

# Domain Name Registration, Expiry, Renewal and Deletion Policy

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## Version Control

Version	Date	Author	Rationale
1.0	January 2011	Internet Domain Section Team	Initial release
2.0	August 2019	Internet Domain Section Team	Rebranded, Merged Registration and Expiry Renewal Deletion Policies, Removed unwanted/ not applicable clauses/Sections

## Definitions

The following words where used in this Policy shall have the meaning ascribed to them below:

“**Qatar Domains Registry** or **QDR**” is a function of the Communications Regulatory Authority of Qatar (CRA), which is the Registry Operator for the .qe country code namespace and "قطر" the Arabic domain name. It is responsible for the setting and enforcement of all policies with regard to the operation of the above mentioned namespace, and managing the operation of the Registry System.

“**Expiry**” means the end of a Domain Name Licence Period at which point the Domain Name Licence is not Renewed, and “**Expiry Date**” has a corresponding meaning;

“**Grace Period**” means the period following Registration or a Renewal during which the Relevant Domain Name Licence can be Cancelled without further liability or obligation on the part of the Registrant, Registrar or Qatar Domains Registry;

“**Purge**” means the act of permanently removing data from the Registry Database, such that it is no longer available to any Registrant, Registrar or any third party using the Whois Service or Whois Check service (although it will remain in the archives of the Registry System and thereby be available to the Qatar Domains Registry), and “**Purges**” and “**Purged**” will have corresponding meanings;

## Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to define the rules that govern the registration, expiry, renewal and deletion of Domain Name Licences in the Qatar Domains Registry System.

## Domain Name Registration

### 1. General

A Domain Name is not owned by a Registrant. The Qatar Domains Registry issues the Registrant an exclusive licence to use a Domain Name for a specific period. The terms and conditions of a Domain Name Licence are set out in each of the following:

- 1.1. the Registrant Agreement;
- 1.2. this Policy; and
- 1.3. any other applicable Policy issued by the Qatar Domains Registry.

The Qatar Domains Registry reserves the right to cancel any Domain Name which is in breach of any of this or any other Qatar Domains Registry Policy.

### 2. First Come, First Served

Domain Names are allocated on a 'first come, first served basis' which means that transactions are processed by the Qatar Domains Registry System in the order in which they are received, without any bias or preference. Thus, where two or more Applicants are seeking the same Domain Name Licence, and they all meet the requirements of the Qatar Domains Registry Policy, that Applicant whose Application is received by the Domain Name Registry System first will be granted the Domain Name Licence.

### 3. Use of a Qatar Domains Registry Accredited Registrar

- 3.1. Applicants for a Domain Name must select a Registrar that is Accredited by the Qatar Domains Registry who will interact with the Domain Name Registry System on behalf of the Applicant.
- 3.2. Applications for Domain Names cannot be made directly to the Qatar Domains Registry.

### 4. Selection of Domain Name

The Applicant's selection of a Domain Name must meet the requirements of the Qatar Domains Registry Policy as described in this document, or any other Qatar Domains Registry Policy or decision.

## 5. Selection of Domain Name Licence Period

Applicants may elect to Register the selected Domain Name for a Domain Name Licence Period of one, two, three, four or five years.

## 6. Applicant's Responsibility for the Domain Name

The granting of a Domain Name Licence does not of itself give rise to any intellectual property or other rights in the name that is the subject of the Domain Name Licence, or any part of the Domain Name. It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure that it has the right to use the Domain Name and that the Registration or use of the Domain Name does not violate any third party intellectual property rights or other rights, does not defame any person and does not contravene any applicable laws of the State of Qatar.

## 7. No limitation on Domain Names

There is no limit on the number of Domain Names that may be licensed to a Registrant; however, each Application for a Domain Name must meet the requirements of this Policy and any other Qatar Domains Registry Policies.

## 8. Applications for Domain Names

- 8.1. Requirements for Domain Name Applications are detailed in the Qatar Domains Registry Policies. Registrars are required to ensure that each Application for a Domain Name meets the Qatar Domains Registry Policy.
- 8.2. Requests for Domain Names that do not meet the requirements of the Qatar Domains Registry Policy will be rejected by the Qatar Domains Registry System regardless of any representations made by a Registrar or any other party.
- 8.3. The Qatar Domains Registry reserves its right not to accept the Application for a Domain Name selected by the Applicant.
- 8.4. The Qatar Domains Registry is not obliged to provide any reasons for its refusal to accept the Application for a Domain Name, and upon its sole discretion the Qatar Domains Registry may inform the Applicant of its reasons or grounds for not accepting the Application.

