

Record of Meeting

Meeting	General Advisory Standing Committee Meeting	
Date / Time	Tuesday 12 September 2023 @ 11.00am – 1.00pm (AEDT)	
Location	Hybrid (in person): Sydney @ Australian Computer Society and (via video conference) Microsoft Teams Meeting <i>Please refer to calendar invite to join the meeting</i>	
Present	Keith Besgrove (Chair) Dr Peter Langkamp, OAM Nadia Moffatt, OAM Sae Ra Germaine	Ajoy Ghosh Cleo Kerama Dr Paul Harrison
In attendance	Jane Smith, auDA's CPCO Sonia Joksimovic, auDA CoSe Jordan Carter, Internet Governance and Policy Director	Sophie Mitchell, auDA CCO Sandra Davey, auDA Director (and Committee Rep)
Apologies	Andrew Williams Caroline Greenway Susan Kelso Mike Travoto, auDA Director	

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed all members present and opened the meeting at 11.08am.

The Chair noted those who were an apology and confirmed a quorum was present.

2. Acknowledgment of Country

The Chair acknowledged the traditional owners of the land upon which the Committee was meeting, including members attending remotely and paid respects to elders past and present.

3. Declaration of Interests

The Chair confirmed from all present, that there were no conflicts of interest to be declared.

Action: Nadia Moffatt provided an updated disclosure of interest for the standing register, advising her appointment to the Board of the Energy & Water Ombudsman of South Australia, confirming there is no conflict associated with this update [CoSec, September 2023].

4. Approve the Previous Record of Meeting

The Committee noted an amended record of meeting from the 9 March 2023, which the Chair spoke to and **resolved** to approve as a true and final record of the meeting.

The Committee further noted and reviewed the record of meeting from 20 June 2023, which was **resolved** as a true and correct record of the meeting.

5. Actions Arising from the Previous Meeting

The Committee noted an update on previous meeting actions.

The Chair provided an update on Actions that are completed, including those ongoing to be scheduled in the near future and those included in the meeting for discussion.

6. Materiality Counts Presentation

Jo Cain joined the meeting.

The Committee noted the results of the second Materiality Issues Survey that auDA has initiated with a range of internal and external stakeholders, which included participation from the GASC Chair.

The Chair invited Jo Cain to provide an overview and key highlights from the Survey results, with the Committee noting the material issues in order of importance to the value that auDA creates, which was noted and discussed.

The Committee noted the survey process and its core purpose to identify where internal and external priorities differ, to then determine the material issues and top priorities, risks and opportunities for auDA to then focus on to inform its strategy, which was discussed.

The Committee noted engagement from auDA with various stakeholder groups has been considered, with the survey confirming there is both internal and external synergy on the priorities between auDA and its stakeholders.

Jo Cain left the meeting.

7. Progress Update on Diversity, Accessibility and Inclusion Framework

The Committee noted a progress update on Diversity, Accessibility and Inclusion Framework, as tabled, for further discussion at the meeting.

The Chair invited Ajoy Ghosh to provide comment for consideration, suggesting strategies to address areas of exclusion, such as poverty or domestic violence, noting:

- *The Smith Family Digital Inclusion Program* sponsored by NBN Co and Optus, is aimed at including underprivileged children and family in underserved indigenous communities; and
- *Women Community Shelters* runs a program focussed on providing safe internet for women feeling violent and coercive relationships.

Action: The Chair invited Ajoy Ghosh to provide written input into the tabled Framework to assist its next iteration [A. Ghosh, September 2023].

Cleo Kerama, who participated in the working group to assist the tabled Framework, was invited by the Chair to highlight the recommendation for auDA to consider with developing a best practice strategy for Disability, Access and Inclusion.

It was noted a comprehensive Disability, Access and Inclusion Plan will assist auDA demonstrate leadership and set a culture and standard for its membership to follow.

It was further noted consultation with stakeholders is key, to ensure the strategy then reflects community expectations and priorities, with a roadmap suggested to support the plan, outlining key focus areas, milestones and timeframes.

The Committee provided feedback on aspects of accession and inclusion for further consideration on its development, suggesting auDA:

- Explore a collaboration /partnership opportunity with other programs and developers to create materials.
- Elders Rights to be included in the Disability definition.
- Settling a benchmark and priority approach is key; and
- An opportunity exists to facilitate further education on Disability Access and Inclusion.

auDA's CPCO noted that the Company's 2023 Annual Report is being produced into an accessible version, with accessibility changes also being built into the Company's website.

