

Regulation for Opening “.SA” 2LD Registration

Version 1.0 dated (25/04/1431 H - 10/04/2010)

1 Definitions

The terms and expressions defined in the Telecommunication Act and in its Bylaw as well as in the Regulation for Domain Name Registration under (.sa) shall have the same meaning in this regulation. In addition, the terms and expressions set out in this regulation shall have the following meanings assigned to them:

- **2LD Regulation:** This Regulation that regulate the opening of “.SA” 2LD registration.
- **SaudiNIC:** Saudi Network Information Center at CITC is the registration authority for the Saudi ccTLDs. SaudiNIC is responsible for providing Registration Services for the Saudi ccTLDs, as well as formulating and implementing policies procedures with regard to the Saudi ccTLDs and managing and operating their registries.
- **Qualification Date:** 10:00 AM on Monday the 30th of Dhu Al-Hijjah 1431 H (6th of December 2010 G), the date by which a Registrant must have completed submission and verification of a valid application for a third level domain name and got registered in order to be qualified to apply for the corresponding “.sa” 2LD domain name during the Sunrise Phase.
- **Sunrise Phase:** The period extending from 10:00 AM on Monday the 6th of Safar 1432 H (10th of January 2011 G), to 10:00 AM on Monday the 2nd Rabi’II 1432 H (7th March 2011 G), during which SaudiNIC shall accept applications for registration of a 2LD domain name by existing 3LD Registrants meeting the criteria set forth in this 2LD Regulation. Only Qualified Registrants may submit an application for a “.sa” 2LD domain name during the Sunrise Phase.
- **Landrush Phase:** The phase when SaudiNIC shall begin accepting applications for registration of “.sa” 2LD domain names from members of the general public. The Landrush phase starts from 10:00 AM on Monday the 28th of Jumada’I 1432 H (2nd May 2011 G).
- **Qualified registrant:** An entity or individual who has registered a domain name with SaudiNIC before the Sunrise Phase; provided that it’s registration application date is before the Qualification Date.
- **DNR:** The Domain Name Registration Regulation for Saudi ccTLD (.sa), which is published on the SaudiNIC’s website.

2 Statement of Purpose

- 2/1 This 2LD Regulation covers all aspects related to the opening of “.SA” 2LD Registration.
- 2/2 This 2LD Regulation is valid from the date of its approval, and shall remain in force until the Landrush Phase starts.

- 2/3 SaudiNIC shall have responsibility for managing the introduction of direct registration under the “.sa” 2LD, including authority to issue rules and procedures needed to implement this 2LD Regulation.
- 2/4 Opening of the “.sa” 2LD will occur in two phases:
- a) Sunrise Phase, during which a Qualified Registrant has an opportunity to apply for a 2LD domain;
 - b) Landrush Phase, during which any eligible person or entity may apply for a 2LD domain name on a “first come, first served” basis.

3 Sunrise Phase

- 3/1 Before opening the “.sa” 2LD domain name registration to the public, only qualified registrants are given the opportunity to register the 2LD domain names corresponding to their registered 3LD domain names during the Sunrise phase in a fair, transparent, secure and auditable manner without overwhelming SaudiNIC’s limited resources.
- 3/2 Only Eligible Registrants may apply during the Sunrise Phase to register a 2LD domain name with a label identical to that of their existing 3LD domain name, provided that the 3LD domain name was registered before the Sunrise Phase and it’s registration application date was before the qualification date.
- 3/3 Registration applications submitted during the Sunrise Phase must be complete and comply with all terms and conditions of DNR and other SaudiNIC’s related regulations and procedures.
- 3/4 By end of the Sunrise Phase, no 2LD domain name registration applications will be accepted until the start of the Landrush phase.
- 3/5 SaudiNIC may verify whether an application meets the requirements of this 2LD Regulation before processing it.
- 3/6 SaudiNIC may grant qualified registrants, who applied during the Sunrise Phase, an extension of a period not more than seven days from the date of notifying them and for one time only to manage any default or deficiency in their applications.
- 3/7 During the Sunrise Phase, if more than one application from different qualified registrants for the same 2LD domain name that meet the requirements of this 2LD Regulation were received, the priority will be given to “gov.sa”. Otherwise, priority will be based on earliest registration date.
- 3/8 SaudiNIC shall notify all Registrants, who have submitted 2LD domain name registration application during the Sunrise Phase, of their application results by e-mail or other appropriate means chosen by SaudiNIC before the beginning of the Landrush phase.
- 3/9 All applications for the Sunrise Phase must be processed and announced through the publication of the WHOIS before the beginning of the Landrush phase.
- 3/10 The assignment of any domain name registration, during this phase, shall not give the registrant any legal right or any form of properties rights to this domain name

4 Landrush Phase

4/1 The Landrush phase starts after completing the Sunrise Phase, where any entity or individual can register “.sa” 2LD domain names on a “first come, first served” basis according to DNR’s terms and conditions as well as other SaudiNIC’s regulations and procedures.

5 General rules

5/1 In addition to the information provided in the application, SaudiNIC reserves the right to demand any further documents or information from a Registrant. Documents and information must be submitted within the time period and according to the format and method directed by SaudiNIC. If the Registrant fails to deliver the additional documents or information within the determined time period or in the requested format or method, SaudiNIC may reject an Application or cancel registration.

5/2 SaudiNIC may suspend 2LD domain name transfer for a period up to 180 days following the start of the Landrush phase. Exceptions are for domain names that are subject to orders of transfer pursuant to CITC’s Domain Name Objection Regulation or from any court of competent jurisdiction or concerned official Saudi entity.

5/3 Registrants of domain names under this 2LD Regulation shall comply with all terms and conditions of the DNR, except as otherwise specified in this 2LD Regulation.

5/4 With the approval of the CITC governor, SaudiNIC shall have authority to contract with third parties in connection with any of the services that SaudiNIC offers or any activities that it needs to carry out.

5/5 SaudiNIC shall publish this 2LD Regulation on the SaudiNIC website at least 30 days prior to the Qualification Date.

5/6 SaudiNIC, after the approval of the CITC governor, shall have the authority, if needed, to amend the timing and dates mentioned in this 2LD Regulation. The new modifications must be published on SaudiNIC’s website before the changed date.

5/7 All times mentioned in this document are in local time of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Hijri calendar is according to Umm AlQura calendar.

5/8 SaudiNIC has the right to protect or register 2LD domain names concerning domains registration service before the start of any phase.