## 9. Registrant Agreement

- 9.1. Prior to the Registrar's submission of the Applicant's request to Register a Domain Name to the Qatar Domains Registry System, the Applicant must enter into a Registrant Agreement with the Registrar.
- 9.2. The Qatar Domains Registry Policy stipulates the mandatory terms and conditions that a Registrar must include in a Registrant Agreement.

- 9.3. The Applicant must agree to be bound by the Registrant Agreement for the Domain Name Licence Period.

## 10. Reserved Words

- 10.1. The Qatar Domains Registry will maintain a list of words which may not be Registered in the Qatar Domains Registry System. The reservation of words applies to both the English and Arabic language sets used in the Domain Name Registry System.
- 10.2. The words that are reserved include but not limited to :
- 10.2.1. due to laws which exist, or may come into existence, in the State of Qatar;
  - 10.2.2. to preserve the religious, moral and cultural values of the State of Qatar;
  - 10.2.3. to preserve the integrity and stability of the Qatar Domains Registry System and associated services;
  - 10.2.4. to operate the Domain Name Registry System in a manner which is in accordance with the Qatar Domains Registry operating principles;
  - 10.2.5. to become a Second-Level Domain Name under which Third Level Domain Names can be Registered;
  - 10.2.6. to comply with generally accepted technical standards; or
  - 10.2.7. for any other reasons that are to protect the State of Qatar.
- 10.3. The list of words which are reserved is maintained in the Qatar Domains Registry System. This list includes but not limited to:
- 10.3.1. names of Qatari Constitutional and governmental Authorities;
  - 10.3.2. full names or abbreviations of local regions or districts in the state of Qatar: and
  - 10.3.3. Names of Countries.
- 10.4. Each Application for a Domain Name is verified against this list.
- 10.5. The Qatar Domains Registry at its sole discretion reserves the right to:
- 10.5.1. add to, delete from and generally amend or modify the list of words which are reserved from time to time as the result of a recommendation received from agencies of the Government of the State of Qatar;
  - 10.5.2. place any word at any time on the list of reserved words;
  - 10.5.3. cause to be Registered any Domain Name containing a word which is reserved.
  - 10.5.4. allow a Domain Name containing a reserved word to remain Registered;
  - 10.5.5. cancel a Domain Name containing a word which is reserved.

## 11. Applications to Register Reserved Words

Requests by Applicants that are able to provide sufficient evidence to the Qatar Domains Registry that they are authorised to register a Domain Name which includes a reserved word, under appropriate legislation or authority may be considered by the Qatar Domains Registry.

## 12. Prohibited Domain Name Registration

12.1. The Qatar Domains Registry reserves the right to reject or refuse any Application for a Domain Name, or cancel or suspend any Domain Name which has been Registered that in the Qatar Domains Registry's opinion intentionally or unintentionally, is, or may be considered to:

- 12.1.1. violate public morality or is contrary to public order or is against a religion or a religious character;
- 12.1.2. deceive the public;
- 12.1.3. be involved with illegal or fraudulent activities;
- 12.1.4. be prejudicial to the interest or security of the State of Qatar;
- 12.1.5. be names of governmental organisations;
- 12.1.6. be names of well-known persons (unless permission has been obtained in advance from the well known person concerned);
- 12.1.7. correspond to trademarks or service marks of a third party (unless permission has been obtained in advance from the third party);
- 12.1.8. correspond to any other word or name that the Qatar Domains Registry adds or is directed to add to the list of reserved words from time to time.

## 13. Deletion and Suspension of Domain Names by the Qatar Domains Registry

13.1. The Qatar Domains Registry may at its sole discretion delete and/or suspend any Registered Domain Name in order to:

- 13.1.1. protect the integrity and stability of the Qatar Domains Registry System;
- 13.1.2. comply with any applicable laws of the State of Qatar, government rules or requirements, requests of law enforcement agencies, or any dispute resolution process;
- 13.1.3. to avoid any liability, civil or criminal, on the part of the Qatar Domains Registry as well as its directors, managers, employees, agents and contractors;
- 13.1.4. to correct errors made by the Qatar Domains Registry or any Registrar in connection with Registering a Domain Name.

