



SIMPLIFICATION OF THE NIRA DISPUTE RESOLUTION POLICY DOCUMENT **(NDRP)**

A. Background /Summary:

- The NiRA Dispute Resolution Policy (NDRP) provides a forum for settling conflicting registrations of domain names on the .ng country code top level domain name registry managed by the Nigeria Internet Registration Association (NiRA).
- The NDRP aims at resolving disputes through Informal Mediation and then by Arbitration and is an adaptation of the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) administered by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) with respect to gTLDs. It must be noted that some parts of the NDRP are substantively different from the UDRP. Prospective complainants should not assume that principles derived from UDRP's decisions would be applicable to NDRP disputes.
- The NDRP is applied in conjunction with all NiRA Policies, rules and procedures in settling conflicting registrations under NDRP disputes.
- This document provides a brief summary of the rules and procedure of the NDRP for parties.

B. STEPS FOR FILING A COMPLAINT:

- Read the NDRP found on NiRA's website: https://nira.org.ng/images/Policies/NIRA_DISPUTE_RESOLUTION_POLICY.pdf
- Send to NiRA, 4 (four) copies of the complaint using NiRA's Dispute Resolution Form found on the NiRA website.
- NiRA Reviews complaint for administrative compliance. If compliant, complaint is sent to the Respondent within 3 days. If not compliant, complainant is notified by NiRA and has 5 calendar days to correct deficiencies.



- Respondent has 20 days (from date of receipt of complaint from NiRA) to file its response.
- If no response is filed, the complaint is decided based on the information contained in the complaint.
- Complainant has 5days to file a reply upon receipt of the response.
- Commencement of Informal Mediation.
- If no acceptable resolution by Informal Mediation, NiRA appoints an expert from its list of experts upon payment of the applicable fees by the Complainant.
- Right of Parties to appeal decisions of the Expert to an Appeal Panel.

C. Remedies Available to the Complainant under the NDRP:

- Cancellation of the domain name registration; or
- Transfer of the domain name in question to the Complainant.

D. Applicable Fees:

- Fees are payable by the Complainant only if an acceptable resolution by Informal Mediation has not been reached and NiRA will notify the Parties that an Expert is to be appointed.
- Applicable fees in respect of the referral proceedings under the Dispute Resolution Service to an Expert are stated below:

S/N	Fees	No of Domains
1.	₦100,000 (One Hundred Thousand Naira Only inclusive of VAT)	1 -5 Domains Involving One Complainant
2.	To be determined by NiRA	6/more Domains.

Involving more than 1
(one) complainant.

- Fees are calculated on a cost recovery basis and are passed on in their entirety to the Expert(s). NiRA does not charge for its mediation or administration services in respect of the Dispute Resolution Service.
- The complaint will be deemed withdrawn if NiRA does not receive the applicable fees from the Complainant within 10 (ten) days of the receipt of the notice from NiRA that an Expert is to be appointed.
- The applicable fees for the submission of an appeal is the non-refundable sum of **₦250,000.00 (Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira Only inclusive of VAT)**.

E. Miscellaneous:

- NiRA reserves the right to amend the Rules at any time.
- Neither NiRA nor a Panelist shall be liable to the Party for any act or omission in connection with any administrative proceeding under the Rules.

NiRA Secretariat.
4th September, 2018.