[DRAFT] Record of Meeting

Meeting	Technical Advisory Standing Committee Meeting
Date / Time	Wednesday 21 February 2024 / 11.00am – 1.00pm AEDT
Location	Hybrid (in person): auDA's Boardroom, Level 19, 8 Exhibition Street, Melbourne and (via video conference)
Present	Nigel Phair (Chair) Kim Lowton Dr Lisa Dethridge Jo O'Brien Patrick Fair Jonathan Gleeson Geoffrey Huston
Also in attendance	Jane Smith, auDA CPCO Mike Trovato, auDA Director Bruce Tonkin, auDA COO Sonia Joksimovic, auDA CoSec
Invitees	Kate Carruthers, Chief Data Officer, UNSW AI Institute (*part attendance for agenda 6*)
Apologies	Martin Schlatter, Committee member Peter Elford, auDA Director

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair welcomed members present and opened the meeting at 11.08am and confirmed a quorum was present.

The Chair noted that further to the December 2023 meeting, the Board's

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 – 12 December 2023

The Committee reviewed the draft record of the meeting held 12 December 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.

Action: The Committee **agreed** for the following actions to be *removed* from the register and included in the Committee's workplan [CoSec, February 2024]:

- Action 11 (6 September 2022);
- Action 5 (6 December 2022); and
- Action 1 (28 February 2023)

The Chair requested Action 2 (5 September 2023) remains *ongoing*, for member's consideration and return advice.

6.   Guest Presenter from UNSW AI Institute

Kate Carruthers joined the meeting.

The Chair introduced Kate Carruthers, Chief Data & Insights Officer, University of New South Wales (UNSW) and Head of Business Intelligence for the UNSW AI Institute to provide the Committee a presentation on Artificial Intelligence, which included:

- An overview of Microsoft Project Sophia.
- Trends and Challenges with Cloud, Fog and Edge.
- New Network Architecture; and
- The future of Privacy in the age of Artificial Intelligence.

Kate noted that domain names are becoming less important.   Data is no longer static and held in silos, but users now look at point-in-time data in workflows.   Users will be directed to custom workflows (e.g. to purchase a particular product) rather than to a website.   The challenge for users will be identifying what workflows can be trusted, given domain names as a trust indicator will be less visible. Users are no longer just using search engines like Google that display results in the form of domain names, but users are now searching within applications such as TikTok, YouTube, and Instagram. These applications are also growing as ecommerce marketplaces.   Websites increasingly move people to use an AI driven chatbot to guide them through website content and workflows.   In future it is possible that all the apps on the phone will be replaced by one chatbot app that gives you access to all the underlying functionality that is accessed through individual apps today.

The Committee discussed privacy obligations, challenges of content and IP and synthetic training data sets.

Kate Carruthers left the meeting.

7. Regulation of AI in Australia

The Committee noted that the Australian Government plans to add more regulation in relation to Artificial Intelligence, with the Committee noting the following reports for consideration:

1. Discussion Paper, titled: *Safe and Responsible AI in Australia*, dated June 2023 which was issued by the Australian Government Department of Industry, Science & Resources (https://storage.googleapis.com/converlens-au-industry/industry/p/prj2452c8e24d7a400c72429/public_assets/Safe-and-responsible-AI-in-Australia-discussion-paper.pdf)

2. auDA's submission to the Department of Industry, Science & Resources: Safe and Responsible AI in Australia, dated July 2023 (https://www.auda.org.au/web/submission/submission-department-industry-science-and-resources-safe-and-responsible-ai-australia); and

3. Australian's Government's Interim Response, titled Safe and responsible AI in Australia Consultation (https://storage.googleapis.com/converlens-au-industry/industry/p/prj2452c8e24d7a400c72429/public_assets/safe-and-responsible-ai-in-australia-governments-interim-response.pdf)

The Committee noted that AI is unique because it can take actions at a speed and scale that would otherwise be impossible.

It was noted the speed of innovation in recent AI models are posing new potential risks and creating uncertainty about their full implications, giving rise to public concerns, which was discussed.

The Committee noted that new technologies, including new ways of doing business introduces new potential risks, with regulatory frameworks being required to review and adjust to ensure it is fit for purpose in the digital era.

auDA's CCO summarized auDA's submission.

Patrick Fair suggested reviewing Terms and Conditions of AI tools, prior to implementation (i.e. ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot).

The Committee discussed cognitive manipulation and social scoring generated from AI context.

The Committee suggested auDA continue to differentiate its services via validating registrants at the point of registration to ensure that Internet users can use the WHOIS service to identity which sole traders and organizations are behind each domain name.

Given a domain name can be licensed by a registered company with ASIC, users can obtain information on the directors of that company via ASIC.

8. Review of Committee Workplan

The Committee noted the workplan for Committee focus.

The Chair reminded members to consider subject matter experts that can attend 2024 meetings, as guest speakers.

9. Proposed Change to June 2024 Meeting

The Chair foreshadowed a proposed meeting change to the scheduled 18 June 2024 meeting, due to overseas travels.

Action: Chair & Company Secretary to discuss alternative June 2024 meeting date offline to test with the Committee [CoSec, March 2024]

10. Strategic Issues

The Committee noted that following the recent scenario planning project with external consultant, Matt Finch, auDA is considering the impact of the scenarios to help guide the development of the next Strategic Plan from 2025-2030.

auDA's CPCO noted that the Company's Strategy will be considered further at its scheduled March 2024 Staff Retreat, and the Committee will be invited to provide feedback as the plan develops.

No further comments or questions were noted.

11. Any Other Business

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

12. Meeting Close

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 18 June 2024 at 3.00pm-5.00pm,** until further arrangements are made.

The Meeting closed at 12.47pm

Signed as a true and correct record.

Nigel Phair
Committee Chair

Date: