved by ICANN.

## **BUSINESS DESCRIPTION**

5. Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered.

Registry Operator requires that domain names that are registered are legal in form and contain accurate data as required by local laws. If a name is not legal in form Registry Operator will suspend the name under its abuse policies. If a name does not contain data sufficiently accurate under local law Registry Operator will suspend the domain name under its abuse policies as it is de facto in breach of local law.

6. Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service.

Registry Operator requires registrars to ensure they provide accurate data for registrants. Registry Operator contracts with a local provider suitably qualified to advise on accuracy and compliance with local laws.

7. Please list any relevant RFCs or White Papers on the proposed service and explain how those papers are relevant.

There are no known relevant RFCs or white papers on complying with data accuracy requirements under local law.

## CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS

8. List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service.

Section 5 would be added to Exhibit A of the .icu Registry Agreement. Please see 'Contract Amendments' below for the full text.

8a. If the request is permissible under an existing provision in the agreement, and will not need an amendment, please identify the provision.

None

9. What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the reporting of data to ICANN.

None

10. What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the Whois?

None

If additional information needs to be considered, attach one PDF file.

ICANN RA Amendment 2.pdf

11. What effect, if any, will the proposed service have on the price of a domain name registration?

None

If additional information needs to be considered, attach one file.

## **CONTRACT AMENDMENTS**

12. Please describe or provide the necessary contractual amendments for the proposed service

The below Section 5 would be added to Exhibit A of the .icu Registry Agreement:

NEW LANGUAGE

5. Registration Validation per Applicable Law

Registry Operator may perform registration validation to comply with applicable local law in a given jurisdiction. The registration validation process, by which the Registry Operator subjects domain name registrations to validation, will be subject to the criteria required by the applicable local law in the jurisdiction. Domain names that are subject to the registration validation process in the subject jurisdiction that do not pass registration validation in that jurisdiction may be suspended, deleted or otherwise updated by the Registry Operator as required by applicable local law.

END OF NEW LANGUAGE

## **BENEFITS OF PROPOSED SERVICE**

13. Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service.

This service will allow impacted registrants of the domain names under the mentioned TLDs to continue to register and renew domain names and to legally use their domain names once they are registered.

## COMPETITION

14. Do you believe your proposed new Registry Service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain.

Ensuring data is legal and accurate and in compliance with local law will ensure competition exists within local national markets.

15. How would you define the markets in which your proposed Registry Service would compete?

Any market/s where registrants are legally required to provide accurate registration information.

16. What companies/entities provide services or products that are similar in substance or effect to your proposed Registry Service?

All registries are required to comply with applicable national laws. To our knowledge, a few other registry operators have also filed similar RSEPs, received ICANN approval and have implemented these processes in accordance with their Anti-Abuse policies.

17. In view of your status as a registry operator, would the introduction of your proposed Registry Service potentially impair the ability of other companies/entities that provide similar products or services to compete?

No

18. Do you propose to work with a vendor or contractor to provide the proposed Registry Service? If so, what is the name of the vendor/contractor, and describe the nature of the services the vendor/contractor would provide.

Yes. In our current implementation ZDNS, a validated vendor, will carry out the DNV and RNV processes and work with CentralNic to comply with local law.

19. Have you communicated with any of the entities whose products or services might be affected by the introduction of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please describe the communications.

n/a

20. Do you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please submit them with your application. (ICANN will keep the documents confidential).

None

If additional information needs to be considered, attach one PDF file.

## **SECURITY AND STABILITY**

21. Does the proposed service alter the storage and input of Registry Data?

No.

22. Please explain how the proposed service will affect the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to Internet servers or end systems.

No effect.

23. Have technical concerns been raised about the proposed service, and if so, how do you intend to address those concerns?

None

## **OTHER ISSUES**

24. Are there any Intellectual Property considerations raised by the Proposed Service?

No

If additional information needs to be considered, attach one PDF file.

25. Does the proposed service contain intellectual property exclusive to your gTLD registry?

No

26. List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service.

n/a

If additional information needs to be considered, attach one PDF file.

27. Please provide any other relevant information to include with the request.

None

Click the Save button to save your work and click the Submit button to submit to ICANN.

**Affected TLDs**

<b>Current Registry Operator</b>	<b>Top Level Domain</b>	<b>Registry Agreement Date</b>
ShortDot SA	icu	2015-01-08