Record of Meeting

Meeting	General Advisory Standing Committee Meeting
Date / Time	Tuesday 5 December 2023 @ 11.00am – 1.00pm (AEDT)
Location	Hybrid (in person): Melbourne @ auDA and (via video conference) Microsoft Teams Meeting. *Please refer to calendar invite to join the meeting*
Present	Keith Besgrove (Chair) Ajoy Ghosh Dr Peter Langkamp, OAM Cleo Kerama Nadia Moffatt, OAM Dr Paul Harrison (*joined at 11.10am*) Sae Ra Germaine (*joined at 11.03am*) Andrew Williams Caroline Greenway Susan Kelso
In attendance	Jane Smith, auDA's CPCO Sandra Davey, auDA Director (and Committee Rep) Sonia Joksimovic, auDA CoSe Jordan Carter, Internet Governance and Policy Director Mike Travoto, auDA Director
Apologies	Nil

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed all members present and opened the meeting at 11.01am.

The Chair 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: Peter Langkamp, Ajoy Ghosh and Caroline Greenway provided updated disclosure of interests for the standing register, confirming there are no conflict associated with this update [CoSec, December 2023].

4. Approve the Previous Record of Meeting

The Committee noted the record of meeting from the 12 September 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 the actions arising from the previous meeting.

The Chair invited the Company Secretary to provide a status update on actions either completed or on the agenda.

6.   Diversity, Accessibility and Inclusion Framework Advice to the Board

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 talk to the additions to the proposed and tabled advice, for consideration.

The Committee noted diversity is multifaceted and discussed strategies for Inclusion requires careful consideration and prioritisation.

The Committee **agreed** that auDA being a lead agency In the telecommunication sector, enables safe access to communication and can support bridging the digital divide that marginalises vulnerable communities.

The Committee discussed there may be an opportunity to collaborate with organisations such as Beyond Blue or OPAN (Older Persons Advocacy Network), to help bridge the digital divide the marginalises vulnerable communities, for further consideration.

The Committee noted the next step for auDA Is to develop a comprehensive Disability Access and Inclusion Plan and **agreed** further clarity, specificity and refinement on the draft advice, is required.

Action: It was **agreed** another Iteration of the proposed advice would be progressed and considered before it is finalised for the auDA Board [GASC Subcommittee, March 2024]

7.   UN SDGS [Ideation] Advice to Board

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

The Committee discussed draft legislation which has been released, requiring large Australian corporations to make mandatory climate-related financial disclosures in their annual reports from FY24-25.

The Committee noted auDA's resource constraints, with auDA's Interim CPCO providing an update on the internal progress on SDGs, as reported in the Company's FY23 Annual Report further noting that in addition, auDA is engaging an expert consultant to assist the development of an ESG Framework.

Action: It was **agreed** the Committee Chair and Dr Peter Langkamp will finalise offline the auDA SDG Ambition and Reporting advice for submission to the auDA Board [Peter Langkamp & GASC Chair, February 2024].

8. Update on Scholarly Article: Healing the Digital Divide with Digital Inclusion: Enabling Human Capability

The Chair invited Dr Paul Harrison to speak to the next steps on the Scholarly Article, first introduced at the March 2023 Committee meeting for the Committee to consider.

Dr Harrison suggested the Committee start with the impact of the research program, as opposed to the output or some other factors that examines the reality of digital exclusion for people with disability, older people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

It was suggested a reverse logic model to design the research program, with the desired longer term benefits for the community is the key.

Andrew Williams suggested ACANN's Independent grants program, opening late January 2024 may be an avenue for a funding opportunity to undertake the research.

Action: It was noted the GASC sub-committee will convene another meeting to consider a way forward [GASC Subcommittee, February 2024]

9. Internet Governance Overview

The Chair noted GASC had provided Initial advice on Internet Governance and invited auDA's' Internet Governance & Policy Director to provide an overview of activities to date.

The Committee noted an overview on auDA's portfolio and its broad participation both locally and internationally on Internet Governance to be both fully engaged and influential on this topic.

auDA"s Internet Governance and Policy Director noted that multi-stakeholder governance approach has underpinned the success of the internet, and supported global innovation and economic growth.

It was further noted that auDA's focus remains on sustaining and strengthening multi-stakeholder processes, with Its direction being consistent with advice provided by GASC in 2022 and Its commitment this focus to continue this in 2024, which the Committee acknowledged and commended.

The Committee noted its support for the proposed areas of focus for 2024, provided In draft correspondence form the Board Chair, for consideration.

The Committee discussed areas of focus that will be Impactful, for further consideration.

10. Review of Committee Workplan and proposed 2024 Committee Dates

The Chair requested agenda items 10 & 11 to be considered in concert.

The Committee reviewed the 2023 Committee Workplan, as tabled and encouraged consideration for GASC's future focus.

The Chair **supported** the proposed areas for GASC Advice, as suggested by auDA's Governance & Culture Committee and sought feedback from members on both Interest and priority, to then progress.

The Chair invited auDA's CPCO and Internet Governance & Policy Director to speak to the tabled draft letter to GASC for 2024 workplan considerations.

The Committee noted their Interest with *Leading the Internet Community* and *Scope for New Products and Service*s to be explored.

The Chair requested more specificity in each of the proposed areas of focus and articulate the problems that are trying to be solved, so GASC can be more targeted.

It was noted that subject to correspondence finalisation, offline discussion will then inform an updated workplan to be tabled at the March 2024 meeting date for Chair to lead.

11. Draft Letter to GASC from auDA's Governance & Culture Committee for 2024 workplan considerations

Refer to agenda 10.

12. Committee Succession Update

auDA's CPCO provided an update on Committee succession, noting Management's recommendation for members having terms expiring 31 December 2023 to be approved by the Board for another 12 month term.

Action: It was noted that subject to Board approval, the Company Secretary would provide formal confirmation for re-appointed members [CoSec, January 2024]

13. Any Other Business

No other Business was noted.

14. Meeting Close / Next Meeting

The Chair confirmed there were no further comments or questions from the Committee.

The Committee noted that the next meeting is scheduled in Melbourne, **Wednesday 6 March 2024 at 11.00am - 1.00pm.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 12.48pm.

Signed as a true and correct record.

Keith Besgrove
Committee Chair

Date: