
Domain Name Renewal, Expiry & Deletion Policy

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إدارة أسماء نطاق الانترنت
Domain Administration

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Domain Name Renewal, Expiry and Deletion Policy

1. Interpretation and Definitions

- 1.1. Except where expressly provided otherwise in this Policy, all terms used in this Policy, and defined in the .aeDA's Common Definition Policy (as amended from time to time) will carry the meaning ascribed to them in that Common Definition Policy.
- 1.2. Except where the context otherwise requires, the following principles will apply in interpreting the terms and words used in this Policy:
 - a) words importing the masculine, feminine or neuter gender include any of them, and the singular includes the plural and vice versa;
 - b) clause or section headings are for ease of reference only and do not affect the meaning of this Policy;
 - c) references to notice mean notice in writing;
 - d) the Schedules and any appendices or annexures form part of this Policy;
 - e) a reference to a Party includes its executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns; and
 - f) words and expressions importing natural persons include partner-ships, bodies corporate, associations, governments, governmental and local authorities and agencies.
- 1.3. The following words where used in this Policy shall have the meaning ascribed to them below;

"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 .aeDA;

"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 .aeDA), and **"Purges"** and **"Purged"** will have corresponding meanings;

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to define the rules that govern the Renewal, Expiry and Deletion of Domain Name Licences in the UAE ccTLDs.

This Policy applies to all Domain Name Licences in the UAE ccTLDs including امارات (dotEmarat) Arabic Domain Name Variants.

3. Domain Name Licence

Domain Name Licence information is contained in the Domain Name Eligibility Policy.

4. Grace Period

- 4.1. 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 Registry by the Registrar for the Registration or Renewal will be refunded to the Registrar.
- 4.2. The purpose of the Grace Period is to allow for the correction of typographic errors and other errors made by the Registrant.
- 4.3. The .aeDA 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.
- 4.4. Registrars found to be in breach of this Policy may be subject to disciplinary action, including loss of Accreditation. It must be remembered that Registrars are accountable for the actions of their Resellers and Registrants.
- 4.5. This Grace Period applies to all Domain Name Registrations and is described in Section 5 of this Policy.

5. Domain Name Deletion – Registrant Request

Application:

- 5.1. The following procedure applies in the case of Domain Names that are Deleted at the request of the Registrant.

Process:

- 5.2. The relevant Registrar receives a request from a Registrant for Deletion of a Domain Name:

- 5.2.1. If a request from a 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';
 - any Domain Name Server Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service;
 - any fees paid by the Registrar to the .aeDA for the Registration and the issue of the Domain Name Licence will be refunded to the Registrar; and
 - the Domain Name is Purged from the Registry System (see Domain Name Purging in Section 9 of this Policy).
- 5.2.2. If a request from a client for Deletion of a Domain Name is greater than three (3) Calendar Days after the creation of the Domain Name then:
- the Domain Name enters 'Pending Delete' Registry status which is depicted through the EPP Service as:
 - "Pending Delete (Client Requested Delete)";
 - any Domain Name Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service;
 - no operations are allowed with respect to the relevant Domain Name with the exception of an operation to reverse the Deletion; and
 - three (3) Calendar Days later:
 - The Domain Name becomes eligible for Purging from the Registry System (see Domain Name Purging in Section 9 of this Policy).

6. Domain Name Renewal

- 6.1. Domain Name Licences for Domain Name Licence Periods of one, two, three, four and five are years possible. This is further described in Domain Name Eligibility Policy.
- 6.2. The Registrant may elect to Renew the Domain Name Licence for a period of either one, two, three four or five years.
- 6.3. 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.
- 6.4. Domain Name Licences are eligible for Renewal at any time before the Expiry Date and up to the point that the Domain Name becomes eligible to be Purged from the Registry System.
- 6.5. Domain Names Licences can be renewed at any time for any period as long as the resulting total Domain Name Licence Period does not exceed five (5) years and ninety (90) Calendar Days from the date of Renewal. 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.

6.6. The Registrar may provide Auto Renewal Service to Applicants or Registrants subject to the following conditions:

6.6.1. an explicit consent to activate such Service must be obtained from the Registrant or the Applicant; and

6.6.2. the Registrar shall allow the Registrant to cancel the Auto-Renewal Service if the Domain Name has not yet been Renewed without a fee.

7. Domain Name Expiry

7.1. Section 7.2 applies in the case of Domain Names Licences that are not Renewed on or before the relevant Expiry Date, where the relevant Domain Names have the following Suffixes:

- .ae;
- امارات. (**dotEmarat**)
- co.ae;
- net.ae; and
- org.ae

7.2. In respect of Domain Name Licences to which this section applies where the relevant Expiry Date passes:

7.2.1. The relevant Domain Name along with any Variant or Active-Variant as the case maybe enters 'Expired Hold' Registry status which is depicted through the EPP Service as:

- "serverHold (Expired)"; and
- "serverUpdateProhibited (Expired)".

7.2.2. Updates to the Domain Name are no longer accepted by the Registry, and the only possible action is to Renew the Domain Name.

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

7.2.4. Thirty (30) Calendar Days after the Domain Name Server Records for the relevant Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service, the Domain Name enters 'Expired Hold Pending Purge' Registry status which is depicted through EPP as:

- "serverHold (Expired)";
- "serverUpdateProhibited (Expired)"; and
- "serverRenewProhibited (Expired)".

Renewals are no longer accepted for the Domain Name.

7.2.5. Thirty one (31) Calendar Days after the Domain Name Server Records for the relevant Domain Name are removed from the Registry, the Domain Name becomes eligible for Purging from the Registry System (see Domain Name Purging in Section 9 of this document).

7.3. Section 7.4 applies in the case of Domain Names Licences that are not Renewed on or before the relevant Expiry Date, where the relevant Domain Names have the following Suffixes:

- gov.ae;
- mil.ae;
- ac.ae; and
- sch.ae

7.4. In respect of Domain Name Licences to which this section applies where the relevant Expiry Date:

7.4.1. The Domain Name enters 'Expired' Registry status which is depicted through the EPP Service as:

- "serverUpdateProhibited (Expired)";

7.4.2. updates to the Domain Name are no longer accepted, and the only possible action is to Renew the Domain Name Licence.

7.4.3. Ninety (90) Calendar Days later after the Domain Name Records for the relevant Domain Name are removed from the Registry and enters 'Expired Hold' Registry status which is depicted through EPP as:

- "serverHold (Expired)"; and
- "serverUpdateProhibited (Expired)".

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

7.4.4. Thirty (30) Calendar Days after the Domain Name Server Records for the relevant Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service, enters 'Expired Hold Pending Purge' Registry status which is depicted through EPP as:

- "serverHold (Expired)"; and
- "serverUpdateProhibited (Expired)"; and
- "serverRenewProhibited (Expired)".

Renewals are no longer accepted for the Domain Name

7.4.5. Three (3) Calendar Days after the domain enters the 'Expired Hold Pending Purge' the Domain Name becomes eligible for purging from the Registry System (see Domain Name Purging in Section 9 of this document).

8. Domain Name Deletion – Policy Deletion

- 8.1. The procedure set out in this Section 8 applies in the case of Domain Names that are deleted for a breach of Policy by the Registrant:
- 8.2. Where the Registry receives request for Policy Deletion of Domain Name:
 - 8.2.1. the Domain Name enters 'Pending Policy Delete' Registry status which is depicted through the EPP Service as:
 - "Pending Delete (Client Requested Policy Delete)"
 - 8.2.2. no operations are allowed on the Domain Name (except the operation to reverse the Policy Deletion).
- 8.3. Any Domain Name Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service.
- 8.4. Fourteen (14) Calendar Days after the Domain Name Records for the Domain Name are removed from the DNS Service, the Domain Name becomes eligible for purging from the Registry System (see Domain Name Purging in Section 9 of this document).

9. Domain Name Purging

The software in the Registry System searches for Domain Name Licences that are eligible for Purging, and performs the operation that Purges those Domain Names from the Registry System. At this point the Domain Name is fully removed from the Registry System and the Domain Name becomes available for Registration.

10. Notice of Upcoming Purged Domains

At a predetermined time each day, all Registrars for Domain Names ending in the suffixes ".ae", "co.ae", "net.ae" and "امارات. (dotEmarat)" are notified of Domain Names that were assigned the following Registry status/es during the previous twenty four (24) hour period:

- "Pending Delete"; and
- "Expired Pending Purge".

The notice will include the exact date and time that the status was applied, allowing the Registrar to calculate, based on this Policy, when the Domain Name will be available for Registration again.

11. Policy Review

The .aeDA may update this Policy at any time in its complete discretion, including for the purpose of clarification.