#### 14. Composition Requirements for Domain Names using the English ASCII Character Set

- 14.1. Applications for Domain Names using the English ASCII character set for Registration in the Second-Level and Third-Level with the ccTLD Suffix “.qa” will conform to the following set of requirements.
- 14.2. Such Domain Names will be in the User Form (“U-label Form”) and must:
- 14.2.1. have a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 63 characters in each Label;
  - 14.2.2. use the English ASCII character set and may contain letters (i.e., a-z), digits (i.e. 0-9) and hyphens (-) or a combination of these;
  - 14.2.3. begin with a letter or a digit and end with a letter or a digit;
  - 14.2.4. neither begin with, nor end with a hyphen;
  - 14.2.5. not contain hyphens in the third and fourth positions (e.g. www.ab- -cd.qa); and
  - 14.2.6. not include a space (e.g. www.ab cd.qa).

#### 15. Composition Requirements for Domain Names in the Arabic Script

- 15.1. Arabic Script Domain Names in the under the IDN ccTLD Suffix قطر. will consist of an User Form (“U-label Form”) AND a corresponding DNS Form (“A-Label Form”).
- 15.2. The User Form of the Domain Name must:
- 15.2.1. be in Unicode Normalisation Form C (NFC);
  - 15.2.2. consist only of Arabic Script Unicode Code Points present in the Tables of Allowed Letters, Numbers and Special Characters defined in Appendix A;
  - 15.2.3. have a minimum of 2 characters in each Label;
  - 15.2.4. not begin with a digit (English ASCII character set digits OR Arabic digits);
  - 15.2.5. not contain BOTH English ASCII AND Arabic digits;
  - 15.2.6. neither begin with nor end with a hyphen(-);
  - 15.2.7. not contain hyphens in the third and fourth positions (e.g. www.ab- -cd.qa); and
  - 15.2.8. not include a space (e.g. www.ab cd.qa).
- 15.3. The DNS Form of the Domain Name must:
- 15.3.1. have no more than a maximum of 63 characters in each Label;
  - 15.3.2. be the ASCII Compatible Equivalent of a valid User Form as described in Section 16.2., the label will:
    - 15.3.2.1. use the English ASCII character set and may contain letters (i.e., a-z), digits (i.e. 0-9) and hyphen(-) or a combination of these;

- 15.3.2.2. begin with a letter or a digit and end with a letter or a digit;
  - 15.3.2.3. neither begin with, nor end with a hyphen; and
  - 15.3.2.4. not include a space (e.g. www.ab cd.qa).
- 15.4. In the case where only one of the User Form or DNS Form is requested, then its corresponding form will be determined automatically by the Qatar Domains Registry System and both forms must pass the composition requirements of this Section 16.

## 16. Arabic Script Domain Name Variants

- 16.1. The purpose of Arabic Script Domain Name Variants is to alleviate confusion that may be caused by Arabic Characters that are similar to one another.
- 16.2. The form of the Arabic Script Domain Name selected by the Registrant at the time of Registration is known as the Primary Arabic Script Domain Name.
- 16.3. The intent of Arabic Script Domain Name Variants is that if the Variant is substituted for the Primary Arabic Script Domain Name by a user, the same end result would be achieved.
- 16.4. The Arabic Script Domain Name Variants (if any) will be associated with the Primary Arabic Script Domain Name for the term of the Domain Name Licence Period.
- 16.5. Arabic Script Domain Name Variants (if any) associated with the Primary Arabic Script Domain Name will have the same Domain Name information as the Primary Arabic Script Domain Name.
- 16.6. By default all Arabic Script Domain Name Variants are NOT activated at the time of Registration of the Primary Arabic Script Domain Name, subject to Section 17.7 and Section 17.8.
- 16.7. Automatic activation of Arabic Script Domain Name Variants:
  - 16.7.1. The Qatar Domains Registry will automatically activate Arabic Script Domain Name Variants.
- 16.8. Manual activation of Arabic Script Domain Name Variants:
  - 16.8.1. Variants may be activated at the request of a Registrant at any time during the Domain Name Licence Period.
  - 16.8.2. Variants may only be activated by the Registrant's Sponsoring Registrar.
  - 16.8.3. Only Arabic Script Domain Name Variants that conform to the composition requirements described in Section 16. may be activated.
  - 16.8.4. The maximum number of Active Arabic Script Domain Names Variants must not exceed five (5) in total.

- 16.8.5. Requests activate two (2) or more Arabic Script Domain Names Variants may be subject to review by the Qatar Domains Registry.
- 16.9. Provisioning of Arabic Script Domain Name Variants:
- 16.9.1. It is the Registrants responsibility to ensure that any details required to ensure the correct operation of the Active Arabic Script Domain Name Variants of the Primary Arabic Script Domain Name are in place.
- 16.9.2. Active Arabic Script Domain Name Variants must not be managed independently of the Primary Arabic Script Domain Name, either in the DNS or by any other means.
- 16.10. Registrants of Arabic Script Domain Names may not sell, rent, lease or otherwise relinquish control of to another party, any Active Arabic Script Domain Name Variant to their Primary Arabic Script Domain Name.
- 16.11. An Arabic Script Domain Name Variant may be added or removed at any time by the Qatar Domains Registry at its sole discretion.

## 17. Eligibility Requirements

- 17.1. Eligibility for Second-Level Domain Names under .qa
- 17.1.1. For Registration of Second-Level Domain Names under “.qa”, Applicants for a Domain Name are not required to provide any documentary evidence, nor meet any Eligibility Requirements other than those described in this or any other Qatar Domains Registry Policy, and as stated in the Registrant Agreement.
- 17.1.2. Such Domain Names may be Registered by any Applicant, and shall be available through any Accredited Registrar, subject to the Qatar Domains Registry’s Policies.
- 17.2. Eligibility for Third-Level Domain Names under com.qa
- 17.2.1. Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “com.qa” are Domain Names for commercial entities duly registered in the State of Qatar. Applicants for a com.qa Domain Name must either:
- 17.2.1.1. have a valid trade licence issued within the State of Qatar issued by the Ministry of Business and Trade and/or the competent authorities of the State of Qatar in accordance with Qatari laws; or
- 17.2.1.2. registered holder of a trade mark in the State of Qatar and

- 17.2.1.3. all MUST provide such evidence to their Registrar.
- 17.2.2. Applications for Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “com.qa” shall only be available through Accredited Registrars whose principal business and place of operations is located in the State of Qatar.
- 17.2.3. Any registered Third-Level Domain Names ending with the suffix “.COM.QA” must be hosted locally within the State of Qatar.
- 17.3. Eligibility for Third-Level Domain Names under net.qa
- 17.3.1. Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “net.qa” are Domain Names for Information Communication Technology (ICT) companies and service providers registered in the State of Qatar. Applicants for a net.qa Domain Name must either:
- 17.3.1.1. have a valid trade licence issued within the State of Qatar issued by the Ministry of Business and Trade and/or a license issued by the competent authorities of the State of Qatar for the provision of ICT services in accordance with the applicable laws of the State of Qatar; or
- 17.3.1.2. registered holder of a trade mark in the State of Qatar for an ICT service or product, and
- 17.3.1.3. all MUST provide such evidence to their Registrar.
- 17.3.2. Applications for Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “net.qa” shall only be available through Accredited Registrars whose principal business and place of operations is located in the State of Qatar.
- 17.4. Eligibility for Third-Level Domain Names under name.qa
- 17.4.1. Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “name.qa” are Domain Names for natural persons, either citizens or residents of the State of Qatar. Applicants for a name.qa Domain Name must have:
- 17.4.1.1. a valid passport issued by the Ministry of the Interior in the State of Qatar; or
- 17.4.1.2. a valid Qatari ID; or
- 17.4.1.3. residency permit duly issued by the competent authority in the State of Qatar for non Qataris .
- 17.4.1.4. And all MUST provide such evidence to their Registrar.

- 17.4.2. Applications for Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “name.qa” shall only be available through Accredited Registrars whose principal business and place of operations is located in the State of Qatar.
- 17.5. Eligibility for Third-Level Domain Names under org.qa
- 17.5.1. Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “org.qa” are Domain Names for Qatari “Not for Profit Organisations” and Private organisations for public benefit operating in the State of Qatar, including the following:
- 17.5.1.1. Sporting organisations;
  - 17.5.1.2. Charitable organisations;
  - 17.5.1.3. Professional organisations
  - 17.5.1.4. Religious organisations; and
- 17.5.2. Applicants for “org.qa” Domain Name must provide a copy of their organisation certification of registration or incorporation in accordance with the laws of Qatar to their Registrar.
- 17.5.3. Applications for Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “org.qa” shall only be available directly through Qatar Domains Registry.
- 17.6. Eligibility for Third-Level Domain Names under sch.qa and edu.qa
- 17.6.1. Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffixes “sch.qa” are the Domain Names for public and private schools and “edu.qa” for higher education institutions operating within the State of Qatar, including universities, public colleges and educational institutions.
- 17.6.2. Applicants for “sch.qa” and “edu.qa” Domain Name must provide a copy of their certification of registration as a school or academic institution or a letter to this effect from the Supreme Council of Education in State of Qatar and/or the concerned authority in the State of Qatar in accordance with the applicable laws of the State of Qatar.
- 17.6.3. Applications for Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffixes “sch.qa” and “edu.qa” shall only be available directly through Qatar Domains Registry.
- 17.7. Eligibility for Third-Level Domain Names under gov.qa
- 17.7.1. Third-Level Domain Names with the Suffix “gov.qa” are the Domain Name for Government Departments, Ministries and Supreme Councils of the State of Qatar.
- 17.7.2. The applicant requesting domain name registration (gov.qa) should be the legal representative of any of the entities referred to in section 18-7-1 or his/ her authorized representative.

- 17.7.3. Applicants must provide a letter duly signed from the relevant Government entity authorising the registration of that Domain Name to Qatar Domains Registry.
- 17.7.4. Applications for Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “gov.qa” shall only be available through Qatar Domains Registry.
- 17.8. Eligibility for Third-Level Domain Names under mil.qa
  - 17.8.1. Third-Level Domain Names with the Suffix “mil.qa” are Domain Names for military authorities of the State of Qatar.
  - 17.8.2. The Registrant must be an organisation established by the laws of the State of Qatar, or decree as a military department or agency or other Government defined military organisation.
  - 17.8.3. Applicants must provide a letter duly signed from the relevant Government or military entity to Qatar Domains Registry.
  - 17.8.4. Applications for Third-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix “mil.qa” shall only be available through Qatar Domains Registry.
- 17.9. Eligibility for Third-Level Domain Names under info.qa
  - 17.9.1. The Qatar Domains Registry is not currently accepting new Applications for Third-Level Domain Names under info.qa.
- 17.10. Eligibility for Third-Level Domain Names under biz.qa
  - 17.10.1. The Qatar Domains Registry is not currently accepting new Applications for Third-Level Domain Names under biz.qa.
- 17.11. Eligibility for Arabic Script Domain Names under قطر.
  - 17.11.1. Second-Level Domain Names with the Suffix قطر. are Domain Names for the benefit of the people, businesses, government and organisations.
  - 17.11.2. Applicants for a قطر. Domain Name must, in the case of:
    - 17.11.2.1. Commercial entities, meet the Eligibility Requirements described in Section 18.2 of this Policy;

- 17.11.2.2. Information Communication Technology (ICT) companies and service providers, meet the Eligibility Requirements described in Section 18.3 of this Policy;
- 17.11.2.3. Natural persons, citizens or residents of the State of Qatar, meet the Eligibility Requirements described in Section 18.4 of this Policy;
- 17.11.2.4. Not for Profit Organisations, meet the Eligibility Requirements described in Section 18.5 of this Policy;
- 17.11.2.5. Schools and higher education institutions, meet the requirements outlined in Section 18.6 of this Policy;
- 17.11.2.6. Government Departments, Ministries and Supreme Councils of the State of Qatar, meet the Eligibility Requirements described in Section 18.7 of this Policy; and
- 17.11.2.7. Military authorities of the State of Qatar, meet the Eligibility Requirements described in Section 18.8 of this Policy.

17.11.3. Applications for Second-Level Domain Names ending with the Suffix قطر shall be available through Accredited Registrars.

