ICANN84 | AGM – Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and ASO
Wednesday, October 29, 2025 – 15:00 to 16:00 IST

WENDY PROFIT

Hello, and welcome to the Joint Meeting of the ICANN Board and the ASO. My name is Wendy Profit and I'm the participation manager for this session. Please note the session is being recorded. It's governed by the ICANN Community Participant Code of Conduct, ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior, and the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy. Interpretation for this session will include English, French, and Spanish.

Please observe the following guidelines to participate in this session. We will also post them in the chat for your reference. This is a meeting between the ASO and the Board, so we won't be taking questions from the audience during this session unless we have time at the end. For remote participant members from the ASO, if you'd like to speak during this session, please raise your hand in Zoom. When called upon, you'll be given permission to unmute in Zoom. On-site participants from ASO can use the physical mic in the room at the staff desk here by me. Please state your name for the record, the language you'll speak if speaking a different language other than English, and speak clearly and at a moderate pace. I'll now hand the floor over to ICANN Board chair, Tripti Sinha.

TRIPTI SINHA	Thank you, Wendy. Welcome, everyone. This is, I believe, the last bilateral meeting of the Board. We end on a very high note. We're meeting with the ASO. We have, I would say, a complete table. There were always a few empty seats. We're delighted to have AFRINIC at this table. The seats have been empty for much too long, so we're just absolutely tickled pink. With that, Fiona, if you could start introducing yourself and we'll go around the table.
FIONA ASONGA	Thank you so much, Tripti. My name is Fiona Asonga, AFRINIC director.
EMMANUEL ADEWALE ADEDOKUN	My name is Adewale Adedokun, chair, AFRINIC Board.
HANS PETTER HOLEN	Hans Petter Holen, chair of the NRO Executive Council.
CHRIS CHAPMAN	Chris Chapman, vice chair of ICANN Board.
ALAN BARRETT	Alan Barrett, ICANN Board member, appointed by the ASO.
TRIPTI SINHA	Tripti Sinha, chair of the ICANN Board.

KURTIS LINDQVIST	Kurtis Lindqvist, president, CEO, ICANN.
HERVÉ CLEMENT	Hervé Clement, chair of the ASO Address Council.
CHRISTIAN KAUFMANN	Christian Kaufmann, Board member, appointed by the ASO.
NICK NUGENT	Nick Nugent, vice chair of the ASO AC.
ESTEBAN LESCANO	Esteban Lescano, vice chair of the ASO AC.
NICOLE CHAN	Nicole Chan, ASO AC member.
AKINORI MAEMURA	Akinori Maemura, ASO AC member from the Asia Pacific Region.
TRIPTI SINHA	Okay. Thank you, everyone. I'll turn it over to Alan Barrett who's going to chair this meeting on behalf of the Board.

ALAN BARRETT

Thank you very much. This is one of our regular meetings between the Board and the ASO. I understand that the ASO would like to share with us on the update of our Governance document, which is previously known as ICP-2. I'm not sure what the new one's going to be called. Hans Petter, will you take us through that, please. No? That will be Hervé.

HERVÉ CLEMENT

Thank you so much. The idea for the first part of this meeting on joint meeting with the ICANN Board is to present the update we've performed regarding this well-known ICP-2. I will give the introduction and I will leave then the floor to Nick and then Esteban to complete that. It was said on the first slide that it was the second consultation on ICP-2. In fact, there were three consultations but only two on the Regional Internet Registry Governance document per se. If you go to the next slide.

You see that currently we are 12 members in the Council. Normally, there are three members coming from the five different regions. If you calculate three per five, it's 15, so you have three missing. But hopefully, we have no new Executive Board elected. Very happy for that first. You started the process to appoint, at least, somebody from the Executive Board. I think that very soon, we will have one member more, and then two from the community. It will be a good way to have a very representative council regarding the ASO AC functions. You can go to the next slide.

