

**DotAsia Board Meeting Minutes**

<p><b>Date(s) &amp; Time:</b></p>	<p>Feb 6, 2026 (Fri) 9:00 AM – 14:30 PM (JKT Time)</p> <p>Feb 7, 2026 (Sat) 9:30 AM – 18:40 PM (JKT Time)</p>
<p><b>Location:</b></p>	<p>Zoom Meeting Room: <a href="https://aji.asia/zoomboard">https://aji.asia/zoomboard</a> Venues: Day 1: Sheraton Gandaria City Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia Day 2: Asosiasi Penyelenggara Jasa Internet Indonesia (APJII), Jakarta, Indonesia</p>
<p><b>Attendees Day 1 (2026.02.06):</b></p>	<p>Satish BABU Thomas BARRETT Edmon CHUNG Maureen HILYARD Jose LAY Akinori MAEMURA Rupesh SHRESTHA Jo-Fan YU</p> <p>Pavan BUDHRANI (DotAsia Team) Rebecca CHAN (DotAsia Team) Jennifer CHUNG (DotAsia Team) Evin ERDOGDU (DotAsia Team) Phyo Thiri LWIN (DotAsia Team) Amina MEIRASBEK (DotAsia Team) Rani RETMONO (DotAsia Team) Sherry Shek (DotAsia Team)</p> <p>Apologies from: Boyoung KIM</p>
<p><b>Attendees Day 2 (2026.02.07):</b></p>	<p>Satish BABU Thomas BARRETT Edmon CHUNG Maureen HILYARD Boyoung KIM Jose LAY Akinori MAEMURA Kevin MEYNELL Rupesh SHRESTHA Jo-Fan YU</p> <p>Bertrand Cherrier (Nomination Committee) Craig NG (Nomination Committee) Paul Wilson (Election Committee)</p> <p>Pavan BUDHRANI (DotAsia Team) Rebecca CHAN (DotAsia Team) Evin ERDOGDU (DotAsia Team) June LAU (DotAsia Team) Amina MEIRASBEK (DotAsia Team)</p>

No.	Action Items:	Owner	Remarks
2025.11.A01	Investigate and compile data on IPv6 adoption among registered .ASIA domains, and report findings.	Pavan BUDHANI	Completed.
2026.01.A02	Develop a draft term sheet and consult with prospective partner NGOs for further discussion at the F2F Board meeting.	Edmon CHUNG	Completed.
2026.01.A03	Quarterly financial reporting deferred to next Board F2F meeting.	Rebecca CHAN	Completed.
2026.02.A01	Start discussion for including invitations for Expressions of Interests (EOI) during Board election nominations period in the Board Elections Procedures (BEP: BGC-004) at the BGC.	Edmon CHUNG	To be included in BGC agenda.
2026.02.A02	Proceed with process to appoint up to 2 non-executive directors from the DotAsia Board to DotKids Foundation.	Edmon CHUNG	Process initiated.
2026.02.A03	Identify and seek external specialist legal counsel advice for agreement with Partner NGOs for new gTLDs.	Edmon CHUNG	In progress.
2026.02.A04	Draft schedule for development of reserve fund for discussion.	Edmon CHUNG & Rebecca CHAN	Completed. Discussion started at BFC.
2026.02.A05	Prepare the detailed budget development plan and present it to the BFC for review.	Edmon CHUNG & Rebecca CHAN	In progress. To be included in next BFC meeting.

No.	Resolutions / Decisions:
2026.02.001	<p>Board Meeting Minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approval of Board Meeting minutes of Jan 16, 2026.</li> </ul> <p>Approved.</p>
2026.02.002	<p>Audit Report Approval (DotAsia Organization FY2022):</p> <p>RESOLVED THAT, the Board approves the audit report for DotAsia prepared by Forvis Mazars CPA Limited for the fiscal year ending Sep 30, 2022, and appoints Thomas BARRETT and Edmon CHUNG to sign the report and accompanying documents.</p> <p>Motioned by Jose LAY, seconded by Rupesh SHRESTHA and resolved unanimously.</p>

No.	Resolutions / Decisions:
2026.02.003	Audit Report Approval (DotAsia Foundation FY2024): RESOLVED THAT, the Board of DotAsia Foundation Limited approves the audit report prepared by Abacus CPA Limited for the fiscal year ending Sep 30, 2024, and appoints BARRETT, Thomas Anthony and CHUNG, Edmon Wang On to sign the reports. Motioned by Rupesh SHRESTHA, seconded by Jose LAY and resolved unanimously.

