

**From:** Vincent Turner  
**To:** auDA Policy Review  
**Subject:** Re: .au domain submission

Further to my previous submission, and in reference to your new <https://www.auda.org.au/policies/panels-and-committees/2017-policy-review-panel/policy-review-panel-final-report-and-recommendations/> request for input I can offer the following

Other than the profit of domain squatting companies, there is no Australian benefit to a first come, first serve, no proof of usage (intended or otherwise) for the new .au or even the current .com.au domains

Not being able to use a domain related to a real world business that generates ongoing revenue, jobs and innovation.. especially early stage companies that may ultimately go onto the world stage is counter productive to the broader objectives of the nation. The rights of a small group of opportunistic rent seekers is secondary to those objectives

To avoid an administrative nightmare I would suggest a combination of

- 1) higher prices for the new domains
- 2) use it or lose it, and not just put up a landing page. Create a going concern business and/or invest in other IP related to the name (business name, trademark etc) and if not, then
- 3) Arbitration process for challenges on a set of guidelines with the arbitration final and the fees paid for by the losing party (this process could be outsourced and covered by the fixed fee)
- 4) grandfather the existing domain holders with a right to sell for whatever the market will pay in a 2 year amnesty window to avoid them taking absolute losses

Please reach out if you'd like any further clarification

Regards  
Vincent Turner

On Tue, Sep 18, 2018 at 11:03 AM Vincent Turner <[vt@unohomeloans.com.au](mailto:vt@unohomeloans.com.au)> wrote:  
Hi

I'd love to attend in Melbourne but won't be able to make it but wanted to propose that the first right of refusal to companies for the new .au domains should go to people/companies with clearly invested IP rights to the names NOT companies who already have the .com.au equivalent

Whether we like it or not, the .com.au domain has a huge amount of domain squatting so a legit company who has invested heavily in creating & protecting it's brand .. but denied the .com.au because a company has decided it might one day do something with the domain ..

.au domains can avoid this mess by making the bar higher for people to get domains, either in an early grace period .. or ongoing .. this will create higher trust and avoid the squatting that happens today, whether we like to admit it or not

Hope this helps, happy to be contacted for any further clarification

Vincent