

Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited

Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules for .香港 Domain Names

Effective 2 February 2011

1. DEFINITIONS

In these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules:

"**Applicant**" means an individual or entity applying for a Chinese Domain Name or an English Domain Name under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.

"**Chinese Characters**" has the meaning given in the [Registration Policies](#).

"**Chinese Domain Name**" (or "**CDN**") means a domain name which (i) ends with ".香港"; (ii) unless otherwise notified to HKIRC, contains one or more Chinese Characters, (the domain name may contain one or more upper or lower case English letters, numbers and/or hyphens); (iii) is not more than 15 Chinese Characters, letters, numbers or hyphens in total length, excluding the ".香港" extension; (iv) begins and ends with a Chinese Character, a letter or a number; and (v) does not contain hyphens in the third and fourth character positions.

"**Commencement Date**" in respect of an Eligible EDN, will be deemed to be the date of the application for registration of the Eligible EDN (disregarding any prior registrations which were cancelled or allowed to lapse resulting in an Eligible EDN becoming available to the public for registration).

"**Cut-Off Date**" means one calendar day before the effective date of these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.

"**Domain Name**" means a domain name under the .hk or .香港 country code top level domains ("ccTLD"), and includes Chinese Domain Names and English Domain Names, or either as the context may require.

"**Eligible Applicant**" means an Applicant holding an Eligible EDN that meets the eligibility requirements for the Domain Name application, as set out in the Registration Policies.

"**Eligible Company Name**" means a registered company name, business name, name of educational institution, name of government department/bureau, or name of organisation (as evidenced by the documents specified in Section 6.3(c)), applied for and granted prior to the Cut-Off Date.

"**Eligible English Domain Name**" (or "**Eligible EDN**") means (a) an active .hk domain name in the English language or Arabic numerals; (b) which has been applied for prior to the Cut-Off Date; (c) which expires at least ninety (90) days after the date of application for registration of a Chinese Domain Name under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules; and (d) is not registered under an old version of the Registration Agreement. The version of the Registration Agreement under which an Eligible EDN is registered is indicated on the WHOIS search report for that Eligible EDN.

"**Eligible .hk Chinese Domain Name**" (or "**Eligible .hk CDN**") means a Domain Name which (i) ends with ".hk"; (ii) contains at least one or more Chinese Characters, (iii) may contain one or more English letters, numbers and/or hyphens; (iv) is not more than 15 Chinese Characters, letters or numbers in total length excluding the ".hk" extension; (v) begins and ends with a Chinese Character, a letter or a number; (vi) does not contain hyphens in the third and fourth character positions, and (vii) expires at least ninety (90) days after the date of application for bundling with an Eligible EDN under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules. For the avoidance of doubt, any free of charge .hk Chinese Domain Name registered during the promotional programs in 2010 is not eligible

for any application for bundling with an Eligible EDN under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.

"Eligible Individual" means an Eligible Applicant that is an individual.

"Eligible Name" means a legal name of an individual as shown on the individual's Identity Card, passport, or other form of official photographic identification issued in the individual's country of residence.

"Eligible Organisation" means an Eligible Applicant that is an organization, business or entity.

"Eligible Registered Trade Mark" (or **"Eligible RTM"**) means a registered Hong Kong trade or service mark applied for and granted prior to the Cut-Off Date.

"Eligible Trading/Product Name" means a trading name or product name used and/or publicised prior to the Cut-Off Date.

"English Domain Name" (or **"EDN"**) means a Domain Name under the .hk country code top level domain which contains no Chinese Characters.

"Equivalent Domain Name Categories" means domain name categories on the same row in the below table. Domain name categories on the same row are equivalent to each other,

Domain name categories for .hk English Domain Names	Domain name categories for .hk Chinese Domain Names	Domain name categories for .香港 Chinese Domain Names
.com.hk	.公司.hk	.公司.香港
.org.hk	.組織.hk	.組織.香港
.net.hk	.網絡.hk	.網絡.香港
.edu.hk	.教育.hk	.教育.香港
.gov.hk	.政府.hk	.政府.香港
.idv.hk	.個人.hk	.個人.香港
.hk	.hk	.香港

"HKDNR" means the Hong Kong Domain Name Registration Company Limited.

"HKIRC" means the Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited.

"Published Policies" means those policies, guidelines, notices or procedures issued and published by HKIRC from time to time on the HKIRC [website](#), and includes the [Registration Policies](#).

"Registrant" means the holder of a Domain Name registration.

"Registration Agreement" means the Agreement between HKDNR and the Registrant in respect of a Domain Name registration.

"Registration Policies" means the Registration Policies, Procedures and Guidelines of HKIRC, together with any subsequent versions, amendments and supplements.

“**Second Level Chinese Domain Name**” means a Chinese Domain Name consisting of only two levels (for example, 陳大文.香港)

“**Third Level Chinese Domain Name**” means a Chinese Domain Name consisting of three levels (for example, 麗家美酒.公司.香港) under the existing second level domain name or any other second level domain name that may be introduced from time to time.

Unless otherwise indicated, words that are defined in the Registration Agreement and [Registration Policies](#) will have the same meaning if used in these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.

2. APPLICATION OF PRE LAUNCH PRIORITY REGISTRATION PERIOD RULES

- 2.1 To ensure systematic and coordinated implementation of the Chinese Domain Names, there will be a Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, during which applications for Chinese Domain Names will not be processed on a first-come-first-served basis, but pursuant to these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.
- 2.2 These Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules are intended to supplement and do not override or replace any of the rules and requirements set out in the Registration Agreement and Published Policies. In the event of any inconsistency between these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules on the one hand, and the Published Policies and/or the Registration Agreement on the other, these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules will prevail.
- 2.3 These Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules only apply during the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period. After the expiry of the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, all Chinese Domain Names which have been applied for and allocated under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules will be governed solely by the Registration Agreement and the Published Policies of HKIRC.
- 2.4 By applying for a Chinese Domain Name during the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, either directly or through any of the service partners of HKDNR, the Applicant agrees to accept and be bound by these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules as principal.
- 2.5 In the event of any inconsistency between the English and Chinese versions of these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules, the English version will prevail.
- 2.6 HKIRC reserves the right to amend any term of these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules at any time. Whenever HKIRC amends the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules, HKIRC will publish the amended version in advance on the HKIRC [website](#). Any amended version of the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules will become effective on the effective date specified at the beginning of the amended version, and will replace all previous versions of the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.
- 2.7 All disputes in relation to a Chinese Domain Name (except for objections raised pursuant to Section 9 of these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules) will be dealt with in accordance with the HKIRC [Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy](#), regardless of whether the Chinese Domain Name is registered during the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period.
- 2.8 During the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, any individual or entity holding an Eligible EDN can apply for Chinese Domain Name. HKDNR is the only registrar who will handle Chinese Domain Name applications under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.

3. NO LIABILITY FOR LOSS

- 3.1 To the maximum extent permitted by applicable laws, neither HKIRC nor HKDNR will be liable for, and Applicants and Registrants continually indemnify both HKIRC and HKDNR against, any damage or loss suffered or incurred by the Applicant as a result of, or in connection with, the allocation by HKIRC of any Chinese Domain Names under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.

4. PRE LAUNCH PRIORITY REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR CHINESE DOMAIN NAMES

- 4.1 During the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, any Registrant holding an Eligible EDN can apply, free of charge, in the name in which the Eligible EDN is registered, for a Chinese Domain Name in the Equivalent Domain Name Category.
- 4.2 During the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, Applicants shall decide if they consent to allowing HKIRC and HKDNR to pass all the contact details of their registrant and administrative contacts to other Applicants, if any, for the same Chinese Domain Name. The purpose is to allow Applicants to contact each other if they wish to agree amongst themselves on who will be the holder of the Chinese Domain Name in case more than one Eligible Applicant applies for it. Only when all Applicants for the same Chinese Domain Name agree to disclose their contact details to other Applicants will HKDNR or HKIRC do so. Applicants should record and signify the agreement reached, if any, on the Mutual Agreement Form that can be downloaded from the HKDNR or HKIRC website.
- 4.3 HKIRC may be able to determine the result of any application under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules where there is only one eligible Application for the relevant Chinese Domain Name. As soon as reasonably practicable after the expiry of the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period the preliminary results of the allocation of Chinese Domain Names of the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period will be published on the HKIRC website ("**First Stage Announcements**").
- 4.4 For a period of seven (7) days from the date of the First Stage Announcements (or if, the First Stage Announcements are made over a number of days, the date stated by HKIRC to be the effective date of the First Stage Announcements), any person may object to a Chinese Domain Name allocated (as notified in the First Stage Announcements) by submitting evidence that the Chinese Domain Name was not applied for or allocated in accordance with these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules ("**First Stage Objection Period**"). The decision rendered by HKIRC in respect of any such objection shall be final and binding.
- 4.5 After the expiry of the First Stage Objection Period, Applicants will be notified of the results by email. For any application which HKIRC has been unable to determine, HKIRC will follow Clause 4.6 and may at the same time, in accordance with the process set out in Section 6.3, request any documentation necessary to determine the application ("**Document Request Period**").
- 4.6 Where there are two or more Eligible Applicants for the same Chinese Domain Name during the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, and that all the Eligible Applicants have consent to HKIRC and HKDNR passing the contact details of the registrant and administrative contacts to other Applicants for the same Chinese Domain Name ("Opt-In Applicants") with reference to section 4.2. HKIRC or HKDNR will pass the contact details of the registrant and administrative contacts to all other Applicants for the same Domain Name. If the Applicants can agree on who will be allocated the Chinese Domain Name, they shall complete and sign on the Mutual Agreement Form available from the website of HKIRC or HKDNR and send to HKIRC by the day determined by HKIRC. For the avoidance of doubt, HKIRC will not pass the contact details of the Applicant to other Applicants unless all the Eligible Applicants for the same Chinese Domain Name agree to disclose the contact details at the time of application.
- 4.7 As soon as reasonably practicable after the expiry of the Document Request Period (the date of expiration of which will be notified by HKIRC on the HKIRC [website](#)), the preliminary results of the allocation of Chinese Domain Names for any outstanding application (being an application not determined at the expiry of the First Stage Objection Period) will be published on the HKIRC [website](#). ("**Second Stage Announcements**")
- 4.8 For a period of seven (7) days from the date of the Second Stage Announcements (or if, the Second Stage Announcements are made over a number of days, the date stated by HKIRC to be the effective date of the Second Stage Announcements), any person may object to a Chinese Domain Name allocated (as notified in the Second Stage Announcements) by submitting evidence that the Chinese Domain Name was not applied for or allocated in accordance with these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules ("**Second Stage Objection Period**"). The decision rendered by HKIRC in respect of any such objection shall be final and binding.

- 4.9 After the expiry of the Second Stage Objection Period, Applicants will be notified of the results by email.
- 4.10 HKIRC reserves the right to change the dates and/or duration applicable for any of the announcements or periods stated in Sections 4.1 to 4.9.

5. ENGLISH DOMAIN NAMES AND BUNDLING

- 5.1 During the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, any individual or entity holding an Eligible .hk Chinese Domain Name can apply, free of charge, via the HKDNR [website](#) or via any of the service partners of HKDNR, to register any .hk English Domain Name in the Equivalent Domain Name Category (an "**English Domain Name Application**"). Provided that the English Domain Name Application complies with the Published Policies and Registration Agreement, HKIRC will allocate and activate the English Domain Name on a first-come-first-served basis.
- 5.2 Domain Names allocated under Sections 4 and 5.1 will, on allocation, be automatically bundled with the Eligible EDN or Eligible .hk Chinese Domain Name to which they relate pursuant to Section 5.2 of the [Registration Policies](#).
- 5.3 Subject to Section 5.2, there is no obligation on a Registrant holding a Domain Name registered with HKDNR to bundle their domain names under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.

6. FORM OF APPLICATIONS

- 6.1 During the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, an Applicant may only apply for the registration of one Chinese Domain Name per Eligible EDN held by the Applicant as at the date of application.
- 6.2 All applications for the registration of Chinese Domain Names during the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period must be made by completing and submitting an application online on HKDNR's [website](#) or via any of the service partners of HKDNR. Such application can be made by the Applicant themselves, or by any of the service partners of HKDNR that the Applicant authorises to submit an application on the Applicant's behalf. A list of HKDNR's service partners are indicated on HKDNR's [website](#).
- 6.3 After the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, HKIRC may request documentation necessary to determine the allocation of the Chinese Domain Names. An Applicant should (and, if requested to do so by either HKIRC or HKDNR, must) provide HKIRC with the following documentary proof in support of the application:
- (a) a copy of the relevant certificate of registration for the Eligible RTM issued by the Hong Kong Trademarks Registry; or
 - (b) a letter of declaration in which the Applicant declares that it is the registered Hong Kong trademark or service mark owner, together with proof of the trade mark registration (e.g. search results obtained from the online database of the Hong Kong Trademarks Registry). The Applicant is only required to provide a letter of declaration and online search results for the trade mark registration, if the Applicant is unable to produce a copy of its certificate of registration as specified in (a), or where the Applicant is asked to do so by either HKIRC or HKDNR;
 - (c) a copy of the Business Registration Certificate issued by the Inland Revenue Department, HKSARG, the Certificate of Registration of Overseas Companies issued by the Company Registry of Hong Kong, the Certificate of Registration of a School or any official document evidencing the registration of the organisation, government department or bureau, or educational institution, that HKIRC deems in its sole discretion to be acceptable evidence of registration of the relevant organisation, government department or bureau, or educational institution. The document shall show the Chinese Name of the Applicant; or
 - (d) if the applicant is an individual, a copy of the Hong Kong Identity Card, passport, or any other form of official photographic identification issued by the Government in the Applicant's country of residence, that bears the Chinese name of the Applicant; and

- (e) a document which clearly shows that the Chinese Domain Name is the Chinese name of the product or the name the Applicant trades. This may be evidenced by a document issued by the Government, or a copy of the press release issued before the Cut-Off Date; and
- (f) written evidence of the satisfaction of one of the similarity criteria in accordance with section 8.15 of this Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.

6.4 Any documentary proof provided under these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules submitted in support of an application for a Chinese Domain Name made during any phase of the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period must be posted, emailed or faxed to:

Hong Kong Domain Name Registration Company Limited

Unit 2002-2005, 20th Floor
308 Des Voeux Road Central
Sheung Wan
Hong Kong
Fax: +852 2319 2626

Email: plpr@hkdnr.hk

and **received** by HKDNR by the end of the period determined by HKIRC after the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period during which the application was made (or otherwise as requested by HKIRC).

6.5 All applications for the registration of Chinese Domain Names received during the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period will be collected and processed together as a batch in accordance with the eligibility requirements and the allocation priority rules applicable to that Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, on the expiry of the relevant Pre Launch Priority Registration Period.

7. ACTIVATION OF CHINESE DOMAIN NAMES

7.1 The registration of Chinese Domain Names allocated during each phase of the Pre Launch Priority Registration Process will become effective either:

- (a) within seven (7) calendar days of the date on which HKIRC or HKDNR notifies the Applicant by email that the application for a Chinese Domain Name has been successful (where no objections are made by third parties during the relevant objection period); or
- (b) within seven (7) calendar days of the date on which HKIRC or HKDNR notifies the Applicant by email that any objection raised by a third party in respect of the allocation of the Chinese Domain Name has been determined in the Applicant's favour.

7.2 The publication of the allocation results for any phase of the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period on the HKIRC [website](#) is for the purpose of providing third parties with the opportunity to object to the allocation of Chinese Domain Names during the relevant Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, and does not constitute notification of the success of any application for a Chinese Domain Name.

8. ALLOCATION PRIORITY RULES DURING THE PRE LAUNCH PRIORITY REGISTRATION PERIOD

8.1 Where there are two or more Eligible Applicants for the same Chinese Domain Name during the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period, the priority for allocation of the Chinese Domain Name will be determined in accordance with Sections 8.2 to 8.9 below.

8.2 All Eligible Applicants applying for the relevant Chinese Domain Name will be given an opportunity to agree on an Applicant amongst themselves to be awarded the Chinese Domain Name. If the Eligible Applicants nominate an Applicant and notify HKIRC of their agreement in accordance with Section 4.6 by the date specified by HKIRC, that Applicant will be awarded the Chinese Domain Name.

8.3 If a notification of an agreement by the Eligible Applicants applying for the relevant Chinese Domain Name is not received by HKIRC in accordance with Section 4.6 and 8.2, priority will be determined based on the following in order of descending priority as explained in more detail in Sections 8.4 to 8.9 below:

- (a) Eligible Registered Trade Mark (as evidenced by the documents specified in Sections 6.3(a) and 6.3(b));
- (b) Eligible Company Name (as evidenced by the documents specified in Sections 6.3(c));
- (c) Eligible Trading/Product Name (as evidenced by the documents specified in Section 6.3(e));
- (d) Eligible Name (as evidenced by the documents specified in Section 6.3(d).
- (e) Similarity (as evidenced by the documents specified in Section 6.3(f)) ;
- (f) Commencement Date of Eligible English Domain Name; and
- (g) Random draw.

Eligible Registered Trade Marks (Eligible Organisations and Eligible Individuals)

8.4 If only one Eligible Applicant has an Eligible RTM for the relevant Chinese Domain Name, that Applicant shall have priority. For the avoidance of doubt, an Eligible Applicant will be deemed to have an Eligible RTM for the relevant Chinese Domain Name where the Chinese Domain Name is a meaningful subset of the Eligible RTM. If more than one Eligible Applicant has an Eligible RTM for the relevant Chinese Domain Name, all Eligible Applicants with an Eligible RTM will be considered for priority on the basis of Eligible Company Names in accordance with Section 8.5. If no Eligible Applicants have an Eligible RTM, all Eligible Applicants will be considered for priority on the basis of Eligible Company Names in accordance with Section 8.5.

Eligible Company Name (Eligible Organisations)

8.5 If only one Eligible Organisation has an Eligible Company Name for the relevant Chinese Domain Name, that Eligible Organisation will have priority. For the avoidance of doubt, an Eligible Organisation will be deemed to have an Eligible Company Name for the relevant Chinese Domain Name where the Chinese Domain Name is a meaningful subset of the Eligible Company Name. If more than one Eligible Organisation has an Eligible Company Name for the relevant Chinese Domain Name, all Eligible Organisations with an Eligible Company Name will be considered for priority on the basis of Eligible Trading/Product Names in accordance with Section 8.6. If no Eligible Applicants have an Eligible Company Name, all Eligible Applicants that have been considered under this Section will be considered for priority on the basis of Eligible Trading/Product Names in accordance with Section 8.6.

Eligible Trading/Product Name (Eligible Organisations)

8.6 If only one Eligible Organisation has an Eligible Trading/Product Name for the relevant Chinese Domain Name, that applicant will have priority. For the avoidance of doubt, an Eligible Organisation will be deemed to have an Eligible Trading/Product Name for the relevant Chinese Domain Name where the Chinese Domain Name is a meaningful subset of the Eligible Trading/Product Name. If more than one Eligible Organisation has an Eligible Trading/Product Name for the relevant Chinese Domain Name, all Eligible Organisations with an Eligible Trading/Product Name will be considered for priority on the basis of the similarity test set out in Section 8.8 and 8.15. If no Eligible Applicants have an Eligible Trading/Product Name, all Eligible Applicants that have been considered under this Section will be considered for priority on the basis of Eligible Names in accordance with Section 8.7.

Eligible Name (Eligible Individual)

8.7 If only one Eligible Individual has an Eligible Name for the relevant Chinese Domain Name, that Applicant shall have priority. For the avoidance of doubt, an Eligible Individual will be deemed to have an Eligible Name for the relevant Chinese Domain Name where the Chinese Domain Name is

the a meaningful subset of the Eligible Name. If more than one Eligible Individual has an Eligible Name for the relevant Chinese Domain Name, all Eligible Individuals with an Eligible Name will be considered for priority on the basis of the similarity test set out in Section 8.8 and 8.15. If no Eligible Individuals have an Eligible Name, all Eligible Applicants that have been considered under this Section will be considered for priority on the basis of the similarity test set out in Section 8.8 and 8.15.

Similarity (Eligible Organisations and Eligible Individuals)

8.8 Where priority is not able to be determined in accordance with the process outlined at Sections 8.4 to 8.7 above, the applications will be subject to the similarity test set out in Section 8.15 below. If only one Eligible Applicant passes the similarity test, that Applicant will have priority. If more than one Eligible Applicant passes the similarity test, all Eligible Applicants that pass the similarity test will be considered for priority on the basis of Commencement Date of Eligible EDNs as set out in Section 8.9. If no Eligible Applicants pass the similarity test, all Eligible Applicants that have been considered under this Section shall be considered for priority on the basis of Commencement Date for Eligible EDNs as set out in Section 8.9.

Commencement Date of Eligible EDN/Random Draw (Eligible Organisations and Eligible Individuals)

8.9 The Eligible Applicant with an Eligible EDN having the earliest Commencement Date shall have priority. For the avoidance of doubt, the Commencement Date is the application date of the Eligible EDN (the registration date will not be relevant to the determination of priority). If there is more than one Eligible Applicant with an Eligible EDN with the earliest Commencement Date, a random draw will be conducted to determine the allocation of the Chinese Domain Name.

8.10 When deciding whether an Applicant has an Eligible RTM for the relevant Chinese Domain Name, the Chinese Characters and any English letters, Arabic numerals or Symbols appearing in any applied for Chinese Domain Name must appear in the same sequence as those Chinese Characters, English letters, Arabic numerals or Symbols appear in the Eligible RTM. The sequence of the Chinese Characters, English letters, Arabic numerals and Symbols appearing in any Eligible RTM will be deemed to be 'top-left, top-right, down-left, down-right' unless the Applicant can establish, to the satisfaction of HKIRC and by way of documentary proof, that the Chinese Characters, English letters, Arabic numerals and Symbols by appearing in the Eligible RTM are commonly used in a different sequence. For illustrative purposes, the following Chinese language trade/service mark:

美	麗
酒	家

would be deemed to have the sequence '美麗酒家', and not '麗家美酒' or any other sequence.

8.11 All decisions made by HKIRC in relation to the sequence of Chinese Characters, English letters, Arabic numerals and Symbols appearing in an Eligible RTM are in HKIRC's sole judgment and are not open to challenge, whether under Section 9 of these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules or otherwise.

8.12 If any Chinese Characters, English letters, Arabic numerals and/or Symbols appearing in an Eligible RTM are of a design, such characters, letters, numbers and symbols must, in the opinion of HKIRC, be readily perceivable as the Chinese Character, English letter, Arabic numeral or Symbol claimed to be represented by the design.

8.13 All decisions made by HKIRC in relation to whether a design is readily perceivable as a particular Chinese Character, letter, numeral or symbol are in HKIRC's sole judgment and are not open to challenge, whether under Section 9 of these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules or otherwise.

- 8.14 All decisions made by HKIRC in relation to whether the Chinese Domain Name is the meaningful subset of its Chinese company name, trade name or product name are in HKIRC's sole judgment and are not open to challenge, whether under Section 9 of these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules or otherwise.
- 8.15 An application subjected to the similarity test will be considered to pass if the Applicant can fulfil the following criteria:
- (a) the applied for Chinese Domain Name has the same meaning as the Eligible EDN according to any of the following dictionaries:
 - (i) Yahoo! Online dictionary at: <http://hk.dictionary.yahoo.com/> (subject to the availability of this online service);
 - (ii) Oxford Advanced Learner's English – Chinese Dictionary (Sixth Edition);
 - (iii) Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (English-Chinese) (Third Edition);
 - (iv) other dictionaries that HKIRC considers in its discretion as being capable of objectively and irrefutably proving that the Eligible EDN and the applied for Chinese Domain Name have the same meaning; **OR**
 - (b) the applied for Chinese Domain Name has a similar oral pronunciation in either Cantonese or Mandarin as the Eligible EDN having regard to the pronunciation references cited in a dictionary approved by HKIRC, including Yahoo! Online dictionary at: <http://hk.dictionary.yahoo.com/>; **OR**
 - (c) (In cases where the Eligible EDN is the name of an individual or other entity), the Chinese Domain Name is considered the Chinese language equivalent of the Eligible EDN as evidenced by a document issued by or press materials released by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (e.g. Hong Kong Identity Card, copy of Business Registration certificate, or <.gov.hk> website content). For the avoidance of doubt, materials on non-Government websites shall not be considered as evidence.
- 8.16 The Applicant has the onus of establishing that the applied for Chinese Domain Name satisfies the similarity test and, on request by HKIRC, must provide written evidence and/or a signed declaration of the satisfaction of one of the similarity criteria. The decision as to whether the application satisfies the similarity test will be in HKIRC's sole discretion and not subject to a challenge, whether under Section 9 of these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules or otherwise.

9. **OBJECTIONS AGAINST THE ALLOCATION RESULT**

- 9.1 Members of the public may raise objections in relation to any Chinese Domain Name suspected not to have been applied for or allocated in accordance with these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules ("**Objections**"). Objections not related to the eligibility requirements and procedures set out in these Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules will not be entertained.
- 9.2 Objections may only be filed by completing an [Objection Form](#), available from the website of HKDNR or HKIRC, and sending the completed [Objection Form](#) to HKIRC's office, addressed to the CEO of the HKIRC. The Objection will be handled by the Objections Committee of HKIRC. The Objections Committee shall render a decision in respect of an Objection within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving an [Objection Form](#). The decision of the Objections Committee shall be final and binding. No fees or charges apply to an Objection.
- 9.3 Objection Forms in relation to the allocation results made during the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period must be **received** by HKIRC:

- (a) in the case of Objections relating to the First Stage Announcements, by the end of the First Stage Objection Period (being seven (7) days commencing on the day after the First Stage Announcements); and
- (b) in the case of Objections relating to the Second Stage Announcement, by the end of the Second Stage Objection Period (being seven (7) days commencing on the day after the Second Stage Announcements).

9.4 A person raising an Objection to the allocation of a Chinese Domain Name must set out the grounds for the Objection and provide evidence to support the Objection that the Chinese Domain Name was not applied for or allocated in accordance with the Pre Launch Priority Registration Period Rules.