DotAsia Board Meeting Minutes

Date(s) & Time:	Aug 1, 2025 (Fri) 10:30 AM – 12:04 PM (HK Time)
Location:	Zoom Meeting Room: https://aji.asia/zoomboard
Attendees:	Satish BABU Thomas BARRETT Edmon CHUNG Maureen HILYARD Jose LAY Akinori MAEMURA Rupesh SHRESTHA Jo-Fan YU Rebecca CHAN (DotAsia Team) Evin Ashley ERDOĞDU (DotAsia Team) Phyo Thiri LWIN (DotAsia Team) Amina MEIRASBEK (DotAsia Team) Apologies: Boyoung KIM

No.	Action Items:	Owner	Remarks
2025.05.A01	Revisit the DotAsia Code of Conduct v.3.0 at the next BGC meeting and present the updates at the next full Board meeting.	Edmon CHUNG	Completed.
2025.08.A01	Further discuss Risk Management Plan implementation progress at the next BFC meeting in preparation for the F2F Board meeting.	Edmon CHUNG	To be presented at next BFC meeting.
2025.08.A02	Further discuss DotAsia Position Paper at the next BCC meeting in preparation for the F2F Board meeting.	Edmon CHUNG / Evin ERDOĞDU	Completed.
2025.08.A03	Coordinate logistic arrangements for the upcoming F2F Board meeting.	BoardSec	In progress.
2025.08.A04	Determine new suitable time for the upcoming BGC and BFC meetings.	BoardSec	Completed.

No.	Resolutions / Decisions:
2025.08.001	Board Meeting Minutes: • Approval of Board Meeting minutes of May 30, 2025. Approved.
2025.08.002	Code of Conduct: • Adoption of the Code of Conduct v.3.0. (BGC-002) Adopted.

Board Meeting Discussions (2025.08.01):

1. Roll Call

1.1. Akinori MAEMURA chaired the Board meeting on Aug 1, 2025.

1.2. Roll call. Those present for all or part of the meeting are included in the Attendees section.

2. Updates of SOI (Statement of Interests)

2.1. There were no SOI updates from Board Directors.

3. Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes (May 30, 2025)

3.1. The latest version (DRAFT1) of the May 30, 2025 Board meeting minutes was presented.

3.2. Board minutes were approved. (2025.08.001)

4. DotAsia Code of Conduct v.3.0 (BGC-002)

4.1. An updated draft of DotAsia Code of Conduct v.3.0 (BGC-002) based on the Board discussions on May 30 along with further discussion at the subsequent BGC meeting, was presented and discussed. It was highlighted that, if a complaint is raised against the Board Chair, the matter can be referred to the Chair of the BGC. In the case that both BGC and Board Chairs are implicated, the complaint can be referred to any Board Director for consideration.

4.2. A query was raised concerning the potential of a complaint being lodged against the DotAsia Board as a whole. It was noted that there is no practical mechanism to address such a situation based on the current procedures. It was agreed that such a scenario should be rare and may require a separate process to be considered.

4.3. The revised DotAsia Code of Conduct (version 3.0) was approved and resolved unanimously. (2025.08.002)

5. Risk Management Plan Updates

5.1. Implementation progress on the Risk Management Plan was presented and will be further discussed at the upcoming BFC meeting in preparation for the F2F Board meeting. (2025.08.A01)

5.2. It was noted that DotAsia has now completed the tasks set out for 2025Q2. It was further noted that based on BFC discussions, further implementation on one of the tasks will be accelerated to be delivered by the end of 2025 rather than as previously planned for 2026Q1.

5.3. The impact of the National Security Laws in Hong Kong on DotAsia's works was discussed. It was clarified that there is no immediate threat to DotAsia and its activities, nevertheless legal advice should be sought and DotAsia should take appropriate measures in response.

6. DotAsia Position Paper & Talking Points

6.1. An updated DotAsia Position Paper was presented. The 5 principal topics addressed were explained and highlighted. It was noted that youth engagement and multilingual Internet aspects are integrated into all 5 topics rather than separated out.

6.2. It was reported that the first version of the Position Paper was produced in preparation for IGF2023 and finalized in Feb 2024, and that this revision was produced ahead of ICANN83 in Prague and IGF2025. It is expected that the Position Paper continues to be a live document as Internet governance issues evolve, but revisions should be infrequent such that the document provides a relative stable guideline for the team and the Board on the positions DotAsia takes regarding different Internet governance topics.

6.3. A query was raised concerning blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies, specifically regarding their mention in the Position Paper. In response, it was clarified that the Paper does not articulate a definitive stance regarding the use of these technologies. While it does acknowledge and support the potentials of blockchain technology, DotAsia's position emphasizes the upholding of ICANN's unique authoritative root for the DNS in that blockchain names should not lead to end user confusion. It was proposed that the Position Paper might benefit from expanding its discussion on blockchain, considering its current high relevance globally.

6.4. It was noted that a more comprehensive walkthrough and discussion of the DotAsia Position Paper & Talking Points is planned for the upcoming F2F Board meeting, and that further discussion will be brought to the next BCC meeting in preparation for the F2F Board meeting. (2025.08.A02)

7. Update on DotAsia Response to Next Round of New gTLDs

7.1. It was reported that DotAsia has executed MOUs with a number of prospective partner organizations, and is further engaged with some new partners as well.

7.2. A detailed financial projection for DotAsia's engagement in the next round was presented. The assumptions about domain pricing, launch plans as well as proposed funding arrangements were also explained.

7.3. A question was raised concerning potential scenarios in which an NGO partner might cease operations. It was clarified that the ICANN ASP requires financial information, which serves as an assessment on financial stability. The question of whether or what actions DotAsia may take in such scenarios should be further considered.

8. Namesphere Matters

8.1. Updates on Namesphere's business operations, including progress on litigations and the matter of .WEBinChinese were provided.

8.2. It was noted that the Namesphere Annual General Meeting (AGM) was successfully completed.

8.3. A question was raised regarding the matter of .WEBinChinese, specifically whether other options have been pursued. It was clarified that the current discussion was prompted by other expressed interests and that further options could be explored later but may be more complicated given the existing arrangements and relationships.

8.4. Another question was raised on the motivations of the current approach which is based on recommendations from the Independent Namesphere Representative reported earlier to the Board.

9. Board Face-to-Face (F2F) Meeting

9.1. An update on the logistical arrangements was presented for the upcoming Board F2F meeting to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal, co-located with APrIGF, over Oct 15-16.

9.2. A potential modification to the schedule was noted, due to the *GoCreate!* event being planned.

9.3. The DotAsia Team will initiate arrangements concerning the logistics for the forthcoming Board F2F meeting separately with Board Directors shortly to coordinate travel plans. (2025.08.A03)

10. Operations & Financial Updates

10.1. The quarterly financial statements as of March 31, 2025, along with management notes, domain income reports, and analysis of actual versus budgeted figures, were circulated and presented.

10.2. A notable reduction in legal fees was observed, however it was also noted that higher legal expenses are anticipated in the upcoming months.

10.3. Updates regarding ongoing audits were presented.

10.4. Operational updates were presented. It was highlighted that incoming registrar deposits are healthy, but that the number of Domains under Management (DUM) for .Asia has dropped as anticipated. Promotional pricing initiatives are planned to be activated.

11. Any Other Business (AOB)

It was noted that the next BFC and BGC meetings need to be rescheduled due to a conflict with the Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy (APIGA) event in Busan. The Board Secretariat team will reach out to the Board Directors to confirm their availability and determine new suitable times. (2025.08.A04)