

## SPECIFICATION 6

### REGISTRY INTEROPERABILITY, CONTINUITY, AND PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS

#### 1. Standards Compliance

Registry Operator shall implement and comply with all existing RFCs and those published in the future by the Internet Engineering Task including all successor standards, modifications or additions thereto relating to (i) Internet protocol (including Extensible Provisioning Protocol), the DNS and nameserver operations including without limitation RFCs 3730, 3731, 3732, 3734, 3735, and 3915; and (ii) registration data publication operations for top-level domain registries in conformance with RFCs 1033, 1034, 1035, and 2182.

If Registry Operator implements Domain Name System Security Extensions ("DNSSEC"), it shall comply with RFCs 4033, 4034, and 4035 and their successors; and should follow the best practices described in RFC 4641. If Registry Operator implements Hashed Authenticated Denial of Existence for DNS Security Extensions, it shall comply with RFC 5155 and its successors. If the Registry Operator offers Internationalized Domain Names ("IDNs"), it shall comply with RFCs 3490, 3491, and 3492 and their successors and the ICANN IDN Guidelines at <http://www.icann.org/en/topics/idn/implementation-guidelines.htm>, as they may be amended, modified, or superseded from time to time.

#### 2. Registry Services Continuity

Registry Operator will conduct its operations using geographically diverse, redundant servers (including network-level redundancy, end-node level redundancy and the implementation of a load balancing scheme) to ensure quality service in the case of technical failure (widespread or local), business insolvency or an extraordinary occurrence or circumstance beyond the control of the Registry Operator.

Registry Operator will use commercially reasonable efforts to restore the critical functions of the registry within 24 hours after the termination of an extraordinary event beyond the control of the Registry Operator and restore full system functionality within a maximum of 48 hours following such event, depending on the type of critical function involved. Outages due to such an event will not be considered a lack of service availability.

Registry Operator shall have a contingency plan including the designation of a registry services continuity provider, and must inform ICANN of the designated provider.

In the case of extraordinary event beyond the control of the Registry Operator where the Registry Operator cannot be reached, Registry Operator consents that ICANN may contact the designated registry services continuity provider.

Registry Operator shall conduct registry services continuity testing at least once per year.

#### 3. Supported Initial and Renewal Registration Periods

Initial registrations of registered names may be made in the registry in one (1) year increments for up to a maximum of ten (10) years.

Renewal registrations of registered names may be made in one (1) year increments for up to a maximum of ten (10) years.

4. **Performance Specifications**

**DNS Service Availability.** Service availability as it applies to the DNS service refers to the ability of the nameservers, as a group, to resolve a DNS query from an Internet user. The committed performance specification is 99.999% measured on a monthly basis.

**Registration Data Publication Service.** The registration data publication service (WHOIS) shall be updated at least once every 15 minutes and must respond within 1.5 seconds to at least 99.5% of queries each month.