### **Board Meeting Discussions (2026.02.06):**

#### **1. Roll Call**

- 1.1. Akinori MAEMURA chaired the Board meeting on Feb 6 & 7, 2026.
- 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)**

There were no SOI updates from Board Directors.

#### **3. Community Projects Updates**

- 3.1. APriGF Secretariat updates were presented by Rani, with a note that maternity cover arrangements are being put in place. It was noted that former DotAsia Staff Yannis Li will be supporting the work on a part time basis during the period.
  - 3.1.1. Social Impact Assessment (SIA) report on APriGF 2025 was presented. It was highlighted that there was increased total online attendance compared to the 2020 fully virtual edition, higher application numbers over previous years, improved geographic and stakeholder diversity, and improved accessibility features, including live captioning for all sessions and international sign language for selected sessions.
  - 3.1.2. There was discussion about documenting the experience for converting to a virtual meeting from a planned in-person meeting in a short order. It was agreed that such analysis may be useful after another in-person meeting is complete, and should be revisited then.
  - 3.1.3. An inquiry on the impact on fellows, reimbursements of cancellation costs, along with future considerations was raised. It was responded that decisions on whether to prioritize previously selected fellows in future cohorts would rest with the next (current year's) Fellowship Committee, and that some preference information from 2025 could be passed on but without a guarantee of automatic re-selection.
  - 3.1.4. It was suggested and agreed that it may be useful to bring up the topic for discussion at this year's Fellowship Committee given volatility of geopolitical dynamics. Learning from 2025 and experiences from other similar programs should be studied.
  - 3.1.5. A question was raised regarding the location of APriGF 2026. It was explained that the APriGF leadership is awaiting Nepal team on whether they

can host APriGF, and that preliminary work has started on a possible backup venue in Hong Kong hosted directly by DotAsia as the Secretariat utilizing affordable NGO-friendly venues.

- 3.1.6. The concept of strengthening local hubs to mitigate against visa problems, travel bans, and other challenges was discussed. It was suggested that closer collaboration with ISOC APAC Chapters be explored.
- 3.2. DotAsia's support for the AP\* and APNG Camp was presented by Phyo. It was highlighted that both are long-standing regional community initiatives, and that DotAsia had been continuing to support the initiatives with expanded roles.
  - 3.2.1. The recent resignation of the Chair and Vice Chair of APNG was discussed. It was reported that upon the directive from the Board for DotAsia to explore contributing to a way forward for APNG, DotAsia presented a workable plan towards completing the APNG Camp in Jakarta first, then building on the renewed united effort for the camp discussions on governance enhancements can ensue. The plan was accepted by all parties at the meetings convened on the matter.
  - 3.2.2. A question was raised about APNG's current positioning, purpose, how it differentiates itself from other initiatives and whether APNG remains relevant. It was reported that over 1000 fellowship applications were received and that the camp typically attracts young participants from across APAC, with a focus on emerging technologies and academic perspectives on the digital economy rather than directly on Internet governance topics, which maintains a distinctive niche but also raises questions about current relevance.
  - 3.2.3. DotAsia's role as the Financial Secretariat for APNG and other community initiatives was discussed. It was suggested that MOUs be renewed on a reasonable time-period basis accounting for rotation of leadership personnel for the different groups, and emphasized that clarity of roles, responsibilities, and potential liabilities, especially when governance issues arise to prevent divergent narratives.
  - 3.2.4. There was agreement that DotAsia's supportive role serving as the Financial Secretariat of APNG as it redevelops its leadership remains the appropriate level of engagement for DotAsia.
- 3.3. The SIA Report 2025 for NetMission was presented by Sherry. It was noted that 2025 was a breakthrough year for NetMission, particularly due to strong youth participation and significant concrete contributions to the WSIS+20 outcomes.
  - 3.3.1. It was reported that NetMission Academy 2025-2026 is ongoing. While the number of graduates from NetMission Academy has decreased compared to previous cycles, overall engagement quality and impact remain strong, along with increased alumni engagement through NetMission+.
  - 3.3.2. It was highlighted that the future NetMission plans are especially focused on a youth-led approach, with the alumni collective playing a central role in designing and implementing activities.
- 3.4. Jennifer presented the SIA Report 2025 for Other IG Engagements, including WSIS+20 processes, TCCM activities and IGfSA developments, as well as DotAsia's broader role within the global Internet governance ecosystem. On the plan for 2026, it was reported that the focus is largely on deepening and leveraging established relationships, with no major new projects yet on the immediate horizon.
- 3.5. The background of DotAsia's SIA Reporting approach and the plans for development in the coming two years were presented. In particular, the plan to engage third party