## 18. Information collected at the time of Registration

- 18.1. Technical standards and Qatar Domains Registry Policy requires that the information collected by the Registrar at the time the Domain Name is Registered, include certain Registrant Information which must be provided.
- 18.2. Certain Registrant Information is mandatory for all Registrants, whilst other information is optional.
- 18.3. Mandatory Registrant Information includes the person or role nominated to be available to answer questions about the Domain Name:
  - 18.3.1. The 'Registrant Contact' is mandatory and must be provided by all Applicants for a Domain Name, and must be updated as required from time to time by the Registrant. The Registrant Contact must not be the Sponsoring Registrar or their Reseller. The Registrant Contact may be:
    - 18.3.1.1. a person or role (for example: "Chief Executive Officer") nominated by the Registrant; or
    - 18.3.1.2. in the case of individual Registrants, must be the Registrant himself or herself; or
    - 18.3.1.3. in the case of corporate Registrants, must be a principal, employee or member of the Registrant organisation.

18.3.2. The 'Technical Contact' is mandatory and must be provided by all Applicants for a Domain Name, and must be updated as required from time to time by the Registrant.

18.3.2.1. The Technical Contact may be a person or role (for example: "Chief Technology Officer") nominated by the Registrant.

18.3.2.2. The Technical Contact may be the Sponsoring Registrar or their Reseller.

18.4. For Domain Names where Eligibility Requirements exist, additional mandatory Registrant Information is required to satisfy those requirements, and can be found in Section 18 of this Policy.

## 19. Application of Qatar Domains Registry Policy

19.1. The Qatar Domains Registry will monitor and enforce its Policies as required to ensure the integrity of the Domain Name Registry System and associated services, and reserves the right to revoke any Domain Name Licence that is found to be in breach of its Policies or the terms and conditions pursuant to which the Domain Name Licence is granted.

19.2. Applications for a Domain Name must be checked for compliance to the Policies of the Qatar Domains Registry by the Registrar before being submitted to the Domain Name Registry System.

19.3. Applicants are required, in accordance with the Registrant Agreement, to ensure they meet the Qatar Domains Registry Policy requirements, when submitting their Application and for the term of the associated Domain Name Licence Period.

## 20. Breaches of Policy

20.1. The Qatar Domains Registry reserves the right to cancel or suspend a Domain Name Licence where a Registrant has made a false Warranty or given false, inaccurate information, or information which is incomplete in any material manner during the Application process or as part of the Application.

20.2. The Qatar Domains Registry reserves the right to revoke any Domain Name Licence where a Registrant is found in violation of any of the relevant laws or regulations of the State of Qatar.

20.3. The Qatar Domains Registry may take any action against a Registrar where there is evidence that the Registrar has acted negligently in approving an Application for a Domain Name in breach of a relevant Policy.

## Domain Name Expiry, Renewal and Deletion

### 21. Grace Period

- 21.1. There is a three (3) Calendar Day Grace Period during which a Domain Name Registration or a Renewal may be Cancelled, with immediate effect and any fee paid to the Qatar Domains Registry by the Registrar for the Registration or Renewal will be refunded to the Registrar.
- 21.2. The purpose of the Grace Period is to allow for the correction of typographic errors and other errors made by the Registrant.
- 21.3. The Qatar Domains Registry may investigate Registrars and Registrants where there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Grace Period is being used for purposes other than those described in this Policy.
- 21.4. Registrars found to be in breach of this Policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including loss of Accreditation.
- 21.5. The Grace Period applies to all Domain Name Registrations and Renewals.

### 22. Domain Name Deletion – Registrant Request within the Grace Period

The following procedure applies in the case of Domain Names that are Deleted at the request of the Registrant within the Grace Period.

- 22.1. The Registrant requests the Sponsoring Registrar Delete a Domain Name.
- 22.2. If the request from the Registrant for Deletion of a Domain Name is made less than or equal to three (3) Calendar Days after the creation of the Domain Name, then the original Grace Period applies and the Domain Name is Cancelled.
- 22.3. Any DNS Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service;
- 22.4. Any fees paid by the Registrar to the Qatar Domains Registry for the Registration and the issue of the Domain Name will be refunded to the Registrar.
- 22.5. The Domain Name is Purged from the Domain Name Registry System.

### 23. Domain Name Deletion – Registrant Request outside the Grace Period

The following procedure applies in the case of Domain Names that are Deleted at the request of the Registrant outside the Grace Period.

