Answers Regarding the new Direct .AU Registration Process

Samuel Herszberg (Domainers Pty Ltd, Dash Corp Pty Ltd)

1. Should the .au Domain namespace be a 'general purpose' domain for all Australians allowing use for any purpose?

Yes.

2. Should the net.au namespace be closed to new registrations? If so, should existing net.au registrants be permitted to continue to renew their domain name indefinitely?

Yes, the net.au namespace should be closed to new registrations. The existing net.au registrants should be permitted to continue to renew their domain names as long as they want to.

3. What should happen to the asn.au namespace? Should it be closed to new registrations or retained as a dedicated namespace for associations?

It should be closed to new registrations.

4. Should the State and Territory namespaces be used for other purposes? If yes, why and what are the purposes for which domain names should be registered under these namespaces?

No opinion.

Reserved Names

5. Should auDA continue to maintain a public reserved list? Should the public reserved list be published? What process or steps should auDA take before deleting a restricted or prohibited name?

No, auDA should not continue to maintain a public reserved list. It should not be published.

6. Should auDA be able to reserve names in the public interest? How should the public interest be defined? What names should be reserved in the .au domain namespace? Should the public interest test replace the Prohibition on Misspellings Policy?

No, names should not be reserved in the public interest. The misspelling policy should be abolished

7. Should the names identified in the discussion paper be reserved as future 2LD namespaces? Are there other names that should be reserved for use as future 2LD namespaces and why?

No opinion

8. Should there be a requirement for auDA to publish a list of names that are reserved for use by the registry and names that pose a risk to the operational stability and utility of the .au domain? Should there be any exceptions to the publication of names?

No, all names should be available to purchase.

Eligibility and allocation rules

9. How should the Australian presence requirements be defined? Should trademark applicants and registrants only be allowed to register a domain name that is an exact match to their Australian trademark application or registration when relying on the trademark application or registration to establish an Australian connection?

No, any person/applicant who is domiciled in Australia should be allowed to register a domain name, despite the connection to their trademark application.

10. What eligibility and allocation rules should apply to the .au domain namespace (direct registration) and the open 2LD namespaces, and why? Should the close and substantial connection rule be retained and why? Should allocation criteria be removed, and the focus be on registrant eligibility? Should domain monetisation continue to be permitted in the com.au and net.au 2LD and at the second level? How should domain monetisers interests be balanced against the needs of the broader Australian Internet Community?

No, there should not be any eligibility requirements in place.

11. Should internationalised domain names be trialled at the second level, and under what conditions?

No opinion.

Licence conditions

12. Should a registrant be able to sublease the domain name to an unrelated party? If yes, in what circumstances should this be permitted?

Yes, anyone should be able to sublease a domain name to an unrelated party.

13. Where a domain name licence is transferred between registrants, should the transferee receive the benefit of the remainder of the licence period?

Yes.

14. Should auDA be given the power to suspend a domain name licence? When should auDA suspend rather than cancel a domain name licence? What should be the maximum suspension period before a domain name licence is cancelled?

No, it should not be given the power to either suspend or cancel. If one is required, then it should be suspended until the domain name owner gets a chance to come back with their response.

15. For what purposes should auDA be allowed to collect, use and disclose registrant data?

Only if required for legal or criminal matters.

16. Are there any concerns with the current level of information included in the public WHOIS service? Should the technical contact field be utilised for agent and lessee details?

No major concerns. Agent and lessee details should be included in the contact field.