Just a piece of history, but everybody knows, RIPE NCC, APNIC, and the ARIN were first established in 1992, 1993, and 1997. Then the ICANN and then the ICP-2 with a set of criteria to establish the Regional Internet Registry have been accepted in 2001. And thanks to this document, the LACNIC, first on the AFRINIC, then have been established. This ICP-2 document is 25 years old, as you can imagine. Since then, the relationship between the ICANN and the region has changed significantly. The other issue is that the first ICP-2 was just a list of criteria and it was not very explicit, that it can be used for the ongoing course of Regional Internet Registry, or in extreme case, for the derecognition of Regional Internet Registry. That's the reason why.

If you go to the next slide, the NRO EC, I will take that later. The NRO EC, is the body comprised of the directors of the Regional Internet Registry, asked us in 2023 to revisit this document. It was in October 2023 we had this first request. It was one year later, in October 2024, that we were able to publish a first document, which was the 24 core principles that have been included in the final document. There was after that first consultation between October and December. With the output of this consultation, we drafted a first document. This document has been presented into another regional ICANN consultation. With that, there was another version of the Regional Internet Registry Governance document that was published in August 2025, and we are in the ongoing way of the consultation of this document. You can go to the next slide.

It's another way to present the timeline I described just before. We are in a square or rectangle, the dark blue, which is below and the second from the right. It's a second public comment. We say that we hope it could be a final review, but it will be decided after we will analyze the outputs of the current consultations, of course. You can go to the next slide.

I will go briefly through the key changes. There are the key changes between the last document and the current one. Then Nick will go further to the details of the change. The key changes are in regard to the title, the preamble, the implementation procedures, the notions of recognition and derecognition, the audits of proposals, and emergency continuity. Just few words. It's like a teasing for the next slide on the explanation that will be given. You can go to the next slide.

To help the communities to read the current version of the document, we have added additional documents and supporting documents. The first one is a redline of change. Of course, it's a very simple one. You can see the differences between the two versions. Of course, in red, you have the deleted part regarding the last document. In blue, the added part. And in black, the parts that remains the same. You can go to the next slide.

And we have another document which is the rationale of the change between the two documents. We explained why we keep certain outputs and why we didn't keep other outputs. Mainly, it's because it was out of the scope of the document. You have the example of what is such an explanation regarding recognition, for instance. Next slide.

With that and with introduction, I will give the floor to Nick.

NICK NUGENT

Thank you, Hervé. What we thought we would do during this presentation, we've given you plenty of background in the past about why we're revising ICP-2, what we're hoping to accomplish. We put out, as Hervé noted, a first draft of the full document to replace ICP-2, which we're calling the RIR Governance document, conducted a consultation on that. Got a lot of great feedback from ICANN Community, from the RIR communities. And then we took that feedback and created a v2. We'll walk you through some of the material changes between version one and version two. Of course, we'll leave time for any questions that you have. And I'll just provide a brief overview of some of those changes. Next slide, please.

This is the smallest of changes. It barely merits a mention, but we've changed the title slightly. You'll see, we replaced the word maintenance with operation. Doesn't need much elaboration other than to point it out in case you say, "What is this?" This is a different document. Just a small wording change. Next slide, please.

Again, not terribly substantive, but we've beefed up the preamble a bit to provide more context on the document to explain what the goals of the document are and how the document aims to achieve those goals. We think that will be helpful for people who are reading the document cold, perhaps 25 years later, when we go through this process all over again. Next slide, please.

The next one does merit a bit more description. The document is meant to be high level. It cannot get into all of the details that might be necessary to implement it. For example, there is a part of the document that says an RIR shall practice good corporate governance practices. What does that mean? It can mean different things in different jurisdictions. Likewise, there are obligations for RIRs to engage in information sharing. Well, how might they do that? What software are they going to use? How frequently will they share the information? Precisely what information will be shared?

We'll talk in a little bit about emergency continuity and how this can enable a quick failover. That's going to take a lot of coordination. We can't put all that detail in the document. People have asked us to further elaborate on those things and we've said that will live in a separate document, which we call the Implementation Procedures, which the RIRs will get together and hash out between them. We don't think community consultation have to be officially ratified. It's just a dynamic document. But the feedback from the community is let's note the existence of that document in the Governance document. Let's reference it. So we've added a reference. There will be this separate document, the Implementation Procedures, which will flesh out the high-level details into more detail. But to provide assurances that this separate document can't be used as an end run around the terms of the RIR Governance document, we state that it cannot override the terms of the document or contradict them. Next slide, please.

Let's talk a little bit about recognition and derecognition as two of the most important mechanisms in the document. Next slide, please.

Okay. As you probably remember, both recognition and derecognition follow a multi-step process. It begins when someone, and we can bracket who that someone is, submits a proposal to recognize a new RIR or to derecognize an existing RIR. Once the proposal is in, as long as it meets all the technical requirements for what it must contain, there needs to be a decision on it. And the process is two steps. First, the RIRs consider their proposal and you could say they vote on it or the language of the document says they recommend for or against a proposal. Then if they recommend it, then the proposal goes to ICANN for final approval or rejection.

With respect to recognition, the first version of the document said that all the existing RIRs need to recommend in favor of recognizing a new RIR in order for that proposal to advance to ICANN. Well, we got a lot of feedback that unanimity can be hard to achieve, no surprise. And the concern was what if an existing RIR is objecting for inadequate reasons? Maybe it's self-interested. It's going to lose some revenue or part of its service region.

So, we wanted to address that concern, but we're also concerned about the fact that if a new RIR is recognized, that creates business relationships between all of the existing RIRs and that new RIR. And it's possible that that could be against the laws of one or more of the RIRs' jurisdictions. It could be unlawful to have a business relationship with that new entity. If we allow approval on anything less than unanimity, we could force an illegal business relationship or there could be other issues beyond legality.

How do we reconcile those two conflicts? What we've done in version two is we've introduced a review process. If a candidate RIR is not approved at the RIR level and it objects to that, it can petition ICANN to review the proposal. ICANN will conduct an independent review. And if ICANN believes that there's a material error of fact or an adequate justification, ICANN can tell the RIRs to reconsider the proposal. There's no guarantee or no obligation that the RIRs must reach a different result, but they will reconsider.

If upon reconsideration, a single holdout, which we call the dissenting RIR, continues to object by virtue of a material error of fact or providing an inadequate justification, then there is a possibility for ICANN to override that sole dissenting RIR. That is a possibility of approval on unanimity minus one, which is I think a fairly big difference between version one and version two. I won't go into that much detail with each additional change, but that one's important enough to talk about it. Next slide, please.

Derecognition. Well, it's been a lot of time in this. We've added some additional protections for affected RIRs. We try to emphasize it as much as we can, that derecognition is a last resort after other options have been exhausted so we've added some more protections for affected RIRs. Next slide.

Also, we've added the ability for ICANN to propose derecognition. It still has to be approved by the RIRs before it then goes to ICANN for final approval, but we've added the ability for ICANN to propose it, and we've altered a little bit how members of the RIR can themselves propose derecognition if they're not being adequately served with respect to the number of members that must agree to initiate the proposal. Next slide, please.

We'll talk a little bit about audits. Next slide.

This isn't terribly important, but we previously provided a general requirement for RIRs to undergo periodic audits. We've now specified a periodicity of every three years. Next slide.

In addition to regular audits, there is the possibility of ad hoc audits. This is obviously meant to catch problems early on, so we never need to move to derecognition, hopefully. There are three different ways that an ad hoc audit can be triggered. The other RIRs can trigger it by majority vote. The members of the affected RIR, subject to certain thresholds, can propose it, or ICANN can propose it. Next, please.

Emergency continuity. Next slide, please.

