

Registrar Advisory Group - Meeting Minutes

- DATE:** 03 July 2025, 9 AM to 10 AM
- ATTENDEES (DNC):** Barbara Pearse, Commissioner (Chair)
Ann Ibrahim, Head of Technical and Relationships
- ATTENDEES (INZ):** Josh Simpson, Product Infrastructure Lead
Isobel Egerton, Domain Name Policy Lead
Sonya Trompetter, Product Support Manager
Tim Joshnson, General Manager Customer and Product
- ATTENDEES (RAG Members)** Lee Miller - Voyager
Neil Stockbridge - Metaname
Shaun Fisher - Vetta
David Grice - DIA
- APOLOGIES** Maria Skatova, Generate Manager
Rose Jamieson, General Manager, Public Impact
Melissa Tihiariki - TPP WholeSale
Prudence Malinki - Mark Monitor
- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** Terms of Reference* current version
Terms of Reference - draft version

AGENDA

- Welcome and new advisory Group members
- Terms of reference updates/changes
- INZ Updates:
 - nz Rules update (and proposed consultations)
 - GM Product and Support update
- Registrar Updates
 - Industry issues and developments
- DNC updates
 - 03 April Meeting - Action Items Update
 - General updates

MEETING MINUTES

The Commissioner welcomes attendees, and David Grice as a new member from DIA and introductions.

Terms of Reference - review

- outlined that the current version of Terms of Reference is old and developed back when the SRS was in place, and lacks clarity around roles, responsibilities and the election process.
- explained that the new draft has been shared with this group and requested feedback.
- proposed a three-year term of appointment for registrar representatives to ensure opportunities for new members, with no barrier to re-nomination and re-election.

Registrar feedback/suggestions

- implementing NDAs for advisory group members to facilitate more open discussions.
- adding the clause "members will not use the forum to represent any personal agenda that doesn't have a wider benefit to the registrar community" and the clause "The group is intended to represent the collective interests of the registrar community" back into the terms of reference.
- reframe the terms of reference to enable the election process to commence earlier than the expiry of each member's term (say at least 3 months prior) to ensure continuity of membership.
- acknowledged the historical difficulty in encouraging registrars to vote and stand for election.
- Include comms about the Advisory Group, its role, representing all registrars etc with new TOR.
- strongly cautioned against implementing real-time validation of registrant names, noting that similar proactive measures in other regions have led to significant challenges and unintended consequences.
- expressed interest in seeing how the rate of renewals would change over the next year due to the price increase.
- requested circulating the compliance and regulatory approach document to the advisory group for feedback before public release.

InternetNZ:

- .nz rules updates
 - provided an update on proposed NZ rule changes, noting two rounds for the current financial year.
 - The first being minor definition realignments and error corrections.
 - The second round, expected in August or September.
- The registrar summit is coming up in September as planned in Christchurch. It'll be two days. The agenda and registrations will come soon and keen for the group to put forward ideas and suggestions.
- discussed the recent price increase, early observations indicate a "low impact change" and that research will be conducted to assess its effect on the market, with data possibly shared at the summit.

Feedback from registrars to InternetNZ updates:

- appreciated the plan for fewer rule changes, ideally one per year, but raised concerns about the wording around registrars' obligations when they "become aware" of invalid data and the need for clear boundaries on what constitutes "incorrect" registrant names.
- noted that registrars typically address data inaccuracies when ownership is disputed, following appropriate verification processes. It was also suggested to explore real-time validation of registrant names in such cases.

DNC:

- The DNC have developed a new "regulatory and compliance approach" strategy document and plans are to publish this in August, outlining how the DNC will undertake its regulatory and compliance activities including planned monitoring and investigations, moving beyond reactive measures.
- The intention is that each year a monitoring plan will be developed and published which will identify the DNC's areas of interest. DNC would select a number of registrars each year for planned monitoring.
- Status update on Action Items from the 03 of April meeting

Item	Status
Set up a Slack Channel for RAG	Done

Reach out to DIA regarding interest in joining the Advisory group	Done
Draft a standing agenda	Done
Send Meeting invites for the year with standing agenda	Done
DNC to investigate the UDAI issue	Done
Circulate meeting minutes to Registrars and Advisory group attendees within two weeks	Done
Draft update to TOR (Terms of Reference) for circulating to Advisory Group members for comment/feedback	Done
DNC seeks nominations and votes from registrars for the final advisory group member. Complete election process	Done

Action Items - 03 July 2025

Item	Owner	Due date
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Circulate meeting minutes to participants for feedback/approval along with updated draft TOR for agreement 2. circulate to Registrars along with agreed TOR 	Ann	22 July

<p>3. Include specific comms about role and purpose of Advisory Group when circulating final TOR to registrars</p>		
<p>Consider an NDA for the advisory group</p>	<p>Tim</p>	<p>August</p>
<p>Update Terms of Reference based on feedback from members and re-circulate with minutes</p>	<p>Ann</p>	<p>31 July</p>
<p>Share the DNC's Regulatory and Compliance Approach strategy with members prior to publishing for their information.</p>	<p>Barb</p>	<p>Mid August</p>