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2010 Names Policy Panel Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The purpose of the Panel is to:

- review the policy framework underlying the allocation and use of domain names in the .au domain space*; and
- provide recommendations to the auDA board about what changes (if any) should be made to the policy framework.

Background

In May 2001 auDA's Name Policy Advisory Panel recommended a new, uniform policy framework for the allocation of domain names in the asn.au, com.au, id.au, net.au and org.au 2LDs. This common framework replaced the individual policies that had been developed by the different 2LD administrators since the early 1990s. auDA implemented the Panel's recommendations with effect from 1 July 2002.

The policy framework has since been reviewed twice, by Advisory Panels in 2004 and 2007.

References:

- [Name Policy Advisory Panel archive](#)
- [Name Policy Review Panel archive](#)
- [2007 Names Policy Panel archive](#)

Activity

The Panel will review the policy framework underlying the allocation and use of domain names in the .au domain space*.

The Panel will consider the following issues:

1. Should the eligibility and allocation policy rules for asn.au, com.au, id.au, net.au and org.au be changed? If yes, what changes should be made?

Relevant auDA Published Policies:

- [Domain Name Eligibility and Allocation Policy Rules for the Open 2LDs \(2008-05\)](#)
- [Guidelines for Accredited Registrars on the Interpretation of Policy Rules for the Open 2LDs \(2008-06\)](#)

2. Should the policy rules relating to the reserved list, misspellings and domain monetisation be changed? If yes, what changes should be made?

Relevant auDA Published Policies:

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- [Reserved List Policy \(2008-03\)](#)
- [Prohibition on Misspellings Policy \(2008-09\)](#)
- [Domain Monetisation Policy \(2008-10\)](#)

Chair

The auDA board has appointed Derek Whitehead, Director, Information Services and University Copyright Officer, Swinburne University to chair the Panel.

Members

The Panel will consist of 20 members other than the Chair. It is intended that the Panel will represent the key stakeholders in the Australian domain name system, including auDA board members, auDA members, auDA accredited registrars, domain name resellers, domain name holders (registrants), domainers, business, consumers, government, law enforcement, legal sector, IT industry and internet users.

Panel members will be appointed by the auDA board on the basis of their individual skills, experience and knowledge of the domain name industry. The board will also seek to achieve a fair balance of stakeholder interests.

Membership of the Panel is on a voluntary basis, although auDA may assist with expenses (refer to Operations below). Panel members must be prepared to commit their time and effort for the duration of the Terms of Reference (refer to Timeline below).

Operations

The Panel will determine its own operational procedures.

The Panel will undertake at least two public consultations during the course of its work.

The Chair will provide regular progress reports to the auDA board.

auDA will provide secretariat and other operational support to the Panel.

auDA may provide financial assistance to Panel members where required, for example in the case of not-for-profit organisations and individuals whose participation in the Panel is not funded by their employer. Such assistance will be provided at auDA's discretion.

Timeline

An indicative timeline is as follows:

Activity	Timing
auDA issues call for nominations	June 2010
auDA board appoints Panel membership	August 2010
1st Panel meeting	September 2010
1st public consultation	December 2010
2nd public consultation	March 2011
Panel's final report to auDA board	June 2011

The timeline is subject to change.

* The following 2LDs are excluded from the Terms of Reference: csiro.au, edu.au, gov.au and the community geographic 2LDs (act.au, nsw.au, nt.au, sa.au, tas.au, vic.au, wa.au).

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