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# Registrar Support for New gTLDs

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# 1. Registrar Support for New gTLDs

## 1.1 What is Expected of a Registry Operator as it relates to Registrars

**Maintain partnerships with ICANN-accredited registrars.** A registry operator creates a Registry-Registrar Agreement (RRA) to define requirements for its registrars. This must include certain terms that are specified in the Registry Agreement, and may include additional terms specific to the TLD. Absent circumstances in which an exemption is granted to eligible registry operators, a registry operator must provide non-discriminatory access to its registry services to all ICANN-accredited registrars with whom it has entered into an RRA, and who are in compliance with the requirements. This includes providing advance notice of pricing changes to all registrars, in compliance with the time frames specified in the agreement (see [Article 2] of the registry agreement). See [Section xx - Code of Conduct Exemption] for further details about the exemption to the Registry Operator Code of Conduct.

## 1.2 What is Expected of ICANN

ICANN will continue to provide support for gTLD registry operators as they launch and maintain registry operations. ICANN's Accounts and Services team provides a point of contact for gTLD registry operators for assistance on a continuing basis. The Registry Operator may also wish to reference the [RO Welcome Page](#) for more information as well as the [Post-Contracting Module regarding "What is Expected of Registry Operators"].

ICANN's contractual compliance function will perform audits on a regular basis to ensure that gTLD registry operators remain in compliance with agreement obligations, as well as investigate the registry operator's noncompliance with its contractual obligations. See <http://www.icann.org/en/compliance/> for more information on current contractual compliance activities.

ICANN's Bylaws require ICANN to act in an open and transparent manner, and to provide equitable treatment among registry operators. ICANN is responsible for maintaining the security and stability of the global Internet, and looks forward to a constructive and cooperative relationship with future gTLD registry operators in furtherance of this goal.

## 1.3 What is Expected of Registrars

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Registrars are encouraged to follow updates regarding the New gTLD Program in order to be aware of delegated gTLDs. An ICANN-Accredited registrar will consider whether it will enter into an RRA with the registry operator and support the gTLD to their product line-up.

Wholesale registrars are encouraged to provide such information downstream to their resellers, either to assess demand or inform them of gTLDs that the registrar elected to carry.

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## Annex - Relevant Outputs

Recommendation 19 from the 2007 policy is relevant to this topic. The Working Group recommends updating the language of Recommendation 19 under Topic 37: Registrar Non-Discrimination / Registry/Registrar Standardization.

Affirmation 38.1: The Working Group affirms existing practice that it is up to a registrar to determine which gTLDs it carries.