

# Meeting Minutes

Meeting	Board Meeting	
Date / Time	5 February 2026, 9:15 to 1pm AEDT	
Location	Level 19, 8 Exhibition St, Melbourne and Teams Meeting	
Present	Marina Go, Independent Chairperson Sandy Davey, Director Peter Elford, Director Brett Fenton, Director Sarv Girn, Director	Sandra Hook, Director Claire Rogers, Director Thu-Trang Tran, Director Mike Trovato, Director (vc) Tina Wyer, Director
Also in attendance	Sarah Vandebroek, Gov Observer (5. vc) Bruce Tonkin, CEO Linda Brown, Co Sec Sonia Joksimovic, Co Sec (vc) Sharon Copeland-Smith, COO Rebecca Papillo, Acting CCO Shelley Golden, GC (vc)	Tarnia Drakes, DPC Rikki Andrews, SM Matt Healy, LRRP Chair (9) (vc) Prof Robin Doss, (10.1) Dr Kate Gould, (10.2) Keith Besgrove, GASC (11)
Apologies	Sophie Mitchell, CCO	

## 1. In Camera

The Board held an in-camera session with the CEO.

## 2. Health, Safety and Wellbeing

The Board noted the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Report and noted the Director, People & Culture (DPC)'s advice that there had been 1 non-reportable, resolved workplace incident during the reporting period. The Board provided guidance on matters to consider before establishing an Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Committee, more granular reporting against incident areas and including lead indicators.

**Action:** Provide a breakdown of EAP data based on work and personal related use. [DPC, April 2026]

## 3. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the sky, land and sea, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, and traditional custodians of other lands people were meeting on, and noted the land was never ceded.



## 4. Welcome, attendance and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## 5. Declaration of Interests

The Board noted the Register of Interests were complete with a verbal update from Sharon Copeland-Smith on her appointment to the Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association ([apTLD](#)) Board.

## 6. Government update

The Chair welcomed Sarah Vandebroek, First Assistant Secretary, Government Observer, to the Board to provide an update on matters of interest including the implementation of the social media ban on under 16 year olds, the [Digital Duty of Care](#) consultation, the outcomes achieved at the World Summit on the Information Society: 20 year review ([WSIS+20](#)) and participation at ICANN85 and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the Government's participation in auDA's next Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy Australia ([APIGA Australia](#)). The Board asked about any unresolved matters at WSIS+20 and auDA's obligations under the government's proposed Digital Duty of Care.

## 7. CEO Update

### 7.1 Compliance Checklist

The Board noted the new Compliance Checklist and discussed additional items to include and separate reporting against projects and risk.

**Action:** Add WHS and Whistleblower complaints to the Compliance Checklist. [Co Sec, April 2026]

**Action:** Discuss plan for Risk Review. [CEO/CFO/TW, Feb 2026]

### 7.2 CEO Report

The Board noted the report from the CEO including performance against core functions and strategic objectives and key results, auDA's contribution to the World Summit on the Information Society: 20-year review (WSIS+20), auDA's response to the government's focus on increased security standards under the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018 (Cth)* and recruitment of capability to support the innovation strategy. The Board discussed the digital identity project and effective measures for strategic projects and performance reporting in general, noting that the Board required less detail than the CEO.

The Board formally acknowledged the good work of the Internet Governance team at WSIS+20, specifically Jordan Carter and Annaliese Williams.

**Action:** Discuss vendors for Essential Eight audit. [CEO/SG, Feb 2026]



## 8. CFO Report

The Board noted the Finance Report for December 2025 and YTD Finance Report including a favourable operating and net surplus, because of an underspend in some areas and favourable movement in the fair value of investments and the Latest Best Estimate (LBE) for year end. The CFO confirmed that the Lease negotiations had concluded and renewal documents were being prepared. The Board discussed the impact of investment and opportunity for strategic impact funding. The Board reviewed the three resolutions arising from the Finance and Audit Committee meeting on 2 February 2026 and the FAC Chair confirmed support for them.

The Board **resolved** to endorse the Finance and Audit Committee recommendation that a Request for Proposal for Investment Services be conducted in Q1–Q2 FY27.

The Board **resolved** to endorse the Finance and Audit Committee’s recommendation to approve an additional \$2.5 million to the December 2025 approved investment level, to be allocated to the UBS Sustainable Investing Growth Strategy portfolio.

The Board **resolved** to endorse the Finance and Audit Committee’s recommendation to continue Tier 1 financial reporting under Australian Accounting Standards.

## 9. Licensing Rules Review Panel Report

The Board Chair welcomed Matt Healy, Licensing Rules Review Panel Chair, to the meeting to provide an update on the work of the Panel. Matt advised that the Panel was moving to use an external facilitator at the next four face-to-face consultations (Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne) to enable the Panel members to better focus on the input from participants. Matt confirmed that the consultations to date indicated a lack of support for monetising websites as a basis for meeting the com.au/net.au allocation rules, and support for aligning some .au domain rules with other jurisdictions.

**Action:** Directors to attend Licensing Rules Review Consultations in their cities and encourage others in their network to attend where possible. [Directors, Feb – Mar 2026]

## 10. Research and Development Grant Presentations

The Board noted the background information on the Research and Development grant program, developed to support large-scale, multi-year research and development projects designed to advance new knowledge to improve how people access and benefit from the internet. Two projects were approved in the inaugural FY25 program for delivery 2025–2028. The Board thanked Professor Doss and Dr Kate Gould for their presentations and the important work of their projects.

### 10.1 Safe transition to a quantum-safe DNS

Professor Robin Doss presented to the Board on the progress of the Safe transition to a quantum-safe DNS project.



## 10.2 Enhancing digital inclusion through strengthening vulnerable Australians' resilience to Cyber scams

Dr Kate Gould presented to the Board on the progress Enhancing digital inclusion through strengthening vulnerable Australians' resilience to Cyber scams project.

## 11. General Advisory Standing Committee (GASC) Report

The Chair welcomed Keith Besgrove, GASC Chair, to the meeting to provide his final GASC Report. The Board noted GASC's 2025 advice on 1. Implications for auDA of the review of the Online Safety Act and 2. Potential for auDA to establish a role in digital identity. Keith drew attention to the earlier pieces of advice on Internet Governance, Membership, Disability and UN Sustainability goals as important advice for auDA.

Keith expressed his thanks to the other members of GASC, noting their high level of skill and experience and their interest in continuing to engage with auDA as required. The Board thanked Keith for the work of the Committee over the last seven years and for his role chairing the Committee.

## 12. Board Committee Update

*Occurred after item 8. CFO report*

The Board noted the Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) was the only Board Committee to meet since the December 2025 Board meeting.

The FAC Chair reported on the work the Committee was doing with the CFO to provide a more sophisticated breakdown of Reserve Funds based on different purposes including contingency requirements and reinvestment for the future.

**Action:** Circulate the Five-year forecast with estimated change in Fair Value to the Board. [Co Sec, Feb 2026]

## 13. Consent Agenda

### 13.1 WHOIS Policy

The Board **resolved** to approve the WHOIS Policy 2025-11, replacing the previous WHOIS Policy [2014-7](#) (July 2018).

### 13.2 Corporate Governance Policies

#### 13.2.1 Employee Expense Reimbursement and Travel Policy

The Board **resolved** to endorse the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee to approve the updated Expense Reimbursement and Travel Policy.



### **13.2.2 Related Party Transaction Policy**

The Board **resolved** to endorse the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee to approve the updated Related Party Transactions Policy.

### **13.3 FY26 Audit Plan**

The Board **resolved** to endorse the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee to accept KPMG's proposed audit plan and FY26 audit and financial statement compilation fees of \$106,000 (excluding GST).

### **13.4 Previous Board Meeting Matters**

#### **13.4.1 Approval of Previous Minutes**

The Board **resolved** to approve the 5 December 2025 Board Minutes as a true and correct record of the meeting.

#### **13.4.2 Actions**

The Board noted the Actions were either on the agenda, complete or not due.

### **14. In Camera**

The Board held an In-camera session.

### **15. Meeting Close & Next Meeting Dates**

The Board noted the next meeting dates.

The meeting closed at 1pm

Signed as a true and correct record.

#### **Marina Go AM**

Independent Chairperson

Date: