

# **NATIONAL COMMUNICATION AUTHORITY (NCA)**

## **SOUTH SUDAN NETWORK INFORMATION CENTER (ssNIC)**

### DOMAIN NAME AUCTION GUIDELINES

#### **Background:**

The National Communication Authority (NCA) has launched the domain name registrations for the South Sudan country code top-level-domain name .ss ccTLD on 1<sup>st</sup>/June/2020, in accordance with the provisions of the Registry's Domain Name Registration policy, Sunrise registration policy, and in conjunctions with other Registry's policies and guidelines. Please find the Domain Name Auction Guidelines below.

#### ***Names to be auctioned***

During the landrush period (17<sup>th</sup> July - 17<sup>th</sup> August 2020) the registry shall receive landrush applications directly to the registry, however the Registry has a Premium Domain List which is accessible through auction only and bidding process shall take place in which the highest bidder shall win the domain name. Though there are no trademark requirements for applications during the Landrush period if there is a contest on a domain name between two parties at this period the domain name will go into auction and the highest bidder will take over the claimed domain name.

For the successful conduct of auctions and continuity process of Premium Domains auctioning, the registry will utilize the services of an auctioning platform.

**URL to the Auctions Platform:**      <https://auctions.afriregister.com/>

**Eligibility:**                                      All potential registrants both locally and globally.

#### **Requirements:**

For smooth and convenient bidding experience there are essential requirements from all the applicants before they are eligible to bid.

1. The bidder needs to be registered and have an account on the auction platform.
2. Two factor authentications through email is required for the bidder to activate their account on the platform.
3. A minimum deposit of **50 USD** is required from the bidder before entering the bidding room.

4. All bidders are expected to give correct information as this will be cross checked by the registry to ensure that only genuine accounts are participating on the auction process.

### **Payment:**

Payment is done through auctioning platform's bank account. And the payments of successful bids are to be made within 2 days.

### **Administration of the Bidder deposit:**

1. The deposit will form part of the payment for a successful bid.
2. The deposit will be forfeited if a bid succeeds and the payment is not made within the stipulated timeframe (2 days)
3. The deposit is non-refundable incase the bidder did not succeed in buying any domain name during the auction

### **Payment on successful Bid**

- On a successful bid, the bidder is expected to make full payment less the deposit amount (50 USD) within the stipulated time into the auction platform's bank account.
- Failure to make payment within the stipulated time shall result in the forfeiture of deposit and loss of ALL rights to the won domain by the successful bidder. The domain shall be made available to the next highest bidder provided that the bid was above the reserve price.

-Where the next highest bidder is not ready to take over the domain name, the domain name shall be returned to the available pool in the premium domain name list and may be re-auctioned.

- The winning bidder is required to register their domain name with a registrar of their choice and pay the regular landrush domain name registration fee. List of the accredited registrars is available on the [ssNIC](#) site.

### **Bidding Process:**

- The landrush period commences on the 17<sup>th</sup>/July/2020 and ends by the 17<sup>th</sup>/August/2020.

- From the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020 the registry will receive Landrush applications from the applicants (15 days period). The applications will be reviewed on daily basis and if a domain name is claimed by to applicants during this period the domain will go into auction and the two parties will be informed of the procedure to register and enter the auction platform. If a domain name is not contested it will be registered right after the end of the landrush applications period i.e. 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020.

- The registration on the auctioning platform starts on the 17th July 2020 and closes on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020 Midday (12:00 EAT), only the applicants who registered on the auctioning platform successfully are allowed to bid on the platform. No any other bidding registrations shall happen after the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020.

- The auctioning will start on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020 and ends by 10<sup>th</sup> August 2020 Midday (12:00 EAT)

- The starting bidding price for premium domains for each zone is as below:

A. for **.com.ss** the starting bidding price is **150 \$**

B. for **.net.ss** and **.biz.ss** the starting bidding price is **100 \$**

C. for **.me.ss** the starting bidding price is **50 \$**

The bidders are to bid on the above mentioned amounts.

- The starting bidding price for Landrush applications which are transferred to the auction platform is the regular price for Landrush registrations.

ALL concerns are to be communicated to [info@nic.ss](mailto:info@nic.ss)

website: <http://nic.ss>

ssNIC Management