

[DRAFT] Record of Meeting

Meeting	Technical Advisory Standing Committee Meeting	
Date / Time	Tuesday 2 September 2025 / 11.00am – 1.00pm AEST	
Location	via Microsoft Teams Meeting	
Present	Nigel Phair (Chair)- <i>online</i> Dr Lisa Dethridge Patrick Fair - <i>online</i>	Martin Schlatter – <i>online from 11.07am</i>
Also in attendance	Dr Bruce Tonkin, auDA CEO Jane Smith, auDA CPCO Sonia Joksimovic, auDA CoSec	Peter Elford, auDA Director Mike Trovato, auDA Director Robert Turney, auDA CISO Sharon Copeland
Invitees	Kim Lowton Geoffrey Huston	

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed members present, noting those invited to the meeting and opened the meeting at 11.04am.

It was noted a quorum was not present and approval of the minutes would be *held over* until such time a quorum is confirmed.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair provided an Acknowledgement of Country, paying respect to the traditional owners of the land upon which Committee members were located during the meeting, including elders past and present.

3. Declaration of Interests

The Committee noted the standing Declarations of Interests Register, with no conflicts or updated interests declared.

Due to an inquorate, the Chair moved to agenda 6, which the Committee supported.

6. Presentation: SMS Sender ID Register

The Chair invited Patrick Fair to provide an overview on <u>The SMS sender ID register |</u> ACMA.

Martin Schlatter joined the meeting and a quorum was confirmed.

The Committee noted:

- Scammers frequently impersonate legitimate brands (e.g. myGov, ATO) to deceive recipients.
- The Register aims to prevent impersonation by requiring registration of sender IDs for Australian mobiles, allowing only legitimate entities and disrupting unregistered messages.
- Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) established and maintains the register
- The primary goal of the SMS Sender ID Framework is to protect consumers and brand trust by disrupting scam messages using alphanumeric sender IDs, to ensure scammers cannot deceive recipients into believing they are from a reputable source.
- The Register is part of the Scam Prevention Framework in Australia

The Committee noted the scope and application of the Industry Standards and requirements for establishing a valid use case.

It was noted that Australian telcos with an ABN must apply to ACMA for approval to participate in the Register, with auDA's CEO querying the practicality for an ABN to then be the benchmark, noting an ongoing issue with scammers is stolen ABNs, suggesting an alternative validation process would be advantageous.

Patrick Fair advised that ACMCA intends to work closely with telcos and entities to assist with onboarding and risk mitigation.

The following Key Dates on the Implementation timeline were noted:

- The ACMA anticipates making the rules that will support the register by 30 September 2025.
- Onboarding of telcos will commence from 15 October 2025.
- Organisations that want to use sender IDs in their SMS/MMS messages will need to apply to register their sender IDs through with their telco from 30 November 2025; and
- The Register will commence on 15 December 2025, and all SMS/MMS messages sent with unregistered sender IDs will be disrupted from this time.

The Chair queried industry association feedback on this new Register and specifically Communications Alliance (now renamed Australian Telecommunications Alliance), with consideration of the short timeframe.

Mike Trovato queried what scams may impact auDA through SMS, with it suggested this initiative will reduce SMS as a way of domain names being used for scams.

The Committee noted that in 2024, SMS scams accounted for 31% of all reported scams across all communication channels, with reported losses of over \$14 million dollars.

The Committee noted that there may be an opportunity for auDA to share insights with ACMA to assist the implementation of this industry standard

The Chair shared South East Asisa statistics from the Global Anti-Scam Alliance conference he was attending in Singapore, with financial impacts unknown (https://www.gasa.org/_files/ugd/73a75e_944ce37c75fb4953a465ef7ac4b765cc.pdf)

There were no further comments or questions noted.

The Chair reverted to the agenda, as tabled.

4. Previous Record of Meeting – 2 May 2025

The Committee reviewed the draft record of the meeting held 2 May 2025 and **resolved** to approve the record of the meeting, as true and correct.

5. Actions Arising from the Previous Meeting

The Committee noted an update on previous meeting actions, which have been completed.

The Chair moved to agenda 7.

7. Resilient DNS Configuration

The Committee noted that at the January 2025 TASC meeting, the following problem was raised for potential advice to be considered from TASC for the auDA Board to consider.

Problem: Many organisations do not have a resilient DNS configuration for their domain names as they do not know what features they should be looking for when they outsource their DNS services.

Proposed solution: auDA should develop a set of guidelines based on DNS industry best practice that ensures resilience – e.g. ensuring more than one anycast DNS network, ensuring multiple IP address ranges, enduring carrier redundancy etc

The Committee had no feedback to assist the proposed solution being expanded and finalised as a briefing paper for the auDA Board.

auDA's CEO informed the Committee that auDA is currently exploring how to encourage Critical Infrastructure providers to take up the "registry lock" service from registrars to provide extra protection/resilience on critical domain names.

Action: The Chair encouraged members to consider the Resilient DNS Configuration further and come prepared the next meeting to discuss this further [TASC, November 2025]

8. Presentation: Critical Infrastructure University & Industry Research

The Chair invited Dr Lisa Dethridge to present on recent Critical Infrastructure research she has undertaken, which explores specific internet security issues and threat mitigation strategies to assist protecting critical infrastructure.

Dr Dethridge noted that Internet service providers and content publishers all operate semi-autonomously and the orchestration of their actions are through market and market interactions.

It was further noted the Internet is not operated by a single service delivery company, nor is it a defined destination, as it is a series of inter-twined markets.

The Committee noted an update on key strategic vulnerabilities which include:

- Political/Legal
- Technical (e.g. Cybercrime, Fragmentation of Internet Integrity)
- Organisational; and
- Emerging Threats

The Committee noted the following considerations from Dr Dethridge's research, which factors:

- Understanding the role of Cybersecurity in platform capitalism?
- How to Strengthen the Administration and Maintenance of a Free Internet?
- Protecting the multi-stakeholder model of cooperative collaboration
- · Coordinating technical, political and organisational responses
- Maintaining the open, global nature of the internet
- Protecting Human Rights and Sustainable Goals
- Need for proactive Engagement (i.e. Government cybersecurity partnerships, Private sector alliances, Academic research collaboration and Civil society and diverse cultural inclusion)

The Chair and Committee commended Dr Dethridge for her research.

Action: Circulate the PowerPoint Presentation prepared by Dr Dethrdige to TASC, for their information [Chair, September 2025]

9. Strategic Issues

Patrick Fair suggested the impact of Artificial Intelligence and its use to originate content and impact on the DNS may be considered as a strategic issue for further discussion.

auDA's CEO noted that Domain Names Registrations are dropping in volume in several ccTLDs around the world, which may be because of the change in the way users are searching for information on the Internet using new AI tools.

10. Workplan for 2025

The Committee noted the current Workplan, with the Chair encouraging members to provide feedback on topics that may assist with advice for the auDA Board.

Action: It was noted the Chair will discuss the workplan and preparation for the November 2025 meeting with the COO and CoSec offline [Chair, September 2025]

11. Any Other Business

There were no further comments or questions raised by the Committee.

12. Meeting Close

The Chair confirmed there was no other business for discussion and any further comments or questions from the Committee.

The Committee noted the next meeting date is scheduled for **Tuesday 18 November 2025** @ 11.00am - 1.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 12.41pm

Signed as a true and correct record.

Nigel Phair

Committee Chair

Date: