
Minutes of the meeting of the General Advisory Standing Committee

DATE/TIME:	Tuesday, 25 August 2020 11:00 AM AEST
LOCATION:	By video conference
PRESENT:	Leslie Callaway, Darryl Carlton, Steve DeMamiel, Michael Dodge, Sae Ra Germaine, Ian Halson, P R Khangure, Charles Reis, Madeleine Roberts, John Graham (entered 11:10am), Alison Howe (entered 11:47am), Rosemary Sinclair AM (auDA), Clayton Ford (auDA), Kat Vrkic (auDA)
APOLOGIES:	Bruce Tonkin (auDA)
ABSENT:	Jon Lawrence, Paul Marshall, Trent Wabbis

1. Welcome

Clayton Ford opened the meeting at 11:05am noting the passing of Peter Tonoli, previous GASC Chair, and ongoing challenges with the COVID-19 situation.

2. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Prior minutes & matters arising

Minutes of the GASC meeting of 24 February 2020 were approved offline and published to the website.

Action items

- a. A charter for GASC will be part of the broader Governance Review project flagged in item 4b.
- b. The committee's input into the new website was welcomed. Clayton mentioned that the new auDA website is at its content and design stage, it will be more user-friendly and is scheduled for a mid to late November launch.
- c. Data collection statement in the membership form has been updated and advised to members offline.
- d. auDA's CEO joined this meeting (item 4a), and the Governance Review (item 4b) will explore future ways of working with the Board.
- e. Date/time included in text in calendar invitations.

- f. GASC members were advised offline regarding the funding of the 2019/20 Internet Community Events Programme, which was again promoted to members post the GASC meeting. No applications were received, and the programme ceased at the end of the financial year.
- g. Refer to item 3f.

4. Current issues

a. CEO introduction

Rosemary Sinclair, CEO from auDA introduced herself and shared her career background and the smooth transition for auDA staff to work from home since mid-March. The new Board was appointed in November 2019, followed by her commencement in March 2020 and a successful close of the Government review in May 2020. With the new Registrar Agreement, Licensing Rules and new Registrar Rules in the implementation phase, there is a lot of work to do to provide a safe and trusted .au TLD.

b. Governance Review

With the support of the Board, auDA has started exploring the important work to support both GASC and TASC Advisory Committees setting for success through fit for purpose governance arrangements. Both GASC and TASC Committees are important and valued in the auDA structure by the Board and have a significant part to play in auDA's stakeholder framework.

Darryl Carlton and Charles Reis addressed the importance of defining the objectives of this Committee to enable it to contribute to the success of auDA. Leslie Callaway agreed raising clarity of the expectations of this Committee and how they best can contribute. Sae Ra Germaine suggested a diversity of voices in both Committees.

Overall, Committee members were in favour of the review supported with external experienced governance consultant, Phil Khoury. The project objective is to provide GASC with the clarity of purpose and structure it needs to fulfil its advisory role to the Board.

c. Interim Chair

It was suggested the Committee appoint an interim Chair in light of the increased workload involved with auDA's strategic review and the Governance Review, and that the Governance Review's recommendations may influence the nature of the role longer-term. Alison Howe will circulate information to the Committee offline to seek interest in nominating and selecting an interim Chair.

d. Strategy Refresh

auDA is undergoing a refresh of its strategy for 2021-2025 and will consult GASC in the process to provide feedback on any key issues to take into consideration on where auDA needs to focus its efforts.

Rosemary advised that auDA must be clear on its strategy first before it embarks on the future direction of the auDA Foundation.

e. Public Submissions

A member's request that Committee members view an old auDA video was circulated offline.

It was noted that the public submission process needs to be designed and promoted to attract substantive input for the Committee's consideration. The Governance Review project may consider the Committee's consultative and communication processes in this respect.

5. Other business

No other business was discussed.

6. Next meeting & close

The next meeting will be advised once Interim Chair selected and Phil Khoury engaged.

The meeting was closed at 12:08pm.

Action items

	Item	Name
a.	Phil Khoury to engage with GASC on next steps for the Governance Review project	CF
b.	Reflect on best practice from other similar advisory committees and provide feedback	GASC
c.	Circulate Interim Chair requirements and nominate/select GASC member	AH / GASC
d.	Confirm next meeting time	CF