- 23.1. The Registrant requests the Sponsoring Registrar Delete a Domain Name.
- 23.2. If the request from a client for Deletion of a Domain Name is greater than three
- 23.3. (3) Calendar Days after the creation of the Domain Name, the Domain Name enters a 'Pending' Delete status; the Domain Name now appears on the Domain Name Drop List.

- 23.4. Any DNS Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service.
- 23.5. No operations are allowed with respect to that Domain Name with the exception of an operation to reverse the Deletion.
- 23.6. Then three (3) Calendar Days later the Domain Name becomes eligible for Purging from the Domain Name Registry System.
- 23.7. The Domain Name may be un-Deleted up to the point before it is Purged.

## 24. Domain Name Renewal

- 24.1. Domain Names may be Registered for periods of one, two, three, four and five years, and Domain Names may be Renewed for a periods of either one, two, three, four or five years.
- 24.2. When a Domain Name Licence is renewed, the Domain Name Licence Period is increased by the length of time for which the Domain Name Licence is to be Renewed.
- 24.3. Domain Names are eligible for Renewal at any time before the Expiry Date for any period as long as the resulting total Domain Name Licence Period does not exceed five (5) years and ninety (90) Calendar Days. The ninety (90) Calendar Day period added to the end of the Domain Name Licence Period is to allow Registrants the ability to Renew their Domain Name Licence whilst not forfeiting the remainder of the Domain Name Licence Period.

## 25. Domain Name Expiry

This Section applies in the case of Domain Names Licences that are not Renewed on or before the relevant Expiry Date.

When a Domain Name Licence is not Renewed, the Domain Name enters the “Expired Hold” or “Expired Pending Purge” state. The Expiry process runs once per day at 07.00 UTC every day, including weekends and public holidays.

- 25.1. Where the Expiry Date for a Domain Name passes:
  - 25.1.1. The Domain Name becomes eligible to enter the Expired Hold state. At this point:
    - a). The Domain Name will be removed from the DNS
    - b). The Domain Name will be prohibited from being updated
    - c). The Domain Name can be Renewed or Transferred to the Sponsorship of another Registrar
  - 25.1.2. Exactly thirty (30) Calendar Days after the Domain Name enters the Expired Hold state, the Domain Name is eligible to enter the Expired Pending Purge state. The Domain Name now appears on the Domain Name Drop List.

25.1.3. The Expired Pending Purge state is a non-recoverable state and the Domain Name will be prohibited from Renewal and Transfer.

25.1.4. Exactly one (1) Calendar Day after it enters the Expired Pending Purge state the Domain Name becomes eligible to be purged.

## 26. Domain Name Drop List

26.1. The Domain Name Drop list is the authoritative list of Domain Names that may be Purged from the Domain Name Registry System.

26.2. This list is published on the Qatar Domains Registry website.

## 27. Domain Name Purging

27.1. The Domain Name Registry System routinely searches for Domain Name Licences that are eligible for Purging.

27.2. The Qatar Domains Registry has defined the time that Domain Names will be Purged from the Domain Name Registry System as being at 08.00 UTC on every day, including weekends and public holidays.

27.3. At this point, the Domain Name is fully removed from the Domain Name Registry System and the Domain Name becomes available for Registration.

## 28. Domain Name Deletion – Policy Deletion

The procedure set out in this section applies in the case of Domain Names that are deleted for a breach of any of the Policies by the Registrant.

28.1. Where the Qatar Domains Registry System receives a Policy Deletion of Domain Name request:

28.1.1. The Domain Name enters a 'Pending Policy Delete' status and the Domain Name now appears on the Domain Name Drop List;

28.1.2. No operations are allowed on the Domain Name (except an operation to reverse the Policy Deletion).

28.1.3. Any DNS Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service.

28.1.4. Exactly Fourteen (14) Calendar Days after the Domain Name enters the Pending Policy Delete state, the Domain Name becomes eligible to be Purged.

28.1.5. The Domain Name may be un-deleted up to the point before it is Purged.

## Policy Definition and Review

This Policy document has been prepared and published in order to represent the Qatar Domains Registry's Policy with regard to the administrative and technical management of the Qatar Domains Registry and its Registry System.

The Qatar Domains Registry may, at its sole discretion, review and/or amend this Policy at any time. Any amendments will be posted on the official website of Qatar Domains Registry.