

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

**Monday 28 June 2004, 4.00pm**

### **Attendance**

**Present:** Frank March, Colin Jackson, Roger Hicks, David Russell, Jennifer Northover, Richard Currey, Keith Davidson, Debbie Monahan Jordan Carter (items 1-7) and Hannah Seeley (items 8-9)

### **Membership of NZOC**

The terms of three NZOC members (Frank March, Richard Currey and David Russell) have their terms end on 30 June 2004. Each have indicated their willingness to be reappointed.

Colin Jackson, as Convenor of the NZOC Appointment Panel, reported that a recommendation has been made to reappoint all three members. Council is set to consider this at their meeting on 2 July. Therefore, the membership of NZOC beyond 30 June will be confirmed following the InternetNZ Council meeting.

Frank March stated that he would be standing down as Chair at the end of the meeting, given the end of his term. The first item of business at the next NZOC meeting will therefore be to appoint a Chair. Frank thanked those who had put their names forward for another term, and commended the effectiveness of the group so far.

### **1. Minutes**

The minutes of the last NZOC meeting were passed as true and accurate. No matters arose which were not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

### **2. DNC Reports**

The April and May reports were discussed.

Related to the April report regarding Domain Names Australia (DNA), the DNC reported on her conversation with NominetUK who are taking action against DNA in Australia. One of the grounds for their legal action is based around copyright infringement.

There was a discussion about the types of disputes being handled by the DNC, and that there appears to be a number relating to the registration of a domain name using the details of the web designer rather than the party requesting the registration. A question was raised whether it would be useful to plan a presentation, targeted at web developers, to stress how important it is for the correct details to be used. The DNC said that there were plans to do this, but that the intention was to wait until the Roles and Responsibilities policy had been redrafted to make expectations clear.

Questions about the financial reports and a page in the reports were dealt with by the DNC. NZOC thanked the DNC for her reports.

### **3. DNC Travel Report**

The DNC gave an oral report on her recent trip to NominetUK, .ie Domain Registry, WIPO and attendance at the CENTR General Assembly. Written reports will be coming to NZOC shortly. The DNC felt that the trip was very worthwhile and that many useful ideas have been discussed.

### **4. Zone Transfer Policy**

The latest draft of the revised Zone Transfer Policy was presented to NZOC. A minor amendment was made to the text in one clause, and NZOC approved the draft policy, agreed that a form agreement be developed; and agreed that the policy should be supplemented by a practice note.

NZOC agreed that Frank March would advise the InternetNZ Council on the status of the policy review during his report to the meeting on Friday 2 July. When all aspects of the policy have been finalised (the form agreement and practice note) the Council will be asked to formally accept the new policy by e-vote.

### **5. Second Level Domains (2LD) policy**

NZOC received a paper from the 2LD Working Group (WG), which the DNC spoke to. The WG have completed their work and they presented NZOC with a draft policy, and detailed process supporting that policy. Public consultation has been sought on a number of occasions and feedback from that process had been incorporated into the final version to NZOC.

NZOC members were pleased with the new policy. A number of drafting changes were identified and NZOC discussed various aspects of the draft policy, including how the pre-registrations would operate.

From the Working Group paper, NZOC agreed to approve the Second Level Domains policy as amended and that the moratorium on applications for new 2LDs ends when the revised policy comes into effect.

The DNC explained the operational implications of the new policy and these were noted by NZOC. There is a significant amount of work required to prepare for the implementation of the policy, including changes to the DNC website to accommodate pre-registrations.

NZOC noted the operational consequences of the new policy and that they will be asked to set the application and pre-registration fees based on information to be provided to them at their next meeting. Given NZOC agreed that the policy should be referred to the InternetNZ Council for consideration at their next meeting (28 August), it means that the next NZOC meeting needs to be held prior to that date.

NZOC unanimously thanked the WG for their efforts and congratulated them on an excellent outcome.

## **6. Roles and Responsibilities Policy Review**

The DNC advised NZOC that there were no responses to the call for public submissions on the RAR review. As previously presented to NZOC, changes to the policy are required from an operational perspective. The DNC will therefore need to work with the lawyers on revising the policy to address issues raised during investigations and managing complaints.

NZOC agreed that the RAR review continue with the DNC working directly with the lawyers, and noted the possible cost of the legal input into the review.

## **7. WHOIS Policy Review**

NZOC agreed that the Whois policy review should commence as planned in the second half of 2004. NZOC discussed who should chair the WHOIS review, given the importance and wide range of the review. David Russell was proposed and accepted the position.

A draft Terms of Reference was agreed and the DNC will now work with the Chair of the Review, David Russell, to prepare a project outline and draft timetable.

It is anticipated that NZOC will, by the end of July, be in a position to call for expressions of interest from people wanting to be part of the Working Group.

## **8. Communications Update**

Hannah Seeley gave NZOC an update on the communications work done to date. NZOC were informed that Hannah has been working with Rod Young of Linchpin Communications and draft content has been produced for two publications aimed at two different target audiences.

The draft documents are in their final stages of refining and they will then be circulated to NZOC for comment. After initial feedback from NZOC, they will be forwarded to .nz registrars for their comments.

## **9. Any Other Business**

### *DNSSEC*

The DNC informed NZOC that an issue with DNSSEC has recently been identified. The issue is known as "zone walking" and it effectively allows access to the entire zone. A query of domain name results in the previous and next domain names on the list being identified as well.

NZOC's policy position on this matter was sought because if DNSSEC was implemented in .nz, the Zone Transfer Policy would be made irrelevant. NZOC reaffirmed the policy principle that access to the .nz zone should be carefully controlled and limited to exceptional circumstances where a clear public good is identified and with appropriate checks in place.

This matter was discussed at the CENTR meeting, and it is understood that the matter is being looked at. However, it is unclear what possible solutions there are that are viable, and how long any viable solutions might take to be ready for operational implementation.

NZOC agreed that they should formally ask NZRS to send a technical staff member Kuala Lumpur to investigate the alternative and to evaluate the time in which the alternative will realistically be available. Depending on the information gathered, NZOC will work with NZRS on what recommendations should be referred back to the InternetNZ Council.

### *GST*

In response to the letter to the Inland Revenue (IRD) regarding GST and Foreign Registrars, the DNC informed NZOC members that IRD had replied saying that they will recommend inclusion of the issue in the tax policy work programme.

### **10. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in August, prior to the Council meeting planned for 28 August. Date to be confirmed.