

GAC Advice Response Form for Applicants



The Government 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	Dot Home LLC
Applicant ID	1-907-28623
Applied for TLD (string)	.HOME

Response:

The National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) has engaged Dot Home LLC to apply for, obtain and operate the .HOME gTLD under direction from NAR.

Founded in 1908 with the specific focus to serve the interests of real estate practitioners, NAR is a globally recognized industry self-regulatory organization for REALTORS® including administration of a strict Code of Ethics and Professional Standards which has served to mitigate risks to the public for 100 years. In this role, NAR believes and conducts its actions in ways to promote trust. The REALTOR® designation, invented by NAR, is the way a person can be credentialed in the offline world for the purpose of conducting transactions related to real estate under a Code of Ethics and generally accepted industry rules and guidelines.

An objective we have is to bring industry accepted practices from the offline world to the online world by way of the .HOME gTLD. For example, NAR stands in perfect position with the expertise to incorporate such credentialing into the process of domain name registration for .HOME. As the applicant for .HOME, it is therefore consistent that we are supportive of the GAC Advice in principle.

While .HOME was not named under Section IV or Annex I of the GAC Advice, for strings specifically cited under Category 1 we support advice relative to: an acceptable use policy that registrants comply with all applicable laws; to require registrars at the time of registration to notify registrants of the acceptable use policy; to implement reasonable and appropriate security measures; to mitigate as much as possible the risks of fraudulent and other illegal activities; and to provide a single point of contact for various types of complaints.

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Further, for .HOME, we think it is prudent for the registry operator to verify registrant credentials at the time of registration such as we've described doing in response to Question 18; to consult with an authority in case of doubt with regard to the authenticity of such credentials; and to conduct periodic checks post-registration to ensure registrant validity and compliance consistent with such credentialing requirements.

We agree with GAC advice with regards to Restrictive and Exclusive access. Lastly, we support safeguards for WHOIS verification checks; mitigating abusive activity; security checks, documentation, making and handling complaints, and consequences as advised by the GAC should apply to all new gTLD's.

In providing its advice for new gTLD's, we believe the GAC has acted consistent to its role as defined in the ICANN by-laws. We also believe the substance of the GAC Advice to be reasonably within our expectations as provided for in Section 3.1 of the Applicant Guidebook.

Dot Home LLC stands ready to work with ICANN to implement these goals from the GAC Advice into the registry operations of .HOME in ways which will serve the public interest. ICANN may also use this response in any final summary, analysis, reporting, or decision-making that takes place as part of its public comment process originated by the New gTLD Board Committee located at <http://www.icann.org/en/news/public-comment/gac-safeguard-advice-23apr13-en.htm>