

Minutes of the .nz Oversight Committee Meeting

Wednesday 15 December 2004, 4.30pm

Attendance

Present: Frank March, Colin Jackson, Roger Hicks, David Russell, Jennifer Northover, Richard Currey, Debbie Monahan, Jordan Carter (items 1-5), Hannah Seeley (items 6-11), Lee Sycamore (all except item 6)

Apologies: Keith Davidson

The Chair welcomed NZOC members and also Lee Sycamore, a member of InternetNZ, as an observer.

Frank March noted that he would be absent from New Zealand from 15 January working on the WGIG in Geneva for six months. Options included him standing down as Chair or staying on with arrangements for the Deputy Chair to take any meetings while he was absent from New Zealand. NZOC indicated they were happy with Frank to stay Chair if he felt he could manage it. It was agreed that the matter would be discussed further with the President of InternetNZ.

1. Minutes

One change was made to the minutes of the last NZOC meeting, with the Sarah Gillies and Iain Thorpe being added to the attendance list for item 4. The minutes were then passed as true and accurate.

NZOC noted that the letter referred to under Item 2 had been sent, and a response received. The DNC will circulate these to NZOC.

2. DNC Reports

September

This report was discussed at the last meeting; the only change is that the financials are now included.

October

NZOC were updated on the investigation being undertaken into one registrar's activities and on general matters noted as requiring the DNC's involvement.

The point was raised that the DNC approach to specific issues should be documented to ensure a consistent approach should the matter arise again. The DNC agreed to document the circumstances and what was done to ensure consistency. This would be a file note for the office rather than a practice note for registrars. NZOC agreed with this approach.

The DNC was asked about the website expireddomains.co.nz. This site allows people to make bids for domain names that are about to become available to the public following the end of the 90 day 'pending release' period. The list of domain names being released in the next 24 hours is being made available to registrars through NZRS's new website. There does not appear to be any breach of the .nz policies and procedures.

NZRS website – the DNC provided as user name and login to NZOC members so they could view the material available only to registrars through the new NZRS site.

NZOC thanked the DNC for her two reports.

3. Second Level Domains policy

NZOC noted the contents of the DNC's paper on the 2LD policy and approved Part B, the Process Section, of the revised 2LD policy. NZOC also approved the application fees recommended by the 2LD Working Group of \$1000 for an unmoderated 2LD (with \$500 refunded if successful) and \$3,000 for moderated 2LD applications.

It was agreed that the Chair would update the InternetNZ Council at their upcoming meeting on 18 December about the final process put in place and the impact that has on Council, plus the level of application fees set.

4. Roles and Responsibilities Policy Review

The latest draft of the revised Roles and Responsibilities policy was discussed in detail. Changes suggested by NZOC were noted with the DNC to make the changes prior to putting the policy out for further public comment.

One of the key changes is the introduction of a section that focuses on the responsibilities of moderators and action that can be taken if issues occur with the moderation process. It was agreed that a specific reference to the 2LD policy, where the majority of information about the moderation of 2LDs, should be included.

5. .iwi.nz Moderation Policy

The DNC outlined her paper on the responses received to the proposed changes to the .iwi moderation policy but noted that no recommendation was being made to NZOC as she did not consider there was consensus among submitters as to whether the change should be accepted or not.

This situation was discussed, along with an explanation from the DNC of the parties contacted as part of the consultation.

After a lot of discussion it was agreed that there had been sufficient attempts made to consult widely as part of a general public consultation. NZOC agreed that there was a need to consult further but that the target group should be the existing registrants of the .iwi.nz 2LD who had registered a name in that 2LD on the basis of what it stood for at

that time and that the majority of registrants needed to agree to any change in scope that 2LD covered.

NZOC agreed a process as outlined:

- DNC to compose a letter and email to all .iwi.nz registrants. This letter will explain the situation and background in detail and why it is important for them to respond to the request for their opinion on the proposed change to the moderation policy. NZOC to agree the wording of this communication with the moderator.
- Letters and emails sent out with a timeframe for responding. The DNC will complement this by making phone contact with those who haven't responded by the timeframe outlined.
- NZOC will make a decision based on the responses of the .iwi.nz registrants but they will require a majority to support the proposed change in order for NZOC to agree to the change of the moderation policy.
- The majority NZOC requires is at least 75% of registrants to reply and of those, at least 75% must agree with the change.

Details of the process need to be confirmed and NZOC will consult with the .iwi.nz moderator as the process is being finalised.

6. Domain Name Fee Setting Process

A paper from the DNC regarding the review of the domain name fee was presented but the DNC took the opportunity to update the information in the paper based on operational meetings she had had with the registry manager in getting ready for the review process. The Chair declared this part of the meeting 'in committee'.

The information relayed to NZOC concerned the dividend that the InternetNZ Council had asked NZRS to consider for the financial year 06/07 and raised issues for the DNC. NZOC discussed the information disclosed by the DNC and all present agreed that there was an issue that needed to be highlighted with the InternetNZ Council.

NZOC agreed to write a letter for the Council to be presented by the Chair at the Council meeting on 18 December.

7. 2005/06 Draft Budget

The DNC presented NZOC with the end of year forecast and the draft budget for 2005/06 and explained the rationale behind it. NZOC noted the end of year forecast and approved the draft budget for 2005/06.

8. WHOIS Review

David Russell updated NZOC on the WHOIS Policy Review.

The WHOIS Working Group (WHOIS WG) held their second meeting on 15 November 2004 to discuss the five submissions received during the first round of public consultation. Comments from the submissions were considered and the WG developed a draft revised policy.

Key features of the draft policy include:

- Maintaining the status quo with respect to the data provided in response to a WHOIS query
- A clearer list of principles which explain the rationale for providing a WHOIS service
- Stronger clauses regarding data protection, including a specific ability for the Domain Name Commissioner and the registry to act to stop abuse of the service.

A second round of public consultation on the new draft policy is currently being held and closes on 31 January 2005. It is expected that the WHOIS WG will meet again in February 2005 to finalise the proposed new policy.

NZOC thanked David Russell for the work the WHOIS WG has produced so far.

9. Dispute Resolution

The DNC gave NZOC a brief update on the progress of the Dispute Resolution Working Group (WG) and noted that a paper had been prepared for a first round of public consultation. This is expected to be published shortly with the consultation scheduled to end 28 February 2005.

10. Other Business

- Colin Jackson spoke about his report regarding his recent trip to Capetown for the ICANN meeting at the beginning of December.
- Frank March gave a brief talk about the position he will be taking up in Geneva for six months. NZOC congratulated Frank on being invited to take up the position.

The date for the next meeting will be set in the new year.