# Anti-Abuse Policy for Domains Registered in .ngo|.ong

The following policy is announced pursuant to Public Interest Registry’s Registry-Registrar Agreements (“RRA”) for the .ngo and .ong top-level domains (“TLD”) in effect between Public Interest Registry and each of its Registrars, and is effective December 8, 2014.

Abusive use(s) of domains registered in the .ngo TLD and the .ong TLD (collectively “.ngo|.ong”) should not be tolerated. The nature of such abuses creates security and stability issues for the registry, registrars and registrants, as well as for users of the Internet. In general, Public Interest Registry defines abusive use of a domain as the wrong or excessive use of power, position or ability, and includes, without limitation, the following:

* **Illegal or fraudulent actions**
* **Spam**: The use of electronic messaging systems to send unsolicited bulk messages. The term applies to e-mail spam and similar abuses such as instant messaging spam, mobile messaging spam, and the spamming of Web sites and Internet forums. An example, for purposes of illustration, would be the use of email in denial-of-service attacks
* **Phishing:** The use of counterfeit Web pages that are designed to trick recipients into divulging sensitive data such as usernames, passwords, or financial data
* **Pharming:** The redirecting of unknowing users to fraudulent sites or services, typically through DNS hijacking or poisoning
* **Willful distribution of malware:** The dissemination of software designed to infiltrate or damage a computer system without the owner’s informed consent. Examples include, without limitation, computer viruses, worms, key loggers, and Trojan horses
* **Fast flux hosting:** Use of fast-flux techniques to disguise the location of Web sites or other Internet services, or to avoid detection and mitigation efforts, or to host illegal activities. Fast-flux techniques use DNS to frequently change the location on the Internet to which the domain name of an Internet host or name server resolves. Fast flux hosting may be used only with prior permission of Public Interest Registry
* **Botnet command and control:** Services run on a domain name that are used to control a collection of compromised computers or “zombies,” or to direct denial-of-service attacks (DDoS attacks)
* **Distribution of child pornography**
* **Illegal Access to Other Computers or Networks:** Illegally accessing computers, accounts, or networks belonging to another party, or attempting to penetrate security measures of another individual’s system (often known as “hacking”). Also, any activity that might be used as a precursor to an attempted system penetration (e.g., port scan, stealth scan, or other information gathering activity)

Pursuant to Public Interest Registry’s Registry-Registrar Agreements, Public Interest Registry reserves the right to deny, cancel or transfer any registration or transaction, or place any domain name(s) on registry lock, hold or similar status, that it deems necessary, in its discretion; (1) to protect the integrity and stability of the registry; (2) to comply with any applicable laws, government rules or requirements, requests of law enforcement, or any dispute resolution process; (3) to avoid any liability, civil or criminal, on the part of Public Interest Registry, as well as its affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, and employees; (4) per the terms of the registration agreement or (5) to correct mistakes made by Public Interest Registry or any Registrar in connection with a domain name registration. Public Interest Registry also reserves the right to place upon registry lock, hold or similar status a domain name during resolution of a dispute.

Abusive uses, as defined above, undertaken with respect to .ngo|.ong domain names, shall give rise to the right of Public Interest Registry to, in its sole discretion, take such action(s) under its Registry-Registrar Agreements. Since registration of domains in .ngo|.ong are technically “bundled,” if Public Interest Registry takes such action(s) against domains registered in the .ngo TLD, the same action(s) will necessarily be taken against the corresponding domains registered in the .ong TLD (and vice-versa).