Action: It was **agreed** auDA's CPCO would circulate auDA's Disability FACT Sheet, including positive feedback from ICANN to the Committee for their review and information [CPCO, September 2023].

Action: The Chair encouraged active involvement from the Committee, noting the next steps are for GASC to conclude its advice for the auDA Board to consider [GASC, October 2023].

8. Progress Update on UN SDGS [Ideation] and Next Steps

The Chair invited Dr Peter Langkamp to provide a progress update on United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which auDA has identified and expressed a commitment to incorporate in its forward planning.

The Committee noted *defining priorities* is key for auDA in the extent in which it then contributes and impacts, with an *Accenture example* tabled and discussed.

The Committee further noted:

- Careful consideration needs to be given to setting auDA's level of SDG ambition for each goal with consultation with stakeholders.
- Anchoring SDGs within auDA requires auDA Directors to create a shared understanding as to how to progress towards delivery value by incorporating sustainability into long term strategy and performance reviews, as an integral part of its full set of financial, strategy and operational goals. This also requires active leadership by auDA's C-Suite in goal and KPI setting.
- Consideration needs to also be given to partnerships to effectively address issues that cannot be carried out in isolation.
- Reporting sustainability performance and impacts may be considered i.e. Corporate Social Responsibility.

auDA's CPCO outlined immediate priorities auDA is progressing, which includes *Climate Change* and *Social and Governance Issues*.

Sandy Davey noted there may be an element to adopt SDGs pathway with auDA's progress to date with adopting Integrated Reporting.

Action: The Chair noted a further draft to then reference specificity following feedback discussed at the meeting is to be progressed for GASC to conclude its advice for the auDA Board to consider [GASC, October/November 2023].

9. Proposed next steps regarding: Scholarly Article: Healing the Digital Divide with Digital Inclusion: Enabling Human Capability (as tabled 9.3.2023)

The Chair invited Dr Paul Harrison to propose next steps regarding the tabled Scholarly Article, first introduced at the March 2023 Committee meeting.

The following options were suggested for further exploration:

- Gender & Digital Divide
- Computer Anxiety
- Digital Divide i.e. Best Practice

- Evaluation

The Committee **agreed** for a working group consisting of Andrew Williams, Sae Ra Germaine, Peter Langkamp and Paul Harrison, to then explore a summary prepared by Paul Harrison on what the barriers are for specific groups? i.e. Aboriginal & Rural Communities.

10. Review of Committee Workplan for 2023 Focus

The 2023 Committee Workplan was tabled and discussed.

The Chair noted there is no obvious future focus for the Committee, encouraging members to consider proposals on what the GASC should focus on, so this can be considered further at the December meeting and tabled with the Board early 2024.

The Chair extended an invitation for auDA Management to also give consideration for GASC's future workplan.

11. Update on auDA's Public Benefit Program Committee and auDA's Foundation 2023 Grant Program

The Chair invited the CPCO to provide an update on the Public Benefit Program Committee and auDA's Foundation 2023 Grant Program.

The Committee noted the 2023 Community Grants round has now opened and will close on 2 October 2023, which will offer grants of \$40,000 for projects that enhance digital inclusion and digital innovation.

The Committee further noted Ricki Andrews has been recruited as auDA's Manager of Public Benefit, who will commence employment in three weeks' time, with some pilot projects to be progressed, in addition to the Foundation Grant Program, which have been identified and supported by the Public Benefit Program Committee.

12. Committee Succession Update

The CPCO provided the Committee an update on members succession, noting that in alignment with the 2021 reconstitution of the Advisor Committee, staggered terms were introduced, with members having terms expiring 31 December 2023 and consultation with the Committee Chair will be progressed.

13. Any Other Business

The Chair invited the CCO to update the Committee on a Scenario Planning Project that auDA has initiated with an external consultant, Matt Finch, to assist its future Strategic direction, inviting Committee members to participate end of September/early October 2023.

Action: It was noted the Company Secretary will email an invitation to members who are interested and available to attend the Future Scenario Planning Workshop [CoSec, September 2023].

14. Meeting Close / Next Meeting

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

The Committee noted that the next meeting is scheduled in Melbourne, **Tuesday 5 December 2023 at 11.00am - 1.00pm.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 12.47pm.

Signed as a true and correct record.

Keith Besgrove
Committee Chair

Date: