

# 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, Annex I, and Annex II of the [GAC Beijing 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 GAC Advice” (for example “1-111-11111 Response to GAC Advice”). All GAC Advice Responses must be received no later than 23:59:59 UTC on 10-May-2013.

## Respondent:

Applicant Name	DotSaarland GmbH
Application ID	1-893-50963
Applied for TLD (string)	.SAARLAND

## Response:

In response to the GAC communiqué we would like to refer to the details of our application, which provides for an adequate registration and anti-abuse policy. We believe the proposals made by the GAC - as far as they are reasonable - have been adequately covered by our initial application.

### Safeguards:

- 1) We believe whois checks on a registry level to be superfluous based on the content of the 2013 RAA.
- 2) The anti-abuse policy and abuse handling procedures detailed in our application have covered this proposal sufficiently. Our RRA will therefore include provisions requiring registrars to include said policy in their registration agreements.
- 3) The anti-abuse policy and abuse handling procedures detailed in our application have covered this proposal sufficiently. We do not see our role as provider of domain names extending to validating content, however. Such tasks should best be relegated to hosting service providers where content resides.
- 4) See 1) and 3)
- 5) This proposal shifts the current role of the registrar to the registry. As we believe in the registry-registrar model, we propose that the handling of abuse complaints by the registry should be limited – as it is now – to informing the registrar about the complaint and requesting an investigation. The registrar has the direct customer relationship with the registrant and is best equipped to review and act upon any complaints. While we propose a direct registry abuse contact in our application, we envision this as a role acting in concert with the registrar.
- 6) It is the role of the registrar to enact consequences to any abuse and violation as it is the registrar that holds the contractual relationship with the registrant.

### Categories:

- 1) Having reviewed the categories, we are of the opinion that as a geographic Top Level Domain, .SAARLAND does not fit into any of the categories described by the GAC