Minutes of the .nz Oversight Committee Meeting

Monday 29 July 2005, 10.00am

Attendance

Present: Colin Jackson, Roger Hicks, David Russell, Richard Currey, Andy Linton, Debbie Monahan, Adam Griffiths, Hannah Seeley, Jennifer Northover, Keith Davidson.

Apologies: Frank March

Colin Jackson welcomed Andy Linton to NZOC and Adam Griffiths to the DNC Office as Support Analyst replacing Hannah Seeley.   Keith Davidson and Jennifer Northover were present as observers, with Jennifer's term having ended and Keith being appointed as the new InternetNZ Executive Director. Their efforts on NZOC were acknowledged with thanks.

1.   Minutes

It was agreed that the minutes of the last NZOC meeting should note that the meeting was held in Auckland. The minutes were passed as true and accurate.

2.   DNC Reports

It was noted that the April report had been discussed informally at the previous meeting.

The DNC spoke to her May and June reports. Items discussed relating to the reports included:

-   Explanations on the unplanned outages reported by NZRS. Also discussed was the planned outages and updates to the SRS. The DNC explained that most of the updates to the SRS affected registry functions only and didn't impact on registrars.

-   The attack on the DNC WHOIS service was explained. It resulted in the WHOIS service through the DNC site being suspended and efforts being made to track down where the attack was coming from.   A number of IP addresses were blacklisted as a result.

-   NZRS suspending a registrar's access to the register for 48 hours following them repeatedly testing in the production environment despite being asked on a number of occasions to refrain from the behaviour.

3.   .iwi.nz Moderation Policy

NZOC were informed that the application to have the .iwi.nz moderation policy changed had not met the threshold of a 75% response rate set by NZOC. The response rate was only 45% of all.iwi.nz registrants. It was acknowledged that of those that did respond the majority (63%) were against the proposed change to the moderation policy.

NZOC agreed to formally decline the application to amend the .iwi.nz moderation policy as there was not enough support for the proposed changes, and in fact there was considerable objection to it.   The DNC is to advise the moderator of the outcome.

4.   Service Level Agreement review

A draft, revised Service Level Agreement (SLA) was discussed by NZOC. Most of the content is the same as in the current version of the SLA but the document has been modified to make it more formal and legalistic, reflecting the type of Agreement that any two unrelated organisations are likely to sign.   It has been reviewed by a lawyer and no legal issues have been raised.

NZOC discussed the content of the SLA and agreed that more information was required on a number of matters including:

-      How various different transaction times were measured
-      Monitoring of DNS service and reporting on that
-      Availability of the WHOIS service

Details of the issues NZOC members want to clarify with NZRS are to be emailed to the DNC who will get information from NZRS. NZOC want this information before signing a revised SLA.

5.   Dispute Resolution process

The DNC spoke about work being done on planning the implementation of a dispute resolution process for the .nz domain name space.   Detailed planning is yet to be completed but the key areas of work have been identified along with some key milestones. From early estimations, it is likely to be late April / May 2006 at the earliest before any policy comes into effect.

It was recommended that the project involve dual reporting – to the Working Group and to NZOC.   The Working Group will be responsible for making recommendations to NZOC on the policy and procedures but there are also other aspects to the project that have a long term impact, such as staffing, that will need to be considered by NZOC. This approach was approved by NZOC. Council will be kept updated of progress by way of a summary in the NZOC Chair's report to Council.

This approach will be discussed with the Working Group and work will continue on developing a detailed project plan.

There was discussion regarding the scale of the project and resources required to complete it. It was agreed that the DNC is responsible for ensuring adequate resources are employed for the project and the DNC outlined her plans for this to NZOC.

A significant aid to the project has been the purchase of the software system used by Nominet.   InternetNZ has purchased rights to the code and so is able to make any changes as required to ensure it meets .nz's requirements. The DNC provided details of the purchase to NZOC.

6. Communications update

Hannah Seeley advised NZOC of work done to date on a brochure targeted at resellers, including web designers and ISPs. A survey of resellers had been undertaken to find out what they knew about .nz policies and procedures, what questions they had and what were issues for them and their clients. Content for the brochure had been drafted after that survey.

One of the issues identified was around domain name disputes. With a new policy on this likely to come into effect next year, it was agreed that the brochure should refer to a specific link on the DNC website. That page can be updated when the dispute resolution process is implemented meaning that the printed brochures won't date quickly.

NZOC will review the brochure after the edits have been made. When NZOC are happy with the draft brochure it will be circulated to registrars for their comments.

7. .parliament.nz application update

Additional documents relating to the application for .parliament.nz arrived the evening before the NZOC meeting. Copies were handed out at the meeting but NZOC did not consider that they had had adequate time to review them prior to any discussion.

It was agreed that NZOC would review the papers and that discussion on the documents and the application would take place via email over the next few weeks.

The DNC was asked to contact DIA and confirm that they were happy with the revised moderation policy.

8. International Travel Proposal

A proposal to attend the ICANN meeting in Vancouver in December was presented by the DNC. The DNC would attend as NZOC's representative. With this meeting being the last one before InternetNZ hosts the March 2006 meeting, there would be value in the DNC attending and promoting the Wellington meeting.

NZOC agreed with the proposal and approved the travel.

9. Any Other Business

The DNC advised NZOC that no submissions were received from the public consultation on the review of the Transfer to Another Registrar (TAR) policy.

Colin Jackson thanked departing NZOC members Jennifer Northover and Keith Davidson for their time, effort and work with NZOC. NZOC wished them all the best for the future.

NZOC also acknowledged that it was Hannah Seeley's last meeting as she had left the DNC Office to take up a new position. NZOC acknowledged the work Hannah had done in supporting the committee and passed on their best wishes for success in her new role.