

## High-Level Overview of the Validation Process during .eu Sunrise

### 1. DOMAIN NAME APPLICATION AND COMMUNICATION OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

- Step 1.** The domain name applicant selects a Registrar and instructs such Registrar to apply for a domain name in the Phased Registration (Sunrise) Period; the Registrar must have entered into an agreement with EUR*id* in order to lawfully offer registration services to domain name applicants.
- Step 2.** The Registrar enters the domain name application in the Sunrise Database of EUR*id*. Parts of this database are made publicly available by EUR*id* through a Sunrise WHOIS database.
- Step 3.** EUR*id* confirms receipt of the domain name application to the domain name applicant (or his Registrar<sup>1</sup>) by e-mail; such confirmation includes, amongst others, the domain name applicant's rank in the queue for the domain name applied for (in case there are multiple applicants for one and the same name). Furthermore, the e-mail confirmation will include a hyperlink. When pressing the hyperlink, the recipient of the e-mail confirmation will be directed to a web site of EUR*id* with a pre-formatted cover page (in .pdf), which the recipient needs to print and undersign.
- Step 4.** This undersigned cover page needs to be sent to the address mentioned on top of such page, together with the documentation required in order to substantiate the prior right invoked by the applicant.
- In principle, documentary evidence has to be sent by regular mail to PricewaterhouseCoopers' scanning centre; however, in case the domain name applicant has filed his domain name application through a Registrar who has entered into an agreement with PricewaterhouseCoopers for the electronic exchange of documentary evidence, PricewaterhouseCoopers will also accept documentary evidence in electronic form, insofar and to the extent such electronic documentary evidence is submitted by the Registrar.
- Step 5.** PricewaterhouseCoopers will time-stamp documentary evidence upon receipt and notify EUR*id* of the receipt date. Hardcopies will be scanned and archived for a limited time.

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<sup>1</sup> It is possible for a domain name applicant to authorise the Registrar appointed by him to take care of all necessary formalities, like sending in the documentary evidence. Such selection needs to be communicated to EUR*id* when making the domain name application.

**Step 6.** EURid modifies the status of the application from “documentary evidence pending” to “documentary evidence received”. This will be made available in the Sunrise WHOIS database.

As from this moment, separate procedures will be followed for general domain name applications (trademarks, geographical indications, trade names, etc.) on the one hand and for “names and acronyms of public bodies” on the other hand.

## **2. VALIDATION OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE**

In case a domain name applicant is the first having applied for a particular name (“first come, first served”), its documentary evidence has been received in time by PricewaterhouseCoopers, and a trademark, geographical indication, trade name, ... has been invoked as a prior right:

**Step 7.** EURid will instruct PricewaterhouseCoopers to validate the documentary evidence sent in by or on behalf of the domain name applicant, and provides PricewaterhouseCoopers with all necessary information received during the application process.

**Step 8.** PricewaterhouseCoopers validates the documentary evidence received and notifies EURid of its findings in this respect.

## **3. COMMUNICATION OF DECISION**

**Step 9.** EURid takes a decision on whether or not to attribute the name to the domain name applicant in question and notifies such decision to the domain name applicant or the Registrar (in case the decision is negative) and to all other applicants for the same domain name (in case the decision is positive).

**Step 10.** The decision of EURid is recorded in the Sunrise WHOIS database, where it is publicly available.