

.SCHOOL.ZA LAUNCH POLICY

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1. BACKGROUND

E School network (ESN), the entity that administer and manage .school.za requested a delay in the school.za Charter publication as they were preparing for the migration from fourth-level to third-level registrations. This is after they have received numerous calls for interests in the third-level registration from the school.za community.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The primary purpose of the Launch Phase if school.za domain is to attempt to regulate the orderly and equitable introduction of the domain to the School.za community and the public. This is also to provide reasonable protection to priority rights holders, in this case, the existing fourth-level registrations, as well as to deter and mitigate against abusive and bad faith registrations.
- 2.2 It is the intention of this Launch Policy to provide clarity and certainty to all concerned stakeholders, especially participating registrars and registrants, as to the rules and procedures that the Registry will follow in the introducing the school.za SLD to the school community and the public.
- 2.3 The policy strives to establish fair competition and equity amongst parties contending for new domain names, while simultaneously recognizing the need to afford priority to existing rights holders of the fourth-level domain names.
- 2.4 This document incorporates the views and inputs of the ZA Domain Name Authority, which have been derived through discussion with ESN.
- 2.5 The key principle incorporated into the Launch Phase is Sunrise and Reserved Name process.
- 2.6 As has become accepted international practice, the launch of any new gTLD and SLD has, almost always, been accompanied by a suitable Sunrise Period, during which holders of prior naming rights, can register their corresponding domain names before the general public is allowed to do so.
- 2.7 Combining the application periods for Sunrise and RNL redemption allows for a simpler launch process, while still maintain the priority of recognised rights holders.

3. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

"**Applicant**" means the applicant for registration of a domain name under this policy

"**Eligibility Requirements**" means the requirements that a Sunrise Application must meet

"**General Availability**" means the normal operations of school.za SLD when it will be opened for general domain name registrations on a first-come first-served basis. This will occur after Sunrise and RNL Phase

"**Registry**" means the ESN appointed to administer school.za SLD

"**Registry website**" means Internet website at URL <http://www.esn.org.za>

Reserved Name List (RNL) means:

- Reserve Name List means names that the registry, government and regulator can reserve for internal defined purposes, e.g. names such as za.school.za will fall under RNL for regulator's usage. The list will include offensive names, names deemed as derogatory to be released into a public domain.
- Geographical names and any name related to local or national government are to be reserved for government, e.g. gauteng.school.za.
- The registry is welcome to reserve names for technical purposes and they're only to be used internally, e.g. school.school.za, technical.school.za by the Registry Operator.

"**Restricted, Moderated SLD**" Means an SLD that has eligibility requirements and has a duly - appointed person or entity, known as the moderator, who verifies each application complies with the SLD's eligibility requirements.

"**SLD**" means a Second-level Domain of the domain name system

"**School.za or Registry**" means the school.za SLD Registry operated by ESN

"**Sunrise Application**" means an application made during the Sunrise Period by an Applicant whose domain name exists in the school.za fourth-level registrations

"**Sunrise Period**" Means registrant of the fourth level domain name/s, is the only eligible candidate to secure a name in the third level domain, name corresponding (if not the same) with their fourth level

"**Supplementary Policy**" means a policy that a registry operator may set and implement that augments and/or supplements ZADNA's General Policy, or specific sections thereof, subject to the Registry duly notifying ZADNA.

4. SCOPE AND DOCUMENTATION

This document sets out the launch policies and procedures for school.za.

5. GENERAL OVERVIEW

- 5.1 Both Sunrise and RNL applications must be made during the Launch Phase, that is, before the General Availability Phase.
- 5.2 The Launch Phase will run approximately one month. There will be a single Sunrise Period and a RNL phase will run concurrently with it.
- 5.3 At the end of Sunrise period, Sunrise applications will be processed and domain names will be registered to the successful applicants. ESN, as the moderator, will resolve any conflict and disputes resulting from Sunrise applications.
- 5.4 In order to make a Sunrise Application, Applications must first validate their prior right, in relation to fourth-level registrations, and match these to corresponding domain name strings. They must do this with the help from the moderator.
- 5.5 Sunrise Applications must be made during the Sunrise Period, and can only be made via an ESN recognised Registrar. Sunrise must meet the eligibility Requirements.
- 5.6 Multiple Sunrise Applications for the same domain name string are accepted in a Sunrise Period. If more than one Application meets the Eligibility Requirements, ESN will use their discretion on the allocation of the domain name.
- 5.7 After the Launch Phase has been concluded the SLD will be opened to General registration.

The Launch process is outlined in the figure below:

