

PAB work programme

Review of 2006 programme, and proposals for 2007

1. Executive Summary

In May 2006, the PAB adopted a written work programme. The purpose of this paper is to give a top-level overview of progress against the programme, and make proposals for the coming year.

A number of lengthy and contentious issues were completed in 2006, including Governance Review PAB Issues, Internationalised Domain Names, and Industry Standards. The DRS review was brought forward at PAB members' request. As a result, a number of other issues were started later than originally anticipated, including Phishing, and Access Limits.

Overall, the time spent on Governance Review PAB issues and Internationalised Domain Names adversely affected progress on other matters. With those issues now resolved, it is hoped that progress will be smoother in 2007. As anticipated when the work programme was originally adopted, a number of issues came up during the year, and the programme should be sufficiently flexible to allow for this.

In addition to the proposed work programme, this paper makes some suggestions about scheduling of the PAB meetings – a move to afternoon instead of morning meetings, to allow most PAB members to travel to and from the meeting in a single day.

2. Work programme 2006 – review of progress.

The work programme adopted in May 2006 is available at:
<http://www.nominet.org.uk/policy/pab/workprogramme/>

2.1 What went well

Standing items, such as the issues log and verbal updates on the Internet Governance Forum were completed as planned.

The presentation from DENIC on its implementation of Internationalised Domain Names was viewed as helpful and helped to inform the debate.

Since May 2006, the PAB has used sub-committees to good effect, for example in preparing a response to the Dispute Resolution Service consultation. However, it should be noted that with the increasing popularity of sub-committees, increasing time is demanded from those who volunteer to take part in sub-committees.

2.2 Areas for improvement

A number of issues over-ran substantially, and this had an impact on other items:

- Governance Review, PAB issues was scheduled to be completed in September 06, but was not completed until January 07. Discussions on this item took up a substantial part of all meetings from July 06 – January 07.
- Internationalised Domain Names was scheduled to be completed in September 06, but was not completed until January 07.

- Phishing. The start of this was put back from September to November 06 because of other priorities. Following initial discussions at the PAB it became clear that input from other stakeholders would be necessary to inform the debate. As a result, this is expected to conclude in May 07 (instead of January 07 as originally planned).

3. Draft programme

We called for PAB members' input into the work programme going forward, and received one response.

Date	Main Topics	Notes
March 2007	Phishing (3 of 4)	Presentation by APACs plus executive paper
	Variable registration periods (1 of 2)	Executive paper
	.net.uk	PAB statement
	PAB composition sub-committee	PAB Chair's paper
	Expenses policy	Executive paper
	Work programme	Executive paper
May 2007	Domaining (1 of 2)	Presentations by (1) a domainer, and (2) a brand owner?
	Feedback from DRS consultation	Executive paper
	Phishing (4 of 4)	Proposed policy
	Internet Governance Forum update	
	Two letter domains	Members' paper
July 2007	Lock State (1 of 2)	Presentation by executive
	Domaining (2 of 2)	
	Review of Policy Development process	
	Variable registration periods (2 of 2)	
	Review of positive renewals process	
	Issues log	Half yearly update
September 2007	Wait list	
	Trust in the Internet	
	Lock State (2 of 2)	
November 2007	Review of raising industry standards	

4. PAB schedule

For approximately 3 years, PAB meetings have taken place in the mornings. Prior to that, PAB meetings were held in the afternoons.

The original rationale for moving PAB meetings to the mornings was that it would enable sub-committee meetings to take place in the afternoons after the PAB. In practice, sub-committee meetings rarely if ever take place in the afternoons, and the consequence of having morning meetings is that a significant number of those who attend PAB meetings are required to travel the day before and stay overnight.

It is therefore proposed that from May 2007, PAB meetings take place from 1.30-4.30 pm with lunch available from 12.30.