Record of Meeting

Meeting	Technical Advisory Standing Committee Meeting	
Date / Time	Tuesday 13 June 2023 / 3.00pm – 5.00pm AEDT	
Location	via Microsoft Teams	
Present	Nigel Phair (Chair) Dr Lisa Dethridge Paul Day Geoff Huston, AM Patrick Fair	Kim Lowton Jo O'Brien Anuja Rao Martin Schlatter
Also in attendance	Jane Smith, auDA's Interim CPCO Sonia Joksimovic, auDA Co Sec	Matthew Healy, auDA Director Peter Elford, auDA Director Mike Trovato, auDA Director
Invitees	Nil	
Apologies	Rosemary Sinclair AM, auDA CEO Bruce Tonkin, auDA COO Sophie Mitchell, auDA CCO Jonathan Gleeson	

1.   Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed members present and opened the meeting at 3.00pm and confirmed a quorum was present.

The Chair welcomed auDA's interim CPCO, Jane Smith and fellow director, Mike Trovata to their first meeting, inviting them both to introduce themselves to the Committee.

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.

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

4. Previous Record of Meeting – 28 February 2023

The Committee reviewed the draft record of the meeting held 28 February 2023 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.

6. Review of Committee Workplan for 2023 Focus

The Committee noted a review of the workplan for Committee focus.

The Chair invited the Committee consider subject matter experts to be invited as guest speakers to update the Committee in future, on:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Online Safety
- Competition; and
- Identity and Privacy

Action: The Chair noted an opportunity for the Committee to consider the *GAC Capacity Development Workshop on DNS Abuse* presented at ICANN77, held in July 2023, for further discussion at the September 2023 meeting, with the auDA COO to talk to this, should he have attended this session[CoSec, June 2023].

Action: Lisa Dethridge expressed interest to step down from supporting Geoff Huston on DNS Fragmentation, confirming her interest to support Patrick Fair on future updates regarding *Protecting Australia's critical infrastructure* [CoSec, June 2023]

Geoff Huston noted six country-code top-level domains have adopted an automation process and adopted *CDS technologies* to address sharing of Information securely. It was further recommended that auDA adopts same, as numerous threats to Australia's economic and national security continues to evolve and become more sophisticated.

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

7. DSA Regulator Overview

The Chair invited Patrick Fair to provide a briefing to the Committee on the DSA Regulation (Digital Services Act) enacted in July 2022.

The Committee noted the DSA is a legislative initiative launched in response to growing concern over the roles and responsibilities of online platforms, to introduce obligations

concerning illegal content that will apply to digital services providers that offer services in Europe, regardless of whether they are established in Europe.

The Committee further note the aim of the Digital Services ACT is to:

- Regulate very large online platforms (VLOP) and very large online search engines (VLOSEs); and

- harmonize various laws from individual unition members that are inconsistent in content and approach.

The Committee queried whether auDA is considered a VLOP or VLOSE and the role it plays with prohibiting registration of domain names, including any misspellings, with consideration that scammers are endlessly inventive.

The Committee discussed spatial computing in the future, with consideration of technology constantly evolving.

Kim Lowton noted during the consultation period on the proposed DSA Regulation, ICANN provided feedback in April 2023, where it highlighted that the proposed DSA, in its current form, was not sufficiently specific with regard to the scope of applicability to DNS services.

The Committee considered how the Act will control the dissemination of online content and whether a submission on Artificial Intelligence was necessary, with consideration of unforeseen and emergent elements and that auDA's focus is on registration, accountability and abuse of the DNS.

Action: Matt Healy suggested Patrick Fair's DSA Regulation (Digital Services Act) presentation be submitted to the auDA Public Policy team to review and consider a submission, with the Committee invited to also contribute [auDA Public Policy team, June 2023].

8. National Cyber Security Strategy Submission

The Committee noted auDA has provided a submission to the Australian Government's National Cyber Security Strategy, following the Department of Home Affairs discussion paper released In December 2022 as part of the development of its *2023-2030 Australian Cyber Security Strategy.*

The Committee discussed the Government's commitment to protect critical Infrastructure and systems of national significance, with an enhanced framework proposed to be developed to comprise of key elements, such as sector specific security obligations to better address threats.

Peter Elford noted auDA's submission focuses on principles and high-level processes for systems of critical infrastructure to address the importance of maintaining the security and integrity of the internet as the enabler of Australia's digital economy.

The Committee noted auDA's submission includes:

- Internet Infrastructure Security
- Streamlining Cyber-Security Laws and Obligations
- Reforms to the Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018 (Cth)
- Specific Cyber Security Obligations of Company Directors
- Building cyber resilience In the Asia-Pacific region;
- Information sharing between government and Industry; and
- Assisting Small Busiensses.

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

9. Cyber Security Update

The Committee noted an update on Cyber Security from Anuja Rao.

10. Update on auDA Public Benefit Program Committee and 2023 auDA Foundation Grant Program

The interim CPCO provided an update on the auDA's Public Benefit Committee Strategic Framework, recently approved by the Board.

The Committee noted auDA's adopted *For Purpose* stance, will contribute towards creating a positive change in society with a Theory of Change roadmap to link the Issues and impact auDA is working towards.

The Strategic Project Streams for 2023 are two streams of Investment:

1. Community grants (15 grants of $40,000 each); and
2. Research Projects, for approximately 2-3 years with funding partners, (possibly universities), noting a $700,000 allocation for FY24 which will be increased in subsequent years

The Committee further noted the Public Benefit Program will provide opportunities for auDA to:

- Play a leadership role in and for Australia, in developing new ways to strength and future-proof the DNS, and enhance its public utility in naming and digital Identity; and

- Supplement other efforts by supporting Innovation by local communities to increase digital Inclusion amongst digitally excluded Australian communities and groups.

The interim CPCO noted Cyber Wardens was a successful auDA Foundation recipient in 2021, who has now received $23.4m funding as announced in the recently released 2023 Australian government budget.

Action: Peter Elford encouraged TASC to consider and provide feedback and suggestions on how auDA can implement co-investment to deliver on its Partnership Strategy, to support innovation and assist DNS capability [Committee, July - September 2023]

11. Meeting Close

The Company Secretary reminded members who are yet to confirm their home address, to send this Information through to assist Confidentiality Agreements to be distributed to all members for return execution.

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 **Tuesday 5 September 2023 at 11.00am – 1.00pm**

The Meeting closed at 4.35pm

Signed as a true and correct record.

Nigel Phair
Committee Chair

Date: