

15 November 2021

ICANN Final Determination

Re: Notice of Registry Operator Request for Termination of Registry Agreement - .duck

On 15 July 2021, Johnson Shareholdings, Inc. notified ICANN org of its intent to terminate the .duck Registry Agreement entered into on 23 July 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 (as modified by Section 6 of Specification 13 for this .Brand TLD), ICANN org consulted with Johnson Shareholdings, Inc. to assess whether to transition operation of the .duck top-level domain (TLD) to a successor Registry Operator.

On 16 September 2021, ICANN org made a preliminary determination that operation of the .duck TLD need not be transitioned to a successor Registry Operator based on the following rationale:

1. .duck qualifies as a .Brand TLD.
2. Transitioning the TLD is not necessary to protect the public interest.

On 16 October 2021, after a 30-day period for comments by interested parties, no comments were received. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, ICANN org will proceed to terminate the .duck Registry Agreement by 11 January 2022.

In conformance with Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified by Section 6 of Specification 13 for this .Brand TLD), ICANN org may not delegate the TLD to a successor registry operator for a period of two years without Registry Operator's consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

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