

Dear auDA directors,

Please find attached the 'Membership Options Review,' paper, compiled by strategic consultancy ThinkPlace to summarise the results of the members' forum held in Melbourne on 25 June 2018.

We encourage you to consider this review paper in its entirety, as we believe it provides a good representation of the broad-ranging discussion we have been engaged in regarding the appropriateness of different membership model reform options.

However, we also have a formal recommendation to the board based on our consultation with with auDA members and a range of other relevant stakeholders and sources.

The Consultation Model Working Group considers that a version of the 'Model C' membership model – a single member class model – should be adopted by auDA's board as the model it proposes to members.

We believe it is imperative that this model also contain a mechanism to ensure all members have a connection to Australia. We believe such a requirement is necessary to ensure that auDA meets the Australian Government's clear desire to "ensure that Australia's domain name is administered effectively and in the interest of all Australians." (Department of Communications and the Arts, *Review of the .au Domain Administration*, p2)

To summarise, after extensive consultation, the CMWG now believes the membership model auDA's board proposes should contain the following elements:

- A single member class
- The capacity to broaden membership and limit the risk of vested interest capture
- An option for non-registrants to join
- The establishment of membership committees or alternate member contribution options to support the board and management of auDA, including ongoing advisory committees with specific portfolios to meet industry needs. It is envisioned this will encourage the contributions of large organisations and/or corporations, as well as foreign entities, to aid auDA's mission.
- A mechanism to ensure all members have a connection to Australia. We recommend that the eligibility requirements for registration of a .au domain should serve as a starting template.
- Include an affiliate (non-voting) membership option to promote a diversity of contributions and perspectives on relevant committees. Precedent for this model of membership exists within ICANN and InternetNZ, for example.
- Ensure protection of .au as an Australian asset
- Simplicity

It is the view of the CMWG that the membership model should **not** contain the following features:

- A requirement to own an Australian domain
- Significant overlap with the current model

Out of respect for the board's processes we have not yet released this full perspective to the auDA membership. We do however request that the board publish this letter publicly as soon as practicable in the interests of transparency.

We also request that the board provide feedback on our recommendation before 21/7/18, as the CMWG will be presenting at the SGM on 27/7/18. We are aiming to include an update on progress to members at this forum.

Kind regards,

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