

# GAC Advice Response Form for Applicants



The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) has issued advice to the ICANN Board of Directors regarding New gTLD applications. Please see Section IV of the [GAC London Communiqué](#) for the full list of advice on individual strings, categories of strings, and strings that may warrant further GAC consideration.

Respondents should use this form to ensure their responses are appropriately tracked and routed to the ICANN Board for their consideration. Complete this form and submit it as an attachment to the ICANN Customer Service Center via your [CSC Portal](#) with the Subject, “[Application ID] Response to London GAC Advice” (for example “1-111-11111 Response to London GAC Advice”). All GAC Advice Responses to the GAC London Communiqué must be received no later than 23:59:59 UTC on 04-August-2014.

Please note: This form will be publicly posted.

## Respondent:

Applicant Name	United TLD Holdco Ltd.
Application ID	1-1255-37010
Applied for TLD (string)	.ENGINEER

## Response:

United TLD Holdco Ltd., trading as Rightside Registry (“Rightside”), a registry operator and applicant for new generic top level domain names (gTLDs) wishes to thank ICANN for the opportunity to comment on the communiqué issued by the Government Advisory Committee (GAC) from London, United Kingdom, on June 25, 2014 (the “GAC Communiqué”). Rightside would like to express a comment with respect to Section IV of the GAC Communiqué related to GAC Safeguard Advice to the Board.

### Section IV.2. Safeguard Advice

Rightside continues to value the GAC’s advice regarding the implementation of safeguards for certain applied for new gTLDs (“Category 1” new gTLDs) and applauds ICANN’s embraced proposal that the safeguards be implemented through the use of public interest commitments (PICs) to be adopted by the respective registry operators. Rightside believes that these PICs, in conjunction with the strong PIC Dispute Resolution Process that has been designed through close collaboration between ICANN staff and the stakeholder community, will result in the operation of safe and secure name spaces for Category 1 new gTLDs.

Rightside and other registries preparing to offer Category 1 new gTLDs have made the relevant changes to their respective Registry-Registrar Agreements (RRA) which have been reviewed and approved by ICANN and by the Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG). Registrars and registrants will know and understand their additional responsibilities with respect to using domain names with Category 1 new gTLD extensions.

Requiring registries to verify and validate credentials of registrants for domain names in regulated or highly regulated industries at the time of registration is not possible or

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commercially practicable in most cases. For example, for .ENGINEER, there are numerous types of engineers (software engineer, chemical engineer, naval engineer, automotive engineer, etc.) and engineering disciplines, many of which do not require service providers to possess professional credentials. However, Rightside and other registries preparing to offer Category 1 new gTLDs, have made the relevant and necessary changes to their respective Registry-Registrar Agreements (RRA) so that registrars and registrants will know and understand their additional responsibilities with respect to using domain names having these extensions.

Furthermore, Rightside would like to note for the GAC that although the PIC Dispute Resolution Process (PICDRP) is yet untested, that does not presuppose that it will be ineffective when initiated. The PICDRP was developed with input from all community stakeholders and is modeled off other well-established dispute resolution procedures previously adopted by ICANN. Although ICANN may decline to impose any remedial measure, it does not stand to reason that they would do so if a Registry Operator failed to comply with a compliance notice. That certainly has not been the case with prior compliance notices. Finally, Rightside does not see any “loophole” in the current PICDRP. Invocation of the alternative dispute resolution process within the Registry Agreement does not allow Registry Operators to avoid compliance with its PICs. Rather the ADR only insures that ICANN cannot take action that is not permitted under the terms of the Registry Agreement.

Rightside remains committed to operating safe and secure namespaces for each of its new gTLDs including those that are subject to Category 1 GAC Advice. We ask the GAC to be patient with the PICs, the PICDRP and the rights protection mechanisms implemented by registry operators in the new gTLD program and allow time for these protections to demonstrate their effectiveness in the marketplace.

We thank the GAC for its support and input into the new gTLD program and welcome the opportunity to engage GAC members on any further issues of concern.