
ICANN83 | PF – ASO Information Session
Tuesday, June 10, 2025 – 15:30 to 17:00 CEST

OZAN SAHIN

Hello, and welcome to the Address Supporting Organization Information Session. My name is Ozan, and I'm a participation manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

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HERVÉ CLÉMENT

Thank you very much, Ozan. Hello to everyone. We are here, the ASO AC, present during the ICANN83 because it's a very specific time for us to work on the result of the second consultation which was held and within the regions, the Regional Internet Registry regions, and the ICANN as well. It was a very lively consultation with a lot of answers where we have a lot to do to be sure to take into

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account all the results. We have a lot of sessions. We have the opportunity to meet, to discuss and to work in an effective way, I will say that. But the transparency is very important for us. But the reason why we have organized this information session to present not our current work because we won't present the analysis specifically, we do. But there will be a report for that, of course, as we did for the first consultation. But to present the way we are, definitely, and to ask your questions as well.

For that, the first thing I propose is, Kevin from the Council, everybody knows, will shortly present where we are one more time. And I will leave the floor also to Esteban and Nick, the vice chairs, to answer your questions one more time. Thank you.

KEVIN BLUMBERG

Thank you, Herve. We do have some microphones up here for those that are joining us remotely. And you do have a question, I'm assuming you'll handle that. And for those behind us in person, you're welcome to come up during the presentation. If you have questions, we'd love to be able to answer them. If we cannot answer them right now, we will take that feedback and work through it. One of the things that we have said to a number of the other constituencies during our time here is that if you would like to provide additional comments, feedback, you would like some clarifications, etc., during this call, during this session, we will take that input in. Unfortunately, the consultation has closed, but we'd

like to at least hear it. And if there's something new that we can utilize where we're able to, we will.

With that said, I'm going to go through this a little quickly. This is not a full explanation of who the ASO is. This is not a full explanation of the ICP-2 work. It's just a quick review and I'll work through it. If during the slides there are questions that you have, by all means, please ask, but I am going to work through this a little fast, give people lots of time to have a discussion or give people some free time after either one is, I think, acceptable. We are happy to use the entire session for questions and answers. We're also happy for everybody to have 30 minutes of their life. That said, if we can go to the next side.

A little bit about the ASO AC. We are 15 members, three from each of the regions. Two are elected, one is appointed. We are currently 12 sitting members. The three members from the AFRINIC region, unfortunately, have termed out and we look forward to them being able to join again when they are able to. One key clarification is, this has come up a number of times, we are not staff members of the RIRs or ICANN. We're not employees of any of them. We are volunteers from the RIR communities, and it's just an important distinction. The ASO AC advises the ICANN Board regarding number policy. We oversee global policy development. We appoint two members to the ICANN Board and we appoint one member to the ICANN NomCom. Just to be specific, global policy is in relation to number policy between IANA and the RIRs, specifically just using that in the ICANN form because there's lots of global policies that

get done, but this is specifically in relation to number resource policies. Next slide.

We felt it was important to A, show all of the people that are around, everybody on that slide deck is at this meeting. If you see them in the halls and you have a question or clarification, they're happy to help or direct you to the right venue for that purpose. We look forward to expanding it, like I said, to the full 15. But for now, there's our mugshots and, like I said, in the halls, we are happy to help. Next slide.

A little bit of background information. The process is the timeline related to ICP-2. ICP-2 is short for Internet Coordination Policy 2. There were three Internet Coordination Policies. These were done early on in the ICANN days. That series no longer is utilized, so we're not working on Internet Coordination Policy 4 or anything like that. The purpose of the Internet Coordination Policy was to recognize new RIRs. Examples of the things that were in ICP-2 was that it would be a sufficiently large proposed service region. It would have the support of the local numbering community and the RIR or potential RIR would have the technical capability to operate. Next slide.

As you can see, ICANN adopted the ICP-2 in 2001. APNIC, RIPE, and ARIN were formed prior to the establishment of ICANN and prior to the establishment of ICP-2. But ICP-2 is an active document. It has been used and it was used for the formation of LACNIC in 2002 and AFRINIC in 2005. Next slide.

Everybody here can do a little bit of math. 2001, today, it's just shy of 25 years old. The humor these days is 25 years in time is 125 dog years or about 1000 Internet years. We can debate the number of years. But it's been a long time and a lot has changed over the Internet during that time. Dial up is not the common mode of transport when it comes to connecting to the Internet. Cloud providers now exist. Hyperscalers now exist. Content delivery networks now exist. They didn't back then. As well, the relationship between the RIRs, the work that goes in. A new MOU was signed a couple of years ago between the RIRs and ICANN. ICANN itself with the IANA transition. There are lots of changes that have occurred over the last 25 years.

One of the key things that we realized with ICP-2 was that we needed to be more explicit. ICP-2 was more about the formation of the RIRs and it had that implicit these other things, but not explicitly defined. The work that we're doing now is really to talk about the lifecycle of an RIR rather than just the formation of an RIR, which includes their ongoing responsibilities as well as the derecognition of an RIR. Next slide.

To that end, in October of 2023, the NRO EC, which is the Executive Council made up of the RIR and has one member from each of the RIRs, is part of the ASO. It's the half of the ASO were on one side, the ASO AC, and the NRO EC is on the other side of the ASO as a whole, asked us to do two things. One was an implementation procedure related to existing ICP-2. That was work that staff did and they asked us to review. That work was completed in February of 2024.

And then they asked us to strengthen ICP-2 with an emphasis on the word strengthen, which was to really take out significant look at ICP-2 and look towards improving it. We were given significant latitude in how we did this. And we early on came up with a one and a half to two-year timeline to allow for the significant items that needed to be done, significant community consultations and ongoing. Next slide.

In October of 2024, we produced a Principles document. One of the things early on was we didn't want people to focus on the Is and the Ts and the commas and words, but focus on the core principles. We felt it was very important to make sure that with all of the work we've done, looking at the ICP-2 and how we could revise it, that we could come up with a common set of principles that the communities agreed on and then work towards a draft. There was a public consultation between October and December of '24, both in the ICANN fora as a public comment period, as well as within the RIRs. That went through and was completed. And the ASO AC spent from December to February going through every single submission identifying every single piece of information that was in it and collating it. Eventually, we came to a report both to be able to feed the drafting team that we had that was working on the wording of the new document, as well as to report it to the community.

In April this year, we took that work that we did from the consultation and the drafting and produced the RIR Governance document and launched the community consultation. As a note, RIR Governance document is a placeholder name unless anybody,

anytime can come up with a better name. We've had a very difficult time. We didn't want to call this ICP-2.biz or whatever it may be. This is our best placeholder name for now, and we would love feedback on it. This is not going to be a vote. It's not going to be RIR vote phase or anything like that. But if you do have any serious, helpful suggestions to how we could name this, we'd appreciate that. Next slide.

Proposed principles to update ICP-2. That was completed. The consultation just as an FYI, we had 298 responses within the RIRs and 14 within the public comments as well. There was some significant feedback in all of it. It was published again in February. Next slide.

The information is available via QR code or URL there. Next.

I just want to start with the RIR Governance document and this was for the recognition, maintenance and derecognition of Regional Internet Registries. Next.

That document in its entirety is available at that URL. Next.

It represents a comprehensive update. It clarifies the scope and lifecycle, formalizes government structures, strengthens the operational requirements, and clarifies the roles and responsibilities and we'll talk about each of those now. Next.

The original ICP-2 focused on the criteria for the establishment. We sort of talked about that earlier. The new document splits that into this, like I said, going from implicit to explicitly specifying the

recognition of a new RIR, the ongoing obligations, the operation of a new RIR, and then the derecognition of an RIR. Next.

We formalized the governance structures. Again, ICP-2 spoke about neutrality and partiality, bottom-up policy development, but really didn't go more than that into it. The new one has some key requirements. As an example, member-controlled governance, corporate governance, anti-capture measures, all of those have been sort of incorporated now into the new governance structures of the new document. Next slide.

Operational requirements. ICP-2 emphasized technical capabilities and provision of registration service. The RIR Governance document brings this in 25 years later for things that many companies consider normal today. Things like audit obligations, transparency, and continuity planning. ICP-2 in the original provided general guidelines only implying the roles of various organizations. The new Governance document really delineates the responsibilities between the RIRs, ICANN's, and specifies procedures and approval thresholds for proposals.

The consultation just closed at the end of May and ran for six weeks, give or take. All of the information on that is there. ICANN has already published their report on the information that was given on their comment period, just as an FYI, and that's available.

Clarifications? This is the group discussion time. We have been working and talking with a number of constituencies inside of ICANN and we are asking the same set of questions so far. Tailoring

it to their submissions in some cases, but more importantly, asking these questions because we feel that it is beneficial.

The first question, and I'm going to read all three and then if anybody wants to come up to a mic, by all means, please do. Does any part of the draft text require further clarification? One of the items that we have already taken input in is that in some cases, the scope of the work we were doing was not clearly understood, and we're talking about adding in some items that would help provide a preamble to better explain why certain things aren't there to the scope of the draft. To you, does any part of the draft text require further clarification based on your own submission or where you didn't submit and would have benefited you to have somebody in the room help you with that?

Next, is there a topic that your group did not reach consensus—will change group to you—did not reach consensus on, and when you were submitting your comment, is there something again where there was a concern that you didn't know how you could answer it and will be happy to talk?

Lastly, how can we improve the next round? Every round we have done, it has been a great learning experience. We learned a lot of things from the principle's consultation. We've learned a lot of things from the consultation that we've just completed now, and we want to see if there's anything else that would be helpful to the community. We already know that we will be doing more engagement in sessions. We'll talk about that a little later through

this process because it benefits everybody the more that we do these engagements. If anybody would like to come up, I will pause it for a minute. Otherwise, we will move forward.

HERVÉ CLÉMENT

Are there any remarks, questions, proposals?

KEVIN BLUMBERG

Anybody online? No. Okay. Next slide. The community engagements planned. As you can see, inside of ICANN itself, we are meeting with a number of constituencies throughout this. It's been a fairly packed week and we'll continue that on. Keep going.

We've received the feedback. We are reviewing the feedback this week. A lot of hours have been spent going through and we will go through both the ICANN feedback that was received as well as the RIR feedback, and there will be a report at the end of that that we'll be providing to the community. We will also be taking that feedback in. That's what the work we're doing this week in terms of revising the document for the next round. That should end in early August. We're hoping to get it in before the APNIC meeting, I believe, at the beginning of September so that there can be another consultation that will run through probably into November. There'll be more time during this, both inside of all of the RIR meetings as well as the next ICANN meeting. It should close shortly after the ICANN meeting, which is I think the last meeting of the year for us. Then hopefully at the end of the year, beginning of next

year, we'll provide the final review and revisions and send that to the NRO and ICANN. Next slide.

There you go. I just sort of walked through it from the previous one. Again, the key is that we want to continue to have these bilateral discussions. We want to continue getting information out, asking questions. Even if I support the work that you're doing, it is identifying that you are aware of the work we are doing. You don't necessarily have to put in large amounts of specifics. If you believe that the work we're doing, if you support that, just saying that you support it in and of itself a good comment because it shows that there's an engagement with the community in that regard. Like I said, it will close shortly after ICANN84. Next slide.

As we said, we're working through the feedback. The ICANN report is published. It's up there. We're going to do a further consultation as mentioned and we'll continue the outreach. Next.

Last slide, everybody. Any questions? Totally open now. If not, like I said, we will give everybody their little bit of time back, but we would be happy to spend the time now answering your questions.

HERVÉ CLÉMENT

If no questions, perhaps there will be a question after. I am totally sure. Esteban, who is vice chair, perhaps you can make a resume of how we work since the beginning of the ICANN83 to take into account the outputs of the different consultations.

ESTEBAN LESCANO

Yes, Herve. Thanks. Well, as you can see in the schedule that was presented before, we had many working sessions in which we took all the comments received and we analyzed one by one, trying to identify which is the issue of the subject that refers to the comments, and we took some ideas, and we have a lot of discussions about aspects that maybe need to be considered in the new version of the documents. I think that was very productive session. We were not finished yet. The idea proposed in the timeline is to have a new version of the Governance document, and then make another process of consultation or to receive final feedback from the communities.

KEVIN BLUMBERG

I think it would be helpful to give one example, which was some feedback in relation to English as the language. One of the things that when we talk about scope and intention and all of those things is this document, in many cases, is in relation to the relationship between the RIRs and coordination within the RIRs and ICANN. That delineation of the language being specified as English was really about the coordination between the RIRs when it came to doing things in ICANN. It was not meant as a specific determination for the RIRs themselves and how they operate internally.

