

# 2LD Working Group

## *Terms of Reference*

### **Background**

The current .nz Second Level Domains policy is based on the policy that has been in place since 1996. Since that time there have been only four applications for the creation of a new 2LD: the two unsuccessful .bank.nz applications, the successful .maori.nz application and the in-progress .geek.nz application. Given the length of time the policy has been in place, and public concern with wider aspects of 2LD administration in .nz, the time has come to review the policy in its entirety. NZOC has set up the Working Group not only to examine the process for 2LD applications, but to look at the whole status of 2LD's in the .nz space.

### **Scope**

The Working Group intends to undertake a thorough Review of the domain name space structure in .nz. This will involve consideration of all matters relating to the relationships between and maintenance of open second level domains; whether the namespace should be flattened and if so how; and any other matters it finds relevant. The Review is to be considered from the perspective of the New Zealand community.

### **Key roles and responsibilities**

The Working Group will:

1. Undertake a review of the current 'Second Level Domain' policy from first principles.
2. Ensure the review seeks input from all relevant stakeholders.
3. Ensure that recommendations do not affect the technical integrity of the .nz domain name space.
4. Ensure that recommendations include practical and achievable implementation strategies where changes are proposed to the current policy.
5. Report findings to the .nz Oversight Committee by **31 December 2003**.
6. Consult stakeholders and seek public input to the review.
7. Commission research as required to assist in the review process.
8. Meet from time to time, and to report as required to the .nz Oversight Committee.
9. Spend such funds as are allocated to the Working Group by the Office of the DNC for the purposes of the review.
10. Make recommendations to the .nz Oversight Committee.

## **Matters outside the review**

The Working Group will not consider:

- any local dispute resolution process;
- the content of any names (i.e. obscene language);
- international domain names.