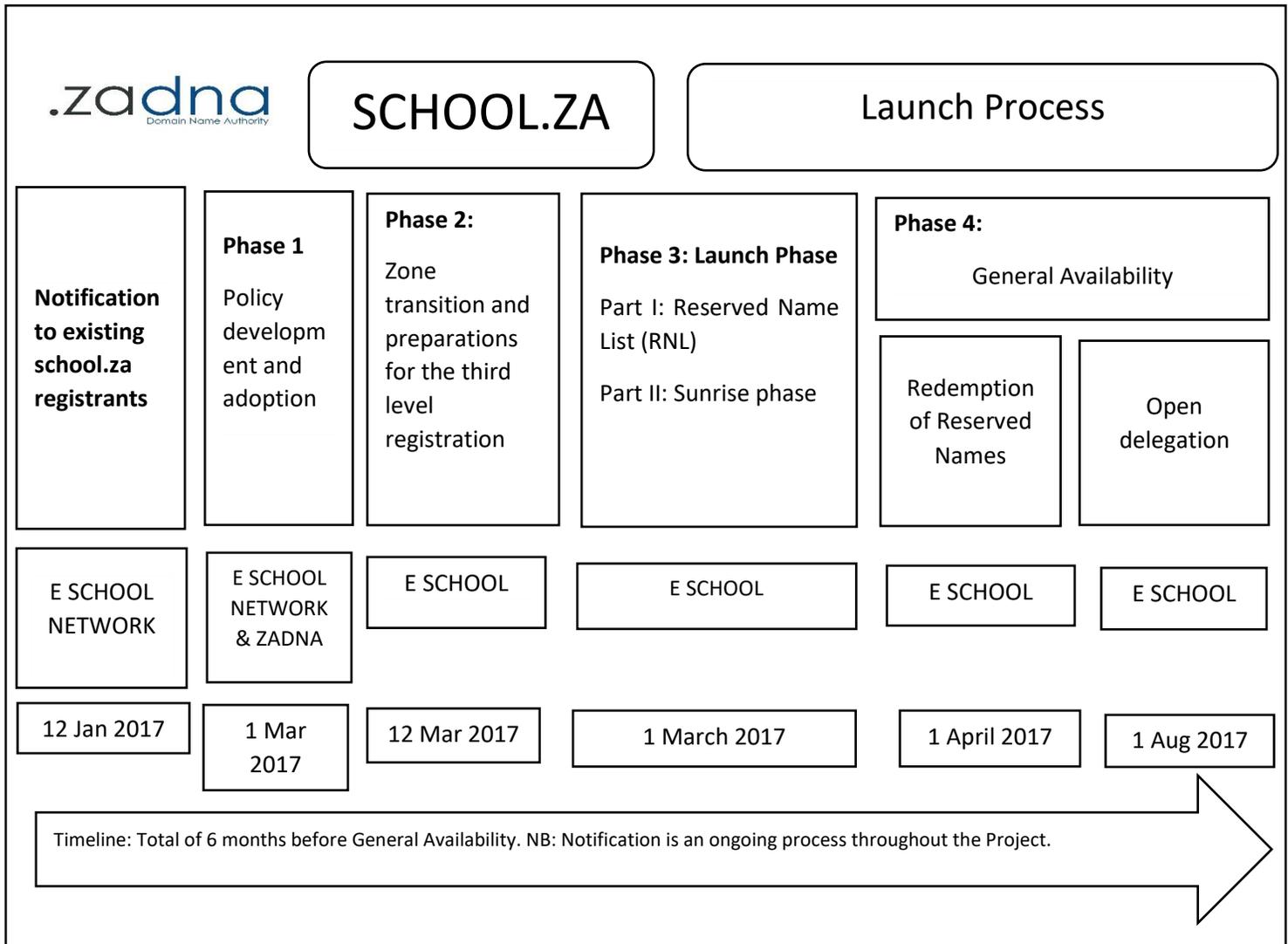


Figure: 5.0

6. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SUNRISE APPLICATIONS

6.1 In order to register a domain name through a Sunrise Application, the Applicant must meet the following requirements:

6.1.1 The Applicant must have been the registrant of a domain name in the fourth-level

6.1.2 The domain name must be in the Reserved list for that particular School

7. PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Sunrise Applications will be finalised before processing of General Availability Applications begins.
- 7.2 If any Sunrise Application is the subject of a dispute as described in the clause 12.1, the corresponding domain name will be entered in the reserved name list and will not be available for registration via Sunrise Application, or General Availability, pending resolution of the disputes.

8. LAUNCH PHASE

- 8.1 The launch Phase will run for a period of six months as set out in the diagram in the clause 5.7 above, and Sunrise Applications can only be made during this period.
- 8.2 During the launch stage, Sunrise Applications can be made, and RNL names can be allocated to the relevant Schools as per ESN policy.
- 8.3 It is the responsibility of the School to make an Application to secure a domain name in the third-level under school.za namespace.

9. PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF DOMAIN NAMES UNDER LAUNCH PHASE

- 9.1 Any domain name sitting under Sunrise Phase will be valid for a period of 6 six months, after this period any school can register it under general Availability.

10. PRICING

- 10.1 Registration of school.za domain names is free. There is no renewal fees involved, although registrants are required to keep their registration records up to date.

11. UNAVAILABLE NAMES

- 11.1 The Registry, Government, and ZADNA may at their sole discretion reserve certain names from registration or allocate them to themselves, and for the purpose of internal administration.

This names will not be available for registration and include:

- 11.1.1 The following strings must be reserved for technical reasons: ASCII labels Example WWW, RDDS, WHOIS and NIC at all levels of the school.za SLD.
- 11.1.2 Names reserved for use in connection with the operation of the Registry, for example "registry.school.za".
- 11.1.3 Names that may cause technical disruption or issues around the DNS system.
- 11.1.4 Names that have been identified as offensive or likely to be used for abusive practices.

12. DISPUTES

- 12.1 As this is a moderated SLD, domain disputes process is designed by the moderator, ESN.

13. LOOKUP SERVICE

- 13.1 A lookup service may be available during the Launch Phase. Applicants may review submitted information for a particular application through ESN determined processes.

14. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

14.1 Modifications and Enforceability

- 14.1.1 The School.za Registry may modify this policy from time to time, and modifications will take effect at the time they are announced on the Registry and ZADNA website and without prior notice to Applicants, Registrars or Registrants.
- 14.1.2 If any part of this policy is declared invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the reminder of this policy will remain valid and enforceable as if the invalid or unenforceable part were not included herein.