

Policies

Policy Reviews

Panels and Committees

[2017 Policy Review Panel](#)

auDRP

[auDRP Overview](#)

[auDRP Current Proceedings](#)

[auDRP Archived Proceedings](#)

Privacy Policy

Reserved List policy: Notice and FAQ

In Development: Second Level .au Domains

[FAQ: Second Level .au Domains](#)

[Priority Allocation Process](#)

[Priority Status Tool Prototype](#)

Major Disaster Policy FAQ

[Home](#) | [Policies](#) | [Panels and Committees](#) | [2015 Names Policy Panel Terms of Reference](#)

2015 Names Policy Panel Terms of Reference

Purpose

The purpose of the Panel is to:

- review the policy framework underlying the allocation and use of domain names in the .au domain space^[1]; and
- provide recommendations to the auDA board about what changes (if any) should be made to the policy framework.

Background

In May 2001 [auDA's Name Policy Advisory Panel](#) recommended a new, uniform policy framework for the allocation of domain names in the asn.au, com.au, id.au, net.au and org.au 2LDs. This common framework replaced the individual policies that had been developed by the different 2LD administrators since the early 1990s. auDA implemented the Panel's recommendations with effect from 1 July 2002.

The policy framework has since been reviewed by auDA Advisory Panels in [2004](#), [2007](#) and [2010](#), and a number of policy changes have been implemented as a result of those review processes.

Activity

The Panel will review the policy framework underlying the allocation and use of domain names in the .au domain space. [Back to top](#)

The Panel will consider the following issues:

1. Should .au be opened up to direct registrations (eg. domainname.au)? If yes, should there be any policy rules,

and if so what rules?[2]

2. Should the eligibility and allocation policy rules for asn.au, com.au, id.au, net.au and org.au be changed? If yes, what changes should be made?

Relevant auDA Published Policies:

- [Domain Name Eligibility and Allocation Policy Rules for the Open 2LDs \(2012-04\)](#)
- [Guidelines on the Interpretation of Policy Rules for the Open 2LDs \(2012-05\)](#)

3. Should the policy rules relating to the reserved list and misspellings be changed? If yes, what changes should be made?

Relevant auDA Published Policies:

- [Reserved List Policy \(2014-06\)](#)
- [Prohibition on Misspellings Policy \(2008-09\)](#)

Chair

The auDA Board has appointed Derek Whitehead, Chief Information Officer, Swinburne University to chair the Panel.

Members

The Panel will consist of up to 20 members other than the Chair. It is intended that the Panel will represent key stakeholders in the Australian domain name system, including auDA Board members, auDA members, auDA accredited registrars, domain name resellers, domain name holders (registrants), domainers, business, consumers, government, law enforcement, legal sector, IT industry and Internet users.

Panel members will be appointed by the auDA Board on the basis of their individual skills, experience and knowledge of the domain name industry. The Board will also seek to achieve a fair balance of stakeholder interests.

Membership of the Panel is on a voluntary basis, although auDA may assist with expenses (refer to Operations below). Panel members must be prepared to commit their time and effort for the duration of the Terms of Reference (refer to Timeline below).

Operations

The Panel will determine its own operational procedures.

The Panel will undertake at least two public consultations during the course of its work.

The Chair will provide regular progress reports to the auDA Board.

auDA will provide secretariat and other operational support to the Panel.

auDA may provide financial assistance to Panel members where required, for example in the case of not-for-profit organisations and individuals whose participation in the Panel is not funded by their employer. Such assistance will be provided at auDA's discretion.

Timeline

An indicative timeline is as follows:

Activity

auDA issues call for Panel nominations
auDA board appoints Panel membership
1st Panel meeting
1st public consultation
2nd public consultation
Panel's final report to auDA Board

Timing

October 2014
December 2014
February 2015
May 2015
September 2015
November 2015

The timeline is subject to change.

[1] The following 2LDs are excluded from the Terms of Reference: csiro.au, edu.au, gov.au and the community geographic 2LDs (act.au, nsw.au, nt.au, sa.au, tas.au, vic.au, wa.au).

[2] For clarity, consideration of potential implementation mechanisms for opening up .au to direct registrations is outside the scope of the Panel's Terms of Reference.

About auDA

Our Organisation
Our Services
Membership
Community Programs
Careers @ auDA
Constitutional Reform FAQ
Quarterly Stakeholder Reports

Help Centre

Domain Name Registrants
Website Beginners
For Registrars & Resellers
Complaints & Disputes
Registrant Transfers

Policies

Policy Reviews
Panels and Committees
auDRP
Privacy Policy
Reserved List policy:
Notice and FAQ
In Development: Second Level .au Domains
Major Disaster Policy FAQ

Industry Information

.au Domains
Registry
Registrars
Resellers
Co-marketing and Innovation fund

Public Comment

Recently closed consultation

Membership

[News](#) 3

[Contact auDA](#) 5

[WHOIS Lookup](#)

[%](#) [\\$](#) [1](#) [2](#)