consultants to review the previous SIA Reports and to offer recommendations were discussed.

- 3.5.1. A question was raised on whether the SIA framework currently covers all community projects. It was clarified that current SIA Reporting covers NetMission, APriIGF and Other IG Engagements, but does not yet include some other secretariat work such as AP\* (except for being included as a statistic) and EcoInternet. The plan is to include them further after review and as part of the implementation based on recommendations received.
- 3.5.2. Another question was raised about whether the SIA Reporting reflects both social impact and business impact for the .Asia Registry. It was noted that a feature of the DotAsia SIA Framework is the inclusion of a dual-goal approach for considering whether community projects can benefit the .Asia registry business, for example on the enhanced exposure, awareness and brand value of .Asia. Admittedly however, potential conversion (i.e. directly relating to increased .Asia domain sales) may be difficult to measure.
- 3.5.3. The cost of conducting such assessment was discussed. It was explained that the Hong Kong Council of Social Services (HKCSS) previously provided assessments at very low costs, but it is uncertain if such subsidized program is still available. There was agreement that if the cost would be substantial, whether such assessment would be worthwhile may have to be reconsidered.

#### **4. Member & Government Engagement**

- 4.1. Evin and Rani reported on DotAsia's work in Member engagement activities, especially around the development of Trusted Notifier arrangements, youth Internet governance activities, TCCM and utilization of the Sponsor Community Projects funds.
  - 4.1.1. It was noted that while DotAsia has stepped up outreach to Members, not all members perceive an immediate need to work with DotAsia as their own scope and mission may be different from DotAsia's priorities.
  - 4.1.2. A comment was made emphasising the importance of youth engagement in the Pacific, noting recent youth IGF activities and encouraging further cooperation with Pacific stakeholders.
  - 4.1.3. It was observed that TCCM work is expected to continue beyond WSIS+20, and that there is an intention to engage Members more actively to join TCCM.
- 4.2. Government engagement activities, including through the APAC GAC meetings were reported. It was highlighted that the main areas of engagement include EcoInternet Index (EII) and the potential release of governmental reserved names under .Asia. It was further noted that a clear narrative linking the different facets of DotAsia works, including EII, DNS abuse and reserved names policy to DotAsia's broader Internet governance engagement approach, should be important.

#### **5. Website Refresh**

- 5.1. Brief updates on the plans to refresh DotAsia's main website were presented. It was highlighted that there has been much development in the governance and member engagement activities at DotAsia in the recent years, which should be reflected more prominently on the main website.

- 5.2. A comment was raised agreeing that making governance materials (for example, Board minutes, policies, and community project documentation) easier to find will support transparency and may address some recurring queries from stakeholders.

## 6. Market Development

- 6.1. Pavan presented market development activities updates on .Asia, noting a significant increase in Domains Under Management (DUM) driven largely by uptake from price sensitive markets such as in China (including Double 11 promotions), Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia.
  - 6.1.1. The current price promotion strategy was discussed. A brief recap of the more detailed analysis on price promotions vs. more organic growth, and their respective benefits, at the previous F2F meeting in Dublin was presented. It was noted that DotAsia generally employs a balanced approach involving both.
  - 6.1.2. A question was raised on the reason for high level of registrations coming from Iceland. It was explained that it could be the result of privacy proxy provider in Iceland used for registrations.
- 6.2. Market Development Plans 2026 were presented, including dedicated renewal campaigns with selected registrars, with enhanced reminders, usage suggestions for under-utilised domains, and bundling with AI-supported site-builders and other services such as federated social media to increase utilization.
- 6.3. A recap on GoCreate! activities in 2025 was presented. It was highlighted that GoCreate approach is to embed or collocate sessions within existing industry events rather than being standalone events, with each session aiming to engage with registrars and registrants to generate new ideas for promoting domain usage. Potential events in conjunction with ICANN meetings in Mumbai and Oman as well as Contracted Parties (CP) Summit was discussed.
- 6.4. A timeline of the key DotAsia milestones, including the application process (Apr 2004), ICANN approval (Dec 2005), signing of the Registry Agreement (Dec 2006), entry into the DNS root (May 2007) as well as the Sunrise (Oct 2007), Landrush (Feb 2008) and launch dates for .Asia domain registrations was presented. The date(s) to be designated for DotAsia's 20th Anniversary was discussed.
  - 6.4.1. A question was raised about the date of DotAsia Organisation's registration. It was confirmed that the current entity for DotAsia Organisation was registered on Sep 12, 2006, ahead of the signing of the contract with ICANN. It was suggested that the date be considered for marking the anniversary. It was further commented that alignment with particular community events such as ICANN or APNIC may be more useful.
  - 6.4.2. It was reported that the DotAsia Team had a discussion on the topic and felt that multiple smaller scale events collocating at different community events may have better coverage across different stakeholders and communities. There was agreement that having a series of events may be more interesting.
  - 6.4.3. Celebration activities and suggestions such as special discount promos, articles and short films were discussed.

## **Board Meeting Discussions (2026.02.07):**

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### **7. Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes (Jan 16, 2026)**

- 7.1. The latest version (DRAFT1) of the Jan 16, 2026, Board meeting minutes was presented.
- 7.2. Board minutes were approved. (2026.02.001)

### **8. Meeting with Election Committee (EC) & Nomination Committee (NomCom)**

- 8.1. Paul Wilson, Election Chair 2026 joined the meeting to present the report on the Board Elections 2026 process and results.
  - 8.1.1. Two recommendations for improvement from the EC were presented: 1. To make the voter list and key election details more prominently on the election page to improve transparency; and, 2. To include clearer explanation of the formula used to determine winning candidates to satisfy geographical diversity requirements.
  - 8.1.2. A question was raised on whether standardizing the level of personal information included in the voter list would be useful. It was explained that given privacy considerations, the voter list and the level of detail included are confirmed with Members through their respective voting representatives, therefore the resulting diversity reflects the preference of the Members.
  - 8.1.3. A further question was raised on the what happens if there are no candidates nominated from particular required sub-region(s) in an election. It was clarified that the Board Elections Procedures (BEP:BGC-004) included consideration for such situations, and that the NomCom is delegated the authority to identify and recommend a suitable candidate to the Members to fulfil the geographical diversity requirements.
  - 8.1.4. The Board thanked Paul and the EC for the work and the report.
- 8.2. Craig Ng as the Chair and Bertrand Cherrier from the NomCom 2026 joined the meeting to present the NomCom report for the Board Elections 2026.
  - 8.2.1. It was noted that while in this year's elections, the geographical diversity requirement did not apply, the new role for NomCom to identify a candidate if diversity requirements would otherwise not be met may create timing challenges, as the lead time would be very short (between the close of nominations and before voting period begins).
  - 8.2.2. A suggestion was put forward from the NomCom proposing that when calling for Board Election nominations, the Board could simultaneously invite Expressions Of Interest (EOIs) to be submitted directly to NomCom from community members interested in Board service, so that, if diversity requirements are not met, NomCom may have a broader and more transparently identified pool of candidates to consider.
  - 8.2.3. Craig noted his apologies for not being able to attend the DotAsia AGM, so Bertrand will be delivering the NomCom report instead. The Board thanked Criag, Bertrand and the NomCom for the work and the report.

## 9. Strategic Plan Progress Report 2025

- 9.1. Draft Strategic Plan Progress Report 2025, Strategic Plan Highlights deck of slides to be presented at the DotAsia AGM, as well as a narrative highlight, were circulated and presented. It was noted that the narrative highlight is a new feature of the report with the intent to describe in a summarized form the key achievements for 2025.
- 9.2. It was recalled that part of the progress report had been shared already on Day 1 because some of the measures of success in the Strategic Plan progress report is taken from SIA Reports in the community project updates, and for .Asia Registry in the market development updates. It is highlighted that the approach ensures that the progress report has robust data but does not create too much additional work for the team.
- 9.3. The key achievements for 2025 as included in the narrative report was presented: Contributing to the affirmation of the Global Multistakeholder Internet Governance Model in the WSIS+20 Review Process – technical community and youth recognized respectively as key stakeholder groups; Expanded Scope for Sponsor Community Project (SCP) Funds and Strengthened Risk Mitigation Processes; and Developing New Markets in Asia and Supported APAC NGOs through the ICANN Applicant Support Program (ASP).
- 9.4. There was agreement and acknowledgement from the Board on the outstanding work in participating through the WSIS+20 process. Board members provided positive feedback noting that the material provides a coherent view of DotAsia's work. It was suggested that, going forward, stronger linkage between strategic objectives, SIA outcomes and financial results be highlighted to help Members and partners understand how different areas of activity reinforce one another.
- 9.5. There was discussion about the inter-relation between SIA and reporting on Strategic Plan Progress. A comment was raised on whether the SIA and Strategic Plan reports are accessible to external audiences, especially those less familiar with Internet governance terminology. It was noted that plans are in place to review the SIA Reporting (see 3.5) which feeds into the Strategic Plan reporting, especially to look into: (a) which measures best represent DotAsia's impact and business relevance; (b) how to streamline the framework into a smaller number of key indicators; and (c) how to better capture the way community and policy work supports the sustainability and positioning of the DotAsia registry.

## 10. Update on Next Round of New gTLDs

- 10.1. An update on the prospective partner NGOs that DotAsia is supporting through the ICANN ASP was presented. The respective financial positions as well as the prior collaborations with DotAsia was highlighted.
- 10.2. Prospective partner NGOs for which DotAsia Directors also serve as director at was identified and discussed. It was agreed that such directors should not be involved in the decision regarding the respective NGO.
- 10.3. The financial and operational experience for operating .KiDS as a new gTLD launched in 2022 was presented.
  - 10.3.1. Questions were raised on the relationship between DotAsia and DotKids. It was clarified that DotAsia Organisation is currently the sole member of the DotKids Foundation. It was noted that DotKids was originally intended to become an independent organisation with the children's rights community as members, but that community stakeholders ultimately preferred to remain in an advisory role.

- 10.3.2. There was agreement that formalizing this governance relationship would be important and may inform future new gTLD applications. It was noted that the situation with partner NGOs for the next round of new gTLDs is significantly different in that the applicant will not be a new organization but rather the partner NGO itself.
- 10.4. The terms for supporting partner NGOs in the case that DotAsia does provide financial support was discussed. The importance of partner NGOs remaining compliant with the ICANN ASP requirements was emphasized.
  - 10.4.1. A question was raised on the impact on DotAsia's core operations for financing these applications. It was responded that DotAsia currently has the cash to support the applications, and that the allocations and projections will be included in the upcoming budget development. Other operational arrangements and expected staff effort allocation to support partner NGOs were discussed.
  - 10.4.2. The anticipated arrangements in the case that the partner NGO no longer wishes to continue with the new gTLD project, or in the case that governance or reputational problems arise, as well as in the reverse, if DotAsia no longer wishes to support the partner NGO, was discussed.
  - 10.4.3. It was suggested and agreed that specialist legal support with experience in gTLD registry agreements should be sought in the development of agreements with partner NGOs. (2026.02.A03)
- 10.5. The importance of avoidance of conflict of interest was emphasized, in particular in discussing applied for strings given the sensitivity and potential disputations that could arise in string contention situations. Board Directors who are involved in any new gTLD project outside of DotAsia's work is asked to make clear declarations to avoid any potential conflicts.

## 11. Board Only Discussion

Board-only dialogue with CEO took place in-camera.

## 12. Financial & Risk Management Updates

- 12.1. Risk management implementation updates were provided, noting that the first cycle of the risk management plan has been completed, and that specialist legal advice is being obtained to support further implementation.
  - 12.1.1. Regarding the management of DotAsia's assets, there was general agreement that risk mitigation, liquidity and growth value are to be balanced against each other. A directive for execution was discussed.
  - 12.1.2. The plan for developing a reserve fund was discussed. A more detailed schedule for the building up of a reserve fund will be developed for further discussion. (2026.02.A04)
  - 12.1.3. Risk items that will see further mitigation implementations in 2026 were presented.
- 12.2. The finalized DotAsia Organisation audit report for FY2022 from Mazars was circulated and presented. The changes from the previous version were highlighted.

- 12.2.1. The Board reviewed the Letter of Representation associated with the audit and agreed that the BFC Chair and the CEO be the two directors to sign on behalf of DotAsia.
- 12.2.2. It was noted that there is still audit catch-up work for DotAsia Organisation (for 2023 and 2024) due to prior delays.
- 12.2.3. (2026.02.003)
- 12.3. The DotAsia Foundation 2024 audit report from Abacus CPA was circulated and presented. It was noted that reporting standards have been updated to align more closely with the Articles.
  - 12.3.1. A question was raised on the presentation of “surplus before tax” and staff costs in the Foundation statements. It was clarified that the Foundation typically shows a zero surplus/deficit as any deficit is to be funded by DotAsia Organisation. Community projects are accounted into the Foundation to make it easier to show community expenditure transparently to the public.
  - 12.3.2. Questions were raised on how financial custodianship/secretariat roles (for APSIG, AI Safety Asia, IGFs, AP\* and others) are reflected in the financial statements. It was explained that these funds are not income to DotAsia but are held as liabilities in a dedicated secretariat account on the balance sheet, with internal fund statements maintained for each entity; payments are made on behalf of these entities and balances reduced accordingly, without affecting DotAsia’s income statement.
  - 12.3.3. It was noted that the custodial entities are not incorporated organisations and therefore do not file tax returns; however, DotAsia’s handling of these funds has been reviewed by auditors, and the Board expressed confidence that the current treatment is correct while acknowledging the importance of ongoing legal appropriateness.
  - 12.3.4. It was resolved that the Board of DotAsia Foundation Limited approves the audit report prepared by Abacus CPA Limited for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and appoints Thomas Barrett and Edmon Chung to sign the reports, and the minutes document is to be signed by the Board Chair Akinori Maemura. It was motioned by Jose Lay and seconded by Rupesh Shrestha. (2026.02.003)
  - 12.3.5. Internal 2025 financials were presented, along with actual vs. budget and monthly income reports. It was explained that rebates represent discounts given to registrars, the current budget was based on baseline projections and did not fully anticipate the scale of recent price promotions, making the projections somewhat conservative and “messy” relative to actuals.
  - 12.3.6. Questions were raised on the size of the rebate line compared to budget and on the accounting treatment of rebates (e.g., charging full price and later rebating). It was clarified that DotAsia attempts to structure promotions so that rebates are avoided or minimised, but from an accounting perspective, promotions and discounts still appear as rebates. Future budgets will revisit whether the current forecasting approach remains useful.
- 12.4. It was noted that the detailed budget development to operationalize the reserve-fund target and salary considerations will be carried out in the upcoming budget cycle and brought back to the BFC for review. (2026.02.A06)

**13. Wrap-up & Next Steps**

- 13.1. Draft Board Chair and Board Committee Chair Reports for AGM were presented and discussed.
- 13.2. The matter of addressing sanctioned persons was discussed. There was agreement that the Board take a more positive and constructive approach with an enhanced governance built on the near completion of the transition to the new Articles.
- 13.3. The Chair invited Satish, as an outgoing Board member, to share parting remarks with the Board. Satish thanked the Board and Board Secretariat for their support and collaboration, reflected on DotAsia's role in supporting regional Internet governance initiatives, and encouraged the Board to continue strengthening governance, financial transparency, and community engagement. The Chair thanked Satish for his long and dedicated service, and noted that formal appreciation would also be expressed at the AGM.