

Developing a Registry Agreement (RA) for the NxR



Karla Hakansson

IRT Meeting
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Agenda

- Overview
- Direction for the NxR RA
- Risks
- Timeline/Next Steps

Overview

- An internal cross-functional team within ICANN org analyzed the changes required from the Subsequent Procedures (Subpro) Final Report to determine the best method to address the changes required in the RA for the NxR.
- Options considered:
 - An addendum or update to the current Base gTLD RA, OR
 - Create an updated template Base RA based on the required changes from the Subpro Final Report
- Factors considered:
 - Operational hurdles
 - Optics
 - Impact to existing gTLDs on the Base RA

Direction for the NxR Base RA

- Using the current Base gTLD RA as a starting point, **ICANN org will develop an updated template Base RA** based on the required changes from the Subpro Final Report.
- The updated template will:
 - Utilize existing practice of specifications,
 - Incorporate new terms to reflect the required changes,
 - Use bracketed text for certain specialty provisions where a registry much qualify (same as current Base RA)
- The NxR Base RA will **not impact registries on the existing Base RA**; no global amendment process required
- For a unspecified period of time, **ICANN org will manage gTLDs on two versions** of the Base RA.

Risks

- The preference is to maintain a single Base RA for all gTLDs.
- Managing two different RAs will add operational complexity
 - ROs with TLDs on both RAs will need to understand the differences in obligations and requirements,
 - ICANN org teams will need to understand and manage to the differences with service requests, compliance issues, etc.
 - Complicates any future global amendment process
- IDN EPDP recommendations are still in progress and may result in required changes to the Base RA and the 2025 Base RA
- Other updates may be identified as work tracks move forward

Timeline - Next Steps

Goal: include NxR Base RA in the Applicant Guidebook (Q2 2025)

- Present plan to update the existing Base RA to the IRT,
- Present plan to the RySG,
- Present redlines for review and discussion with the IRT, 3Q24
- Publish draft NxR Base RA for public comment in 4Q24.
- Post the draft NxR Base RA for public comment with the Applicant Guidebook, in May 2025.
- Publish the final NxR Base RA with the Applicant Guidebook.

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