This is a fairly big addition in version two. What if an RIR is struggling because there's been an earthquake or a hurricane or political unrest, and there's no fault of the RIR, but the members in the region are not being adequately served? We don't want to derecognize the RIR as our only mechanism to help ensure continuity of service. So we've introduced what you might call a failover, but we call it an emergency continuity, and it allows a quick transfer of an RIR's responsibilities to what we call an emergency operator in urgent situations, it requires unanimous agreement of other RIRs and ICANN, and there are some procedural protections in place. We modeled it slightly, but obviously not entirely on the EBERO—I don't know if I'm pronouncing that correctly—processes that ICANN uses for TLD operators. Next slide, please.

Just a couple of those protections we put in place. The RIRs and ICANN can quickly initiate a transfer of responsibility without having to engage in a consultation process beforehand, but immediately after, I should say shortly thereafter, they must then engage the community on it. The emergency continuity cannot exceed 90 days, although it can be renewed for additional 90-day periods, but that's to ensure that it's not used as an end run around the derecognition protections, and there must be a post-mortem review and report. Next slide. One more slide again.

We've added a couple changes on rectification. This is what happens if a change to the document or the adoption of the document in the first place causes an existing RIR to be out of compliance, and we've specified that any amendment must provide a specified grace period for those RIRs, and that the initial adoption of the document itself will contain a three-year grace period. That doesn't mean for three years nobody has to abide by the document. It's only for new obligations in the document that were not contained in or fairly implicit in ICP-2. Next slide.

We've added a general dispute resolution procedure. That means each RIR must provide a mechanism for members to adjudicate their rights against the RIR. Next slide.

We've added a general duty of good faith just to provide assurances that everybody's here is dealing in good faith for the good of the numbers community and not trigger happy to engage in derecognition. There will be reasonable time frames to take specific actions or reply. Next section.

That's the summary of the changes. This slide is not a summary of changes, but we just thought it might be helpful to get an added glance of what ICANN's role is in this new RIR Governance document world. I won't read these, but it has certain powers to initiate proposals and ad hoc audits. And it plays a role in conducting independent reviews and participating in emergency continuity. Again, that doesn't exhaust all of them, but we just thought, again, it might be helpful to see an added glance of what ICANN's role is under the document. Next slide, please. With that, I'll turn it over to my colleague Esteban.

ESTEBAN LESCANO

Thank you, Nick. Well, just to complete the information given, the version two of the document is open to public consultations since the end of August and it's finishing in the 7th of November. We hope to receive a lot of comments. There already are comments in the platform. This ICANN public consultation is also completed with the personal mailing list in each of the regions in which we are receiving comments from the community. Next, please.

To allow the community to participate, we published the document. Next please.

We also provide some documents that help people who want to participate. One of these is the redline of changes with the comparison between version one and version two of the Governance document. The other one is the summary of the changes and the rationale. Just an explanation about the changes we made.

Well, we hope to receive a lot of comments. And the ASO AC will hold a face-to-face meeting in Montevideo, Uruguay the second week of November in order to review, analyze and define the v3 of the document that we hope to have a brief in the beginning of the coming year 2026. Thank you.

HERVÉ CLEMENT: I guess we can move to the Thank You slide. We have concluded our presentation so we'll be very happy to receive and answer your questions, if any.

CHRISTIAN KAUFMANN

I apparently was more desperate. First of all, thanks a lot for the presentation, especially with the old, new one, and the difference. That makes it very easy. Thank you. I was curious about the public consultation. Do you have some numbers or some comparison to the first one, what the attendance rate is?

HERVÉ CLEMENT

Regarding the number of answers, we'll say it's pretty—I would say so until now it's pretty calm compared to the previous one. It perhaps shows that we were able to answer some of the questions and some of the concerns addressed during the first consultation regarding this document. After that, the consultation is not over. During the ICANN meeting, we were able to present this document to many organizations of the ICANN on others, and perhaps some waited for some clarification for us to complete their questions. Perhaps we could have additional one until the end of the consultation.

CHRISTIAN KAUFMANN

Thank you.

ALAN BARRETT

Tripti?

TRIPTI SINHA

Thanks for the presentation. In one of your slides, you mentioned that following an audit, if there's a finding where someone is not compliant, you give them a grace period of three years to become compliant. Did I understand that?

NICK NUGENT

I may have been clear. No, if there is an audit that uncovers a problem, there is not a grace period that attaches to that. Rather, if the document is amended and that causes an RIR to be immediately out of compliance. For example, let's say that—and I'm making something up that probably isn't likely to be in the document—but let's say the document says, "You must permit natural persons to become resource-holding members." Some RIRs permit that, some don't. And if we change that, we wouldn't want a situation where an RIR that didn't have that policy in place is immediately out of compliance potentially at risk of derecognition. So there would be a grace period to update things like bylaws or policies, but no, not following an audit.

TRIPTI SINHA

Thank you for that clarification, because I thought three years was a long time.

ALAN BARRETT

Hans Petter, I see your hand's up.

HANS PETTER HOLEN

Thank you, Alan. I just want to really thank the Address Council for all the great work they've done here. They have not only produced a new document version two, there is a redline, so you can see exactly what's changed. On top of that, there is a document that explains what changes have been incorporated, and what have not. And there is also from RIR staff being presented an impact assessment on the existing system, which is also public out there. There is significant job done. Thank you to you, volunteers, and thank you to RIR staff for all the effort you put in here. We're not done yet. You will have a very nice time in Montevideo soon. But it's really appreciated.

ALAN BARRETT

Thank you. I'd like to echo that. It's been a very impressive work by the ASO AC involving consultations with all the RIRs and the ICANN community. The documents, I think, are all linked in this presentation. After the meeting, you should be able to go to the ICANN meeting website and find the presentation and find the links to all the reference documents.

WENDY PROFIT

We have a question on the floor.

ALAN BARRETT

Yeah.

CHRIS BUCKRIDGE

Sorry, Alan. Thank you, everyone. And apologies for arriving a little late to the session so I didn't come up to the table. Chris Buckridge, ICANN Board member. I wanted to congratulate everyone on the progress that's been made with this document and the work that's coming in from the community. I haven't been able to follow so closely all of the different community discussions and inputs. I'm maybe a little out of date with this, but I'm referring back to the draft that came out on the 28th of August.

I just wanted to perhaps get some reactions to a question that struck me, is that the term Numbering Community is used quite a number of times throughout the document and defined as the community of resource holders and those who participate in number resource management. Then later on in the document, it talks about the numbering community to be able to obtain accurate information. I think my question and my concern there is just is that limiting the definition of the people to whom the RIRs provide services? Or do we need to think a little bit more broadly than providing service simply to those who participate in Internet number resource management? Because I think that public registration service is really something I see as a service to the world, the Internet community at large, even those not necessarily engaging in an RIR discussion or following the policy processes. But I'd just be curious to hear reactions or thoughts on that point.

HANS PETTER HOLEN

Hans Petter Holen, RIPE NCC. Thank you for that question, Chris. Honestly, that must be an oversight from our side. So thank you for that pointing out. I think the information we provide is for all

Internet users and for all stakeholders, not only limited to, as you said. Let's look into that. Good catch.

HERVÉ CLEMENT

Just to complement. You raised a very tough point and very precise point. Be sure that during the last discussion we had analyzed the last outputs. I'm pretty sure that in Montevideo, there will be another tough discussion about these definitions because we wanted to be very clear and to be very precise on what we talk about with that.

NICK NUGENT

Just to chime in. I agree, let's take a look at that and all the definitions. I'm going a little bit from memory here so take that with a grain of salt. But I believe Numbering Community is defined very broadly as is essentially anybody who is interested in number issues. We use that as a term distinct from, essentially, I guess, everyone in the world, although, I guess, anyone in the world could conceivably be a part of the Numbering Community. I don't think, again, off the top of my head that it has a legal import that it limits the applicability of the document because it's not used in parts of the document where the scope of that community is terribly crucial. It's used, I think, in a way that's distinct from members which is a defined term, and these are entities or persons, depending on the region, that can actually vote and participate in the governance of the RIR. That's not to dismiss your comment. We may very well need to take a look at that definition but off the top of my head again, I think it's meant to be essentially anyone interested in number issues.

CHRIS BUCKRIDGE

Thank you. That's reassuring. Certainly, it wasn't a legal point I was making. I think the distinction you make there is important between members and the Numbering Community or the broader community. But I think it does speak to the accountability of all of us. I think this is something ICANN had many discussions about. And our accountability not just to those who are engaging and who know what an IP address is or domain name is, but to, really, everyone who's using the Internet now. Thank you.

NICK NUGENT

Thank you.

ALAN BARRETT

All right. Thank you. That was a very interesting discussion about a very important document. Now let's move on to the next topic on our agenda today and that is the AFRINIC update. We are so pleased to have with us on the stage two of AFRINIC's recently appointed Board members, Adewale and Fiona. Adewale, will you please tell us what we should know about AFRINIC?

EMMANUEL ADEWALE ADEDOKUN

Thank you, Alan. It's a good point to say good afternoon from AFRINIC. We're also happy to be here. It's good to have AFRINIC on the table. I also need to say a very big thank you to ICANN and the entire community for standing by AFRINIC to the very stormy period. We are glad to be here today. We are glad to have the elected board for AFRINIC. That simply speaks to the fact that AFRINIC is back at least as far as governance structure is concerned. The real governance structure of AFRINIC is back and the only thing that is missing basically now is just the CEO. The Board is working very hard to ensure that we start that process over such for a CEO, which very soon is going to start. I'm sure in the next couple of weeks, we should start that process of getting a CEO. By the time AFRINIC has a CEO, it means the full governance structure of AFRINIC is back and AFRINIC is fully back in operation.

Having said that, we need to be very clear that the official receiver appointed by the court is still in office. He has filed for his discharge, is waiting for the courts to discharge him, and we hope that is going to happen also very soon. However, the Board works very closely with the receiver and so far, the receiver has been very cooperative in all the things that we do. There are quite a number of things that need to be done but the course of the Board basically now is to ensure that we rebuild trust. Trust within the community, trust with stakeholders, and trust even among staff of AFRINIC. This is very crucial to getting the organization back fully on ground. The Board is working very closely with other staff and as many stakeholders within the community, we are working closely with them to ensure that we can bring this collaboration back at the way it used to be.

Systemic governance integrity is very key and it's one of the things that the Board is focused on so that we can bring some kind of integrity into our governance. It's one of the very major issues that caused even the chaos in the first place. One of the things that need to be done here is to look at all our governance structures and hold the constitutions and bylaws that governs every aspect of our operations. And the body is looking at that very closely. I'm very sure that very soon we'll also start with how the Governance Reform Committee that has been there, but there is going to be a refresh of quite a number of these committees.

In the next couple of days, we are likely to announce a representative that will sit on the ASO very soon in the next couple of days. There are supposed to be three of them. Two of them are to be elected by the community, but one is Board-appointed. We have usually called for an expression of interest. And I'm sure in the next couple of days, we are going to announce—at least we will have somebody sitting on the ASO very soon.

The policy development process also, we are very sure that very soon we are going to start the policy development process. We need to get the co-chairs, and we've had quite a lot of discussions around this and we will start the policy development process very soon. Sometimes in December, we are looking at having a virtual interaction with the community, with members, so that at least we can understand some of the issues around the communities and members. Hopefully, in the first quarter of next year, I'm sure before the first half of next year, AFRINIC should be able to start all these activities, the public policy meetings. Even if we cannot do the HGMM, we should be able to do an HGMM to get some of the things that we need the community to work on.

Changing any article in the Bylaw has to go through the community, it has to go through some voting processes. Some of these things cannot be done without HGMM or SGMM. Those are all the things that we are looking at. There are quite a number of things but we are very confident, I'm sure the community is aware that we have very good people on the Board, we have a good Board, we have a united Board, and we are working together to ensure that AFRINIC gets back to this pride of place within the Regional Internet Registry and the Internet ecosystem. Thank you.

ALAN BARRETT

Thank you very much. That's very heartening to hear. I congratulate you all on your appointments. I also want to recognize the AFRINIC staff who have been working without a CEO, without a Board for a long time and continuing to do their job to keep the system running. Well done to them, too. Although I don't think any of them is here. All right. Are there any comments? Yes, Nick?

NICK NUGENT

It's very encouraging to hear that what you said that you expect to announce a AFRINIC member to the ASO AC you said in days, that's great. Given that three members will eventually need to be on the ASO AC, and maybe you don't know it, haven't figured this out yet, is it the intent to get all three members despite the fact that they will have staggered terms onto the ASO AC within the next year? Or will AFRINIC stagger the years by which it reintroduces members to the ASO AC?

EMMANUEL ADEWALE ADEDOKUN: Okay. Thank you. The Board-appointed is sent off for a year. If we appoint that Fellow, he's going to be in office until December 2026. But in the course of the year, we have a NomCom that will do an election for the other two because they have to be committee-elected. The NomCom will look at that and decide whether it's going to be staggered. One person may have one year, the other person will have three years or so. It could be staggered, but NomCom will work out those processes.

NICK NUGENT: It sounds like between the Board appointment and the elections, it is a goal to put all three members back on the ASO AC within the next year or even perhaps months?

EMMANUEL ADEWALE ADEDOKUN: Definitely.

NICK NUGENT: Fantastic. Thank you.

ALAN BARRETT

We have a comment from the floor. Raul?

RAUL ECHEBERRIA

Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Raul Echeberria. I will start my term as ICANN Board member tomorrow. I'm a former founder of LACNIC. I'm a participant of the NRO community for a long time. To say that I'm really, really very happy to see that AFRINIC is starting and going well in good direction. Happy to see Fiona, colleagues from AFRINIC here. I thank the NRO community for the whole support that they have provided this time. Thank you.

ALAN BARRETT

All right, thank you very much. It's great to have that AFRINIC update again. So let's move on to the next topic, and I think that is RPKI.

HANS PETTER HOLEN

Thank you very much for that, Alan. And as you may remember, I set out to provide some technical content on this meeting with the Board when I took seat here a year ago. So if you move to the next slide, this is just a refresher of what RPKI is to secure the routing system. You can sign what addresses you are supposed to announce from a given network from a given ASN. So since we don't have much time, I suggest you skip two slides ahead now.

This is just an overview of that, and to the next one, to the program. We are doing two new things now. Since the address space is no longer purely hierarchical, but right transfers between the regions, there is no proposal drafted, and it's been submitted to the IETF for discussion next week on creating a new trust anchor where the individual RIRs will digitally sign the information of transfers between the regions, so that this is a sixth anchor that can provide information on which other anchor is authoritative.

So that's a new thing that's now being proposed. It's not a standard yet. It's not been implemented. But we're working on pilot implementation. We have one implementation and working on another one as well. So that's the one new thing that we're doing on.

If you move to the next slide, there is a new standard that has been standardized in the IETF, which autonomic system provider authorizations. So, RPKI, you can sign which addresses that you can announce. If you skip two slides ahead here, there is a nice picture here that shows that the point of this standard is that you can sign who you have as your upstreams. So you will make a statement and digitally sign that. That, in this case, AS4 that announces this, that's a ROA that's signed by RPKI. It can send traffic through AS2, but it cannot be sent through AS5. So if somebody tries to inject traffic or indirect routes in order to sort of direct traffic towards them, this system will then prevent them.

So that's a new thing that the RIR RPKI program is now rolling out. RIPE NCC seems to be first out here, and we will hopefully launch this this year. Already implemented the functionality in the dashboard. Of course, it takes time to have uptake on this, and the other RIRs are coming after, but we believe that this will be another significant step in Internet routing security.

So I'll pause there and ask, are there any questions from the Board for this? And if there are, I probably can't answer them, so that's fine. If not, to try to round up a bit ahead of time, there was a question from the Board from Alan. So if we go to the next slide, you had a question to us, Alan?

ALAN BARRETT

That's right, yes. We would like to know what the ASO has to suggest to ICANN the Board and ICANN Org, what we should be focusing on, taking into account our strategic priorities, the WSIS process, and also the Review of Reviews. So you don't have to address all of those, but if you have some thoughts on some of them, that would be great.

HANS PETTER HOLEN

So if I could get that slide back, please, because the answer was there to the question. I had a look at the organization objectives in the blog post that Kurtis presented. So I thought I'd make this very simple. So I just picked two of the topics that you already listed there that is important for the Numbering Community. And of course, one thing that's very important to us this operation of the IANA services. So I listed that one here. And the other one that I listed here is the strengthening of—well, root server system is not that important to us, but the other clause in the same paragraph is the ICP-2 and the follow-up of that. So we depend on your continuous support in that process. So that's the top two from your existing strategy and plans that I would like to emphasize that's important to us.

ALAN BARRETT Thank you very much. Hans Petter. Yes, when we developed the Strategic Plan, we did try to take into account the needs and requirements of all parts of the ICANN community, and that certainly includes the ASO and the root server system. Chris Chapman, do you want to say anything about the Strategic Plan?

CHRIS CHAPMAN Thank you, Alan, for the opportunity. In all the sessions, what has been a very encouraging trend has been the willingness and the renewed interest in each of the constituent groups to really, to use that expression, lean into the new Strategic Plan. I say it's encouraging because I think people are seeing the Strategic Plan as a very helpful guiding document to both guide where the constituency might be taking their own planning, annual and longer term, and it's also a much heightened accountability document for ICANN Board and org, which I think would, of its own right, be beneficial to the constituencies.

So to the extent that I've observed that, we've observed that increasing momentum, that's a very healthy thing, and we'd encourage you to have a look at the sweet spot within those goals within the Strategic Plan, to drill down on exactly the part that is most appealing to you. If you don't think our Strategic Plan addresses the principal concerns you have, let us know as well, because that means we can have a constructive debate about that. And it might be that in the Annual Reviews to the Strategic Plan, which will be occurring in the sort of January to March period of '26 with respect to the year beginning one July '26, then that needs to be raised at that point. So the Strategic Plan is a living document. It gives renewed focus on where we collectively might be heading, and just reminding everyone that the Strategic Plan is a plan owned by the community. Thank you, Alan.

ALAN BARRETT Okay. Thanks very much. I think that brings us to the end of our planned agenda. So let me hand it back to Tripti.

TRIPTI SINHA Thank you, Alan, and thank you, members of the ASO, for being with us today. So we're actually ending on two positives. One, of course, is that AFRINIC is back in shape again. And also, as Alan said earlier, your staff were incredible. I mean, they remained resilient and kept the operations going. Actually they took resilience, the whole meaning of resilience, to a different level altogether. So again, our congratulations to you. Also the work that you've done on the newly called RIR Governance document. Thank you for all the hard work, and it makes a whole lot more sense calling it that. And we look forward to the next steps and when it comes to the ICANN Board for our subsequent steps.

The third thing I wanted to say, as you know, we have three outgoing Board members, Maarten, Becky, and Chris. And not only are they outgoing, but this is the last bilateral meeting that they will attend. So let's give them a round of applause.

Thank you, everyone, and this meeting is adjourned.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]