

## **Minutes of the .nz Oversight Committee Meeting**

**Monday 14 March 2005, 4.00pm**

### **Attendance**

**Present:** Colin Jackson (Chair), Roger Hicks, David Russell, Jennifer Northover, Richard Currey, Keith Davidson, Debbie Monahan, Hannah Seeley, Frank March (via telephone items 5 – 10), Nick Griffin (item 2), Carol Stigley (via telephone, item 2), Iain Thorpe (item 7)

### **1. Minutes**

The minutes of the last NZOC meeting were passed as true and accurate.

Keith Davidson spoke about three positions on NZOC that are coming up for renewal. Colin Jackson, Roger Hicks and Jennifer Northover are about to end their terms on NZOC. The positions will be advertised however the members who currently fill the positions are welcome to reapply.

InternetNZ is establishing an Appointments Panel and Richard Currey agreed to put his name forward to be part of that on behalf of NZOC.

### **2. NZRS**

Representatives from NZRS, Nick Griffin and Carol Stigley (via telephone), joined the meeting to discuss an SRS system outage which took place on 20 February. The total length of the outage was 9 hours and 6 minutes meaning the SLA availability standard was not reached for the month.

NZRS spoke to a letter sent to NZOC on 24 February and explained what their investigations had found in respect of the cause of the outage, including that the outage occurred because the (SRS) system was placed in maintenance mode (read only) for a planned five minute period, however it was not returned to fully operational (read-write) status due to an operational manual failure. It was noted that during the time the SRS was in Read Only mode, full DNS service continued to operate and the Whois service continued throughout.

NZOC noted that the length of the outage reflected the lack of activity on the SRS on the day and time that the planned activity took place. NZOC also noted the speed with which the system was restored after NZRS was notified of the problem by a registrar.

Nevertheless, NZOC considered this was a significant outage which exposed a weakness in the monitoring of the SRS, as is now understood by all parties. NZOC accepted NZRS's assurance that system monitoring is being reviewed to ensure that the situation will not recur.

A suggestion was made that NZRS could consider having an outside party review the monitoring checks on the SRS to ensure that every possibility is covered off. Given the circumstances surrounding the nature of the outage, and the assurances given by NZRS, NZOC did not have any further matters to raise on this.

NZOC were pleased with the level of communication received from NZRS regarding the outage and thanked NZRS for their contribution to the meeting.

### **3. DNC Reports**

NZOC discussed the DNC's reports for December 2004 and January 2005 and the DNC spoke in more detail about some of the investigations being undertaken. An update on filling the Senior Support Analyst position was provided.

Both DNC reports were accepted by NZOC.

### **4. Whois Policy Review**

David Russell advised NZOC that the WHOIS Working Group had completed the review and he presented the final version of the revised policy for approval.

One submission was received during the second round of consultation which, though in support of the proposed revised policy, suggested a change to some of the names of the fields relating to the registrant. The Working Group felt that the issue was really an operational matter for the registry and registrars and recommended to NZOC that the DNC should plan a review of all SRS fields and their titles as part of the general review of .nz policies.

David Russell thanked the WHOIS Working Group and the DNC for their support.

NZOC:

- Approved the revised WHOIS Policy
- Agreed that the policy should be formally sent to council for their agreement to adopt the new policy (ideally by e-vote following this meeting)
- Agreed that, subject to InternetNZ Council's agreement, the new policy should come into effect on 9 May 2005
- Agreed that the DNC should plan for a review of the .nz fields and their titles

NZOC thanked David Russell, the WHOIS Working Group and the DNC for their work on this review. The DNC expressed her appreciation of David Russell and Lyn Evans for their efforts.

Frank March joined the meeting via telephone.

### **5. Dispute Resolution**

The DNC informed NZOC that the Working Group, set up previously by InternetNZ to look at dispute resolution processes for .nz domain names, had completed a public consultation period and that the WG would be meeting in Auckland on 24 March to discuss the submissions received.

NZOC members agreed that in considering this matter a priority was to ensure that the rights of the registrants were protected and that there

should be no unnecessary costs imposed on registrants as part of the dispute resolution process.

## **6. .iwi Moderation Policy**

NZOC were informed that the DNC office has contacted the registrant and admin contacts of the 53 .iwi domain names, by email and post, seeking their opinion of the changes proposed to the moderation rules for .iwi domain names.

The DNC will be following up anyone who has not responded later in March and will present the final results back to NZOC for consideration.

## **7. Policy Compliance**

There was a detailed discussion by NZOC regarding an ongoing investigation into the activities of a registrar.

After the discussion, NZOC agreed with the draft determination reached by the DNC that a breach of the .nz policies and procedures had occurred. Proposed sanctions for that breach were also discussed and agreed. These will now be put to the registrar for comment as part of the final determination.

## **8. Roles and Responsibilities policy – oral update**

The DNC advised NZOC that no submissions had been received as a result of the public consultation processes that had taken place. Moderators had been contacted regarding the proposed changes and the impact on them as they will be asked to sign an Agreement.

It is expected that a revised policy will be submitted to the next NZOC meeting for approval.

## **9. Communication Strategy – oral update**

NZOC were informed that the first two brochures “Making a name for yourself” and “.nz a ready reference for registrants” have been printed and are ready for distribution. It is planned that the brochures will also be made available in an electronic format on the DNC website.

The DNC is planning to produce another two brochures – one about domain names in relation to intellectual property and trademarks, and the other containing information to assist web designers and agents.

## **10. Next meeting**

The next NZOC meeting was set for Monday 16 May.