



POLICY ADVISORY BODY REPORT
Holiday Inn, 1 Kings Cross Road, London
07 November 2007
MEETING 53

Those present:

Andrew Bennett	Elected Member
William Brocklehurst	Appointed Member - CBI
Gordon Dick	Nominet Board
Clive Feather	Elected Member
Mark Healey	Elected Member
Eric Ramage	Appointed Member – ITMA (Chair)
Jarrod Robinson	Elected Member
Michael Toth	Elected Member

From Nominet by invitation of the PAB:
Marianne Robottom, Policy Executive
Emily Taylor, Director of Legal and Policy

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies were received from James Conaghan, Merlin Erroll, Dave Evans and Subhi Hashwa.

2. **Approval of the September PAB Meeting Report**

The September meeting report was approved. One member questioned whether PAB rules were broken by not appointing a replacement for Alex Kells. The Executive responded that when vacancies occur mid-term or later, then it was customary to wait for the next election date before a replacement was found.

3. **Matters arising**

The PAB received the paper.

1. Wording for a statement on Domaining was agreed:

“Nominet recognises that the sale of domain names is legitimate so long as no third party rights are infringed.”

Two members wanted it noted that they felt there was no need to qualify this statement.

2 a) Nom-steer vs web-based forum: The Executive reported that integrated systems are being evaluated.

2 b) The Chair had asked if Kings Cross was a convenient location for meetings, especially for the parliamentarian. The Executive confirmed that it had sought feedback and received no adverse comment about the Kings Cross location.

4. **Board response to PAB resolutions Meeting 52**

The PAB received the paper and noted the Board's response to the resolutions. The Board response to item 3 Variable Registration Periods has been changed from Noted to Agreed.

5. DRS

Emily reported that the DRS mini consultation attracted a large response. There was some discussion on the default transfer mechanism. The Board will review the consultation responses and discuss potential ways forward in December.

6. Trust in the Internet

The PAB received the paper, and a general discussion was held on the issue of trust and confidence. The PAB noted that Lord Erroll had offered to give a presentation from the perspective of his work on the House of Lords Committee on Personal Internet Safety at the January meeting.

The Chair encouraged an exchange of views on potential policy areas via nom-pab for further debate in January.

7. Domain name re-registration

This item was originally titled Wait list, auctions and lotteries but was changed so that existing mechanisms could be explored more fully before new mechanisms are discussed.

It was generally accepted among the PAB that the chart describing re-registration of cancelled domain names showed a clear problem. It was also agreed that there is a discrepancy between registrants' perceptions and reality. However, there was not consensus on whether or not there is an even playing field among registrars who wished to compete for cancelled domain names.

The PAB supported Policy Recommendation a) a review of communications, to help redress the imbalance between registrants' expectations and reality. The PAB also supported Policy Recommendation b) a review of the effectiveness of current anti-abuse mechanisms for systems such as the Automaton, DAC and WHOIS and agreed both reviews should take place.

The meeting became in-quorate at this point and further discussion was deferred.

8. Phishing

At the July meeting, the PAB adopted a policy for Nominet to participate in self- or co-regulatory responses through a series of co-operative activities with other agents to include education of users and improved security measures. Emily Taylor provided details of a new initiative by Alun Michael MP for the establishment of a single reporting portal for all e-nuisance and e-crimes. Emily gave a heads up that the Phishing Policy may need to be revisited as there may be a role for the registry to act as last resort, and that this was being discussed at the international level.

9. Work programme

Emily Taylor invited input from the PAB for items to consider for the 2008 Work Programme. The Chair had received a request for further opening up of .uk registrations from one member.

10. Matters arising from nom-steer and pab-suggest

A member asked the question on pab-suggest whether Nominet should have a policy on Registrar Parking Pages and whether this policy should be included in the Good Practice Terms for Nominet registrars. The PAB are invited to consider putting this issue on the 2008 Work Programme.

11. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 09 January 2008 at 10.30 am at the Holiday Inn, 1 King's Cross Road, King's Cross. Members requested that the 2008 meeting schedule be circulated to the nom-pab list.