The reality is, Esteban, you're in LACNIC, your primary language is Spanish, I believe, correct? All of the RIRs have different requirements and a lot of those requirements come out of the

implementation, come out of their own procedures, come out of their community-driven processes. One helpful thing would be to specify that. And this is an example of something that we're looking at where it says that, but it does add on the idea that the RIRs themselves may use whatever languages they choose internally as part of their bottom-up process. That's sort of an example of where the comment was not wrong, the comment was a bit out of scope because it was specifically about just the interaction between the RIRs and that does need to be specified. But at the same time, we learned something from that, which is that level of ambiguity may be helpful to expand. Those are the types of things where one comment over here may lead to something else, it may lead to two or three steps where we work through that comment and then are able to add in something that we've seen because of it.

ESTEBAN LESCANO

Another issue that we can mention is that despite having African representatives in the ASO AC, we also conduct a webinar session with the African community. Also, AFRINIC has its own list for the consultation and receive feedback from the community as all the other sessions. I think that is important to underline that point that from the ASO AC, we have in some way this commitment to receive the feedback from all around the world and from each of the five regions in which it operates. Sorry. And also, we will have some session with governments also from the African continent that they also participate in the first stage of the consultation.

HERVÉ CLÉMENT

Over time, I say to the participants, if there are common questions, there could be also a testimony of did you have the opportunity to participate finally in this consultation? If yes, was it important for you because you wanted to held some specific points, who can worry, I don't know. Perfect. One more time. What Kevin said is very important. Even if there is no specific issues that you want to deal with, it's very important to give support if you think support has to be given. Just to be sure, we have the involvement of the communities because for us, more time, so the participation of the community is key also in the process.

To say another thing, you spoke the problem of the language. For instance, there was of course the problem with the AFRINIC participation. It's my perception. We felt that we had much intense participation in terms of consultation this time. But the other one, deeply coming into the essence of the documents, which was really very interesting. We are all through the year, finally in the work of regional, each of us in our regions. Sometimes, we forget that could be the problem of new comers, for instance, coming there. And it was very interesting to read the comment because finally we say, "Finally it's very interesting to see there is this problem on something," so we cannot finally think about because we are finally on the year on the course of that. For that, without speaking of the particular ICP-2 update, it's very interesting for the ongoing life

finally of our participation in the community and the Internet community as well.

KEVIN BLUMBERG

I'll close on my comment at least with we have a very good understanding on the ASO AC of the interconnections between all of it and some of the scope and all of that. You, the community, has the benefit of fresh eyes, and that is extremely important. Because sometimes, you can stare at the same thing enough times and those fresh eyes are critical to this process. We look forward to seeing a lot more comments and a lot more feedback and help in this process.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE

I will take the opportunity to say thank you for this group and the work so far. I think it's very valuable and very kind and very good situation with highly educated people on the round. Thank you so far.

HERVÉ CLÉMENT

What we will have to do now also is to prepare the work we will have to do. You say, Kevin, that we hope to have something prepared and consolidated at the end of August, at the end of the summer. On summer time, it's very challenging in terms of work. We have the chance one more time and each time, I thank the NRO EC for that contribution to have the possibility to be there physically. It's very important. We had the experience that being on

site is very, very productive and we saw that in a lot of subjects. We are, for instance, the update of the operational procedures of the Council, and we made very good work being present as well. Why I say that? Because we make impressive work. I don't say me, personally. It's not just to [inaudible] to us but it was an impressive work in the analysis. I think it could be good to take the opportunity to think about the start of drafting also in that opportunity as well. But one more time, it's a common discussion so we need to have to coordinate the work we will have to do here until tomorrow and the first day as well. During the next week, we will need to have, as I can imagine, additional sessions added to the normal monthly meetings I have. But it's something perhaps... it was discussion but we have not globally discussed that. It would be something challenging one more time.

KEVIN BLUMBERG

Not to prolong this, it's winter in Australia so maybe that may be better. You can forget about summer in North America or Europe. It will be winter in Australia or Africa, and maybe that would be beneficial to everybody.

ESTEBAN LESCANO

Also in Latin America, it's winter too.

HERVÉ CLÉMENT

It will be a new production from LACNIC region in terms of drafting and analyzing finally in summer. Thank you.

Okay. I come back to the attendance. You are more here than there under the table so it was a possibility to be on the table. Nothing to have to drink or something but just to be closer. And if you have, one more time, the opportunity to ask something and say something, absolutely don't hesitate. We are here to answer any questions you could have. We try to be as neutral as possible within the group. I dare to say that we have nothing particularly to defend except the consolidation of the Internet governance as it is or as it could be. Finally, if we are here, it's primarily for that.

OZAN SAHIN

Thanks, everyone. The session is adjourned. Please stop the recording.

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