

12 May 2023

ICANN Preliminary Determination

Re: Notice of Registry Operator Request for Termination of Registry Agreement - .mutual Top-Level Domain

On 12 April 2023, Northwestern Mutual MU TLD Registry, LLC notified ICANN org of its intent to terminate the .mutual Registry Agreement entered into on 02 April 2015. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, Registry Operator may terminate the Registry Agreement for any reason upon one hundred eighty (180) calendar day advance notice.

Pursuant to the terms of Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement, ICANN org consulted with Northwestern Mutual MU TLD Registry, LLC to assess whether to transition operation of the .mutual top-level domain (TLD) to a successor Registry Operator.

Subject to an ongoing evaluation, ICANN org has made a preliminary determination that operation of the .mutual TLD need not be transitioned to a successor Registry Operator. ICANN org's review and determination regarding transition to a successor registry are subject to Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement and are based on various factors, including ICANN org's assessment that transitioning the TLD is not necessary to protect the public interest. Northwestern Mutual MU TLD Registry, LLC attested and ICANN org confirmed that there are no domain name registrations in the .mutual TLD beyond those required by the Registry Agreement.

Before releasing its final determination, ICANN org will consider input provided by interested parties via email at [ra-termination-comments@icann.org](mailto:ra-termination-comments@icann.org). The deadline to submit input is 11 June 2023 – 23:59 UTC.

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