

[DRAFT] Record of Meeting

Meeting	General Advisory Standing Committee	
Date / Time	Wednesday 6 March 2024 @ 11.00am – 1.00pm (AEDT)	
Location	Hybrid (in person): Melbourne auDA Boardroom, Level 19, 8 Exhibition Street, Melbourne and online via Microsoft Teams Meeting	
Present	Keith Besgrove (Chair) Dr Peter Langkamp, OAM Nadia Moffatt, OAM Sae Ra Germaine Caroline Greenway	Cleo Kerama Dr Paul Harrison Andrew Williams Susan Kelso
In attendance	Jane Smith, auDA's CPCO (<i>part attendance</i>) Sonia Joksimovic, auDA CoSec	Sandra Davey, auDA Director (and Committee Rep)
Apologies	Ajoy Ghosh – GASC Member Jordan Carter, Internet Governance and Policy Director Peter Elford, auDA Director	

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed all members present noting apologies and opened the meeting at 11.02am.

The Chair confirmed a quorum was present.

2. Acknowledgment of Country

The Chair acknowledged the traditional owners of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation and all elders past and present and all the lands on which the Committee was meeting, including members attending remotely and paid respects to elders past and present.

3. Declaration of Interests

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

4. Approve the Previous Record of Meeting

The Committee noted the record of meeting from the 5 December 2023, which was **resolved** as a true and correct record of the meeting.

5. Actions Arising from the Previous Meeting

The Committee noted an update on the actions arising from the previous meeting.

The Company Secretary provided a status update on actions completed and included on the agenda for discussion at the meeting.

6. Letter to GASC from auDA's Board Chair on Workplan Advice

The Chair referred to the January 2024 correspondence from the auDA Board Chair, which was taken as read.

As discussed at the December 2023 meeting, the Committee **confirmed** its interest in the following areas, where GASC Advice has been requested:

1. Leading the Internet Community; and
2. Scope for new Products and Services

Due to ill health, auDA's CPCO left the meeting.

After round table discussion, members **supported the additional areas** where GASC Advice has been requested, from the tabled correspondence:

3. Company's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan; and
4. Evolving Accountability and Transparency

The Chair confirmed sequencing of priorities, noting **auDA's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan** will be the primary focus for the June 2024 Committee meeting.

Action: It was **agreed** a pre-planning meeting will be arranged offline with the sub-committee consisting of Nadia Moffatt, Paul Harrison, Peter Langkamp, Sae Ra Germaine, Cleo Kerama and Andrew Williams in preparation for the June 2024 meeting to address the interests discussed [Subcommittee, May 2024]

It was noted that due to overseas travel, Paul Harrison and Cleo Kerama will participate in the pre-planning discussion online.

7. Proposed 2024 Committee Workplan

Action: The Chair noted that further to the workplan advice discussed and agreed (agenda 6), the next iteration of the Committee workplan for 2024 focus, will be progressed offline [Chair, March 2024]

8. Diversity, Accessibility and Inclusion Framework Advice to the Board

The Committee noted a progress update on Diversity, Accessibility, and Inclusion Framework, as tabled, for further discussion at the meeting.

The Committee discussed the amended paper to consider the purpose and focus of the recommendations, to assist its finalisation for auDA to develop a Best Practice Strategy for disability access and inclusion.

Action: It was **agreed** Cleo Kerama and Nadia Moffatt will provide feedback offline on the next steps for auDA Board to consider [C. Kerama & N. Moffatt, March 2024]

Action: It was **further agreed** an introductory paragraph and spelling review would be completed prior to the GASC Advice finalisation and distribution to the Board [Chair, March 2024]

The Chair thanked all members involved for their contribution.

9. UN SDGS [Ideation] Advice to Board

The Chair invited Dr Peter Langkamp to talk to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which auDA has identified and committed to.

The Committee discussed the purpose and focus of their advice, to assist auDA progressing towards additional SDGS for the Board to consider.

It was suggested auDA partner with entities such as UN Global Network Australia or Global Compact Network Australia, to assist promoting auDA's SDG contribution, prioritise actions and targets.

The Committee noted once an ESG Framework is developed, there will be a budget to help measure these goals.

Action: The Committee supported the Advice, as tabled, to be finalised for submission to the auDA Board [Chair, March 2024].

10. Update on Scholarly Article: Healing the Digital Divide with Digital Inclusion: Enabling Human Capability Finalisation

The Chair invited Dr Paul Harrison provided an update on the Grant Application lodged with ACANN, as part of the next steps regarding Scholarly Article: Healing the Digital Divide with Digital Inclusion

Dr Harrison provided a summary of outcomes identified in the scholarly article, to assist the research project to be further progressed.

The Committee noted the project is seeking to measure the efficacy of access and capability programs in current digital inclusion policy and practice that are most likely to benefit Australians with a psychosocial impairment. In particular, the research outcomes seek to address self-efficacy, agency and dignity, social isolation, and online safety issues for vulnerable groups.

The Committee further noted the project's goal is to better understand how digital spaces can be designed to improve vulnerable consumers' well-being.

This project will be in partnership with The Disability Trust and ermha365, to implement programs and policy that draw upon the findings of this research.

Susan Kelso suggested an opportunity for *Beyond Blue* to contribute to this project. Beyond Blue recently submitted a tender to Government to assist mental health and digital pathways for those who don't have access.

Sandra Davey highlighted a potential connection between this research and auDA's Public Benefit Committee, for further exploration.

Action: It was **agreed** Dr Harrison will keep the Committee informed on the research project with *Digital Divide with Digital Inclusion Research* to be added as a standing agenda for future meetings [CoSec, September 2024]

II. Proposed GASC Membership Workshop with auDA Board

The Chair invited the Company Secretary to provide an update on the GASC Membership Workshop confirmed with available auDA Directors.

The Company Secretary noted the Membership workshop is scheduled for **Wednesday 28 August 2024 from 9.00am – 1.00pm (Melbourne time)**.

It was noted members interested to participate may attend in person or online.

Action: The calendar invite is to be forwarded to members [CoSec, March 2024].

Dr Paul Harrison provided an overview of the Membership Strategy Workshop agenda, which remains a *work-in-progress*, with key focus on understanding the:

1. Objectives of the Membership Program and purpose of engagement
2. Current market, users, motivations, and beliefs; and
3. Key focus for that membership.

Action: It was noted that once the agenda is finalised, it will be shared with Committee [Cosec, June 2023]

Action: The Chair requested a copy of auDA's Membership Strategy, to be provided as pre-reading workshop material on a confidential basis for GASC, or at minimum Dr Paul Harrison and Keith Besgrove to understand the current state of play [CPCO, March 2024]

No further questions or comments were noted.

12. Why We Need Multi-Stakeholder Internet Governance

The Chair noted the publication authored by Chris Buckridge (dated February 2024).

Caroline Greenway observed the contrast of the multi-stakeholder model referenced, noting the publication was prepared for CENTR, the association of European country code top-level domain (ccTLD) registries and whether there was an Asia Pacific body.

Sandra Davey noted there are several initiatives auDA will contribute to in the future, with consideration on how the next cohort of internet governance experts from civil society, will be developed.

13. Any Other Business

No other Business was noted.

14. Meeting Close / Next Meeting

The Chair confirmed there were no further comments or questions from the Committee.

The Committee noted that the next meeting is scheduled in Melbourne, **Wednesday 19 June 2024 at 11.00am - 1.00pm.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 12.41pm.

Signed as a true and correct record.

Keith Besgrove
Committee Chair

Date: