SPECIFICATION 12

COMMUNITY REGISTRATION POLICIES

Registry Operator shall implement and comply with all community registration policies described below and/or attached to this Specification 12. In the event Specification 12 conflicts with the requirements of any other provision of the Registry Agreement, such other provision shall govern.

Eligibility

Registry Operator takes its responsibilities to the global banking community seriously and it is essential that registrations only be permitted by verified members of the banking community. The following organizations defined as Qualified Registrants in the Registrant Eligibility Policy (accessible here: https://www.register.bank/policies/) are eligible to register domain names in .BANK:

3.1   State, regional and provincial retail banks that are chartered and supervised by the relevant Government Regulatory Authority;

3.2   Savings associations that are chartered and supervised by the relevant Government Regulatory Authority;

3.3   National retail banks that are chartered and supervised by the relevant Government Regulatory Authority;

3.4   Associations whose members are primarily comprised of entities identified above in 3.1, 3.2 or 3.3;

3.5   Groups of associations whose members are primarily comprised of associations identified above in 3.4;

3.6   Government Regulatory Authorities of chartered and supervised retail banks or savings associations or organizations whose members are primarily comprised of such relevant Government Regulatory Authorities (if approved by the Registry Operator Board);

3.7   Other Regulated entities supervised by the relevant Government Regulatory Authority (if approved by the Registry Operator Board); and

3.8   Retail bank and savings association holding and parent companies supervised by the relevant Government Regulatory Authority.

Organizations approved under the former Service Provider category and their domain registrations are grandfathered in under their current status as of the date of implementation of this Policy per a resolution by Registry Operator's Board of Directors, through its authority granted under Section 3.0, as Qualified Registrants eligible under Section 3.7 of this Policy.

To ensure compliance with its policies, Registry Operator will develop and implement a Registrant eligibility criteria and evaluation process. This process requires collecting Registrant information that will be used by Registry Operator or its designated third-party service provider to verify an organization is a Qualified Registrant. This information may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Full legal name:
- Organization name:
- Organization address:
- Organization phone number:
- Organization email:
- Proof of identity necessary to establish the Applicant is Qualified (e.g., business license, certificate of formation, articles of incorporation, corporate operating agreement, charter documents, attorney opinion letter, mission statement for non-profit organization):
    - If applicable, the assigned regulatory ID number and Government Regulatory Authority which issued its charter or license.

This requirement is included in Registry Operator's Registry-Registrar Agreement (RRA).

Registry Operator, a limited liability company formed and domiciled in the United States (U.S.), must comply with all U.S. laws, rules, and regulations. One such set of regulations is the economic and trade sanctions program administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the U.S. Department of the Treasury. These sanctions have been imposed on certain countries, as well as individuals and entities that appear on OFAC's List of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (the SDN List). Registry Operator is prohibited from providing most goods or services to residents of sanctioned countries or their governmental entities or to SDNs without an applicable U.S. government authorization or exemption.

Registry Operator, in its capacity as a global domain administrator, must consider all applicable laws, rules and regulations in the jurisdictions where it operates. As such, Registry Operator reserves the right to deny or cancel registrations based upon relevant sanctions, programs or standards administered and/or supported in other jurisdictions.

Applicants who meet the eligibility requirements and have been verified as a Qualified Registrant will be permitted to register their domains in the TLD provided they comply with the defined below Name Selection and Content/Use Restrictions.

Domain names that pass the vetting process will be placed in a pending create status before becoming valid. Applicants rejected for non-eligibility criteria or use of domain evaluation can appeal the decision to Registry Operator.

Registry Operator will audit Registrants and their domain names to ensure compliance with eligibility and use requirements.

Name Selection

Domains initially registered in the TLD must comply with the Name Selection Policy (accessible here: https://www.register.bank/policies/), unless otherwise agreed to by Registry Operator Board of Directors in consultation with the Advisory Council, and subject to compliance with Trademark Clearinghouse Rights Protection Mechanism Requirements. Registry Operator will initially not accept generic domain name registrations except to the extent permissible by ICANN for Registry Operator's operations. Registry Operator will reserve a set of domain names prior to launch that will either be used in its capacity as set forth in Specification 9 of the template Registry Agreement or may be equitably allocated to members of the community upon approval of Registry Operator's Board of Directors in consultation with the Advisory Council. The subset of domain names reserved for use by Registry Operator may be commonly used words and phrases and/or geographic terms. Registry Operator will extend an enhanced rights protection mechanism that will provide trademark owners with the ability to challenge the registration or potential use of these domain names. Notwithstanding the forgoing, and for the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of this clause shall be and remain subject to all rights, duties, restrictions and limitations of the Agreement.

Content/Use Restrictions

Registry Operator's Acceptable Use / Anti-Abuse Policy (AUP) governs how Registrants may use their registered name. A copy of the AUP (which may be amended from time to time) is accessible here: https://www.register.bank/policies/.

Enforcement

Registry Operator uses active and passive enforcement mechanisms to implement this Policy. As part of the AUP, Registry Operator has complete enforcement rights over Registrants' use of the TLD domain names.

If Registrant violates this AUP, Registrant is subject to a rapid domain name compliance action. and all rights and remedies under this Agreement, inclusive of a determination of breaching this AUP. Registry Operator reserves the right to deny, cancel or transfer any registration or transaction, or place any domain name on registry lock, hold or similar status, as it deems necessary, in its unlimited and sole discretion and without notice, either temporarily or permanently.

On a regular basis, Registry Operator audits domain names registered in the TLD to ensure compliance with all eligibility and use criteria. If a violation is discovered, an investigation will be undertaken to rectify the violation.

If a Registrant chooses to appeal an enforcement action or activity, Registry Operator will review the appeal to determine if there are any material changes to the action or activity. Registry Operator retains the right to assign the dispute to an ombudsman if necessary. This appeal or referral process operates on a cost-recovery basis.