

QUALIFIED LAUNCH PROGRAM

.CORSICA



Collectivité Territoriale de Corse (CTC) (“Registry Operator”), in connection with the execution of the Registry Agreement for the .CORSICA TLD (the “Registry Agreement”), intends to conduct the below described launch program pursuant to Section 4.5.1 of the Trademark Clearinghouse Rights Protection Mechanism Requirements (the “TMCH Requirements”) in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Qualified Launch Program Addendum published by ICANN on April 10th, 2014.

The Pioneer Program intends to offer potential .CORSICA domain name holders the possibility to register and start using .CORSICA domain names prior to the General Registration period. Such early registered domain names are called “**Pioneer Names**”. The active and positive use of .CORSICA Pioneer Names will drive public interest and will increase awareness of the .CORSICA TLD.

Among all the applications received that meet the eligibility criteria set forth below, the Registry Operator will select and allow registration of a maximum of ninety (90) .CORSICA Pioneer Names, based on a criteria of visibility, notoriety, commitment to the promotion of the .CORSICA TLD, and contribution to the purposes of the .CORSICA TLD.

To this effect, CTC will publish a Call for Proposals (attached). Applications will be received by CTC before October 6, 2015, the date established as deadline.

In that call for proposals CTC explicitly informs potential applicants that the Program is being conducted according to the provisions established by ICANN in the TMCH Requirements and QLP Addendum.

In view of the above, upon approval by ICANN of the StartUp Information hereby submitted, including this QLP, CTC will proceed to:

- Review and select the Projects from among those presented that meet the criteria established by CTC.
- Check the names proposed by the applicants against the TMCH’s Sunrise List;
- Check their full conformity with all the requirements set forth in the Addendum to the RPM Requirements;

- Proceed to allocate (or reject) the proposed names;
- Allow registration and activation of allocated names.

All this will be done between the date of approval of the StartUp Information by ICANN and October 6th (provisional date provided ICANN's approval in due time)

Description of the Pioneer Program

1. Eligibility and Name Selection

1.1 General eligibility requirements

1.1.1 Registrations are restricted to bona-fide members of the worldwide Corsican community. This community is composed of those individuals and organizations linked to the community on a cultural or business basis, or by any other activity conducive to the welfare of the Corsican community.

The TLD string “.CORSICA” matches the name of the community in English and all other internationally used languages.

1.1.2 In addition, the registrant's use of the registered domain name must be:

- a. generally accepted as legitimate; and
- b. beneficial to the cause and the values of the worldwide Corsican community; and
- c. commensurate with the role and importance of the registered domain name; and
- d. in good faith at the time of registration and thereafter.

1.1.3 Moreover, at the time of announcing the selection, the Pioneer Name applied for must not be registered at the Trademark Clearinghouse in favor of a third party (i.e. a party other than the Pioneer Name applicant) unless it is also registered at the Trademark Clearinghouse in favor of the applicant or the applicant is an international, national, regional, local or municipal governmental authority (a “Public Authority”) as set forth by section 2.2. of the QLP Addendum.

1.2 Specific eligibility requirements.

In addition to the above general eligibility criteria, the named applied for as Pioneer Name must **be identical to the following**:

1.2.1 For the relevant **Public Authorities** (at any level) with competence in Corsica are:

- Their **own name**, including clear variations and/or abbreviations thereof, or
- The **name of a public service** or public interest for which the applicant Public Authority has specific responsibilities; including at least the following services:
 - public order and public security

- public affairs and institutional relations
 - public health
 - taxation, economic development and promotion
 - public utilities
 - transportation
 - urban planning and environmental protection
 - culture and education
 - citizen participation
 - tourism; or
- A **Geographical name** for any subdivision of Corsica, local landmarks, and other locally-relevant and iconic names in the area, including clear variations and abbreviations thereof; provided that the applicant is a Public Authority exercising control over that place or local landmark under local law; or

1.2.2 For registered right holders:

- i. A **TMCH-validated trademark**;
- ii. **non TMCH-validated trademark** with effect in Corsica (i.e. France trademark, EU Community trademark, and/or WIPO International trademark with effect in France);
- iii. **Geographical indication of Corsica**, as recognized by International or UK legislation.

1.2.3 For **entities and individuals**, which have a specific vocation in promoting the worldwide Corsican's public interest (including, e.g. Corsican music, theatre, museums, sports, education, and media) well-known within the Corsican community:

- 1.2.4 their own name or well-known artistic name (including clear variations and/or abbreviations thereof), and/or
- 1.2.5 the online service/s they provide; or

1.2.6 For legal entities with legal seat in Corsica:

- 1.2.7 their **registered company names and trade names** (including clear variations and/or abbreviations thereof); and
- 1.2.8 the same domain names registered by them in other TLDs and effectively used.

1.3 Additional Requirement.

In addition, applicant must be ready to demonstrate technical ability to announce the working website, no later than one (1) month after the announcement of the Pioneers.

1.4 Validation process

1.4.1 The fulfillment of the general eligibility requirements set forth in this Section 1 will be verified according to:

- the intended use statement supplied by the domain registrant at the time of registration and/or the explicit agreement to the terms and conditions including the .CORSICA TLD use policies, and
- an ongoing enforcement program.

1.4.2 The fulfillment of the specific eligibility requirements set forth in this Section 1 will be carefully and individually checked by the Registry Operator. Self-declaration will not be sufficient.

2. Respect of Intellectual Property Rights of third parties

The Pioneer Program (i) will not contribute to consumer confusion, and (ii) will not contribute to the infringement of intellectual property rights due to:

- a) the requirement reflected in 1.1. (c) above that the name applied for as Pioneer Name is not registered in the Trademark Clearinghouse in favor of a third party unless as set forth by the section 2 of the QLP Addendum; and
- b) the prior right requirement established as eligibility criteria; and
- c) the very limited number of domain names involved; and
- d) the scope of the program aimed at the promotion of an orderly .CORSICA namespace.

3. Final assurances

Registry Operator represents that the Pioneer Program described above is a true and correct description. Registry Operator agrees that if Registry Operator makes any changes to the Pioneer Program (whether before or after the Launch Application has been approved), it will promptly provide ICANN with a revised description of the Program. Registry Operator acknowledges and agrees that in the event that any of the information contained herein becomes untrue (including after ICANN has approved the Pioneer Program), any approval granted by ICANN to Registry Operator for this Program shall immediately expire, and Registry Operator shall immediately cease accepting registrations or allocations under the Pioneer Program.