

2024-April-16: Minutes NRO EC Teleconference

FINAL

Date: Tuesday, 16 April 2024, 11:00 UTC

Attendees

Executive Council:

John Curran (JC)	ARIN	Vice-Chair
Paul Wilson (PW)	APNIC	Member
Oscar Robles (OR)	LACNIC	Chair
Hans Petter Holen (HPH)	RIPE NCCC	Treasurer

Observers:

Nirmal Manic (NM)	AFRINIC
Pablo Hinojosa (PH)	APNIC
Jeremy Harrison (JH)	APNIC
Michael Abejuela (MA)	ARIN
Ernesto Majo (EM)	LACNIC
Athina Fragkouli (AF)	RIPE NCC

Secretariat:

German Valdez (GV)	NRO Secretariat
Laureana Pavon	Minutes

New and Updated Action Items

New Action Item 240416-1: The Secretariat to create a page dedicated to the ICP-2 Review on the ASO AC website. This page will be used to consolidate all ICP-2 related information and will be updated as needed.

New Action Item 240416-2: GV to draft a response to Tripti Sinha's request for written input on the PICs/RVCs ICANN Consultation. The reply should state that this is outside the ASO's focus areas and, while they will not be providing input at this time, the ASO will welcome future invitations to provide input.

Updated Action Item 240319-2: The NRO-EC to approve the final version of the ICP-2 Implementation Procedures during their next meeting (May 2024) and transmit them to ICANN.

Agenda

1.- Welcome

2.- Agenda Review

3.- AFRINIC Update

Outline

- Update from last events in AFRINIC
- Update from last developments on AFRINIC Engagement Plan.

4.- ICP-2

Outline

- Update on last developments on ICP-2

5.- NRO Cybersecurity and Government Engagement Programs

Outline

- NRO EC to review what does it need to decide for next steps on those two NRO Programs.

1. NRO Distribution Formula Clarification

Outline

- Based on JC email to EC list on 29 March 2024
- OR suggests to review and agree what NRO expenses will be covered by the last distribution formula.

1. Input to PICs/RVCs ICANN Consultation

Outline

- NRO EC to review ICANN Board Chair request for the ASO to comment on PICs/RVCs Consultation in relation to the next round of New gTLD Program
- HPH mentioned that if the proposal is to change ICANN's scope and bylaws the ASO may evaluate their participation in the consultation.

8.- Updating NRO Presentation Archive

Outline

- HPH suggested discuss the process to update the NRO presentations in the NRO website.

9.- RIR CEO Updates

10.- Open Actions Review

11.- Next Meetings

- a) Tuesday 14 May 2024 Teleconference
- b) Tuesday 18 June 2024 Teleconference
- c) Tuesday 16 July 2024 Teleconference
- d) Does the EC requires a f2f meeting ?

12.- AOB

13.- Adjourn

Minutes

1.- Welcome

OR welcomed everyone at 11:06 UTC. PW had not yet joined the call.

2.- Agenda Review

The agenda was displayed on screen. No comments were heard, so it was approved as written.

3.- AFRINIC Update

a) Update from last events in AFRINIC

NM said that he had no update from AFRINIC.

b) Update on the latest developments related to the AFRINIC Engagement Plan

NM said that the idea was for the NRO to have a meeting with the management team to discuss this plan. NM managed to meet with Benjamin to ask him to attend this meeting. Benjamin met with the management team, and everyone shared their views. Benjamin said he would consult with the other directors before deciding. Now, after consulting with the management team and at the three directors, Benjamin's decision is that he will not be able to accept the funds for the engagement plan from the NRO and that AFRINIC should use our own funds. He also sent a message: he will find a way for AFRINIC to reimburse the engagement plan that was funded last year.

OR asked if his interpretation was correct: they don't want money but will continue with the plan?

NM replied that the message is not clear, they will find a way to continue engaging but using AFRINIC funds. He will have to discuss this with Benjamin.

OR noted that everyone should keep in mind that continuing engagement with the AFRINIC community is essential. It doesn't have to be the same plan, but he hopes AFRINIC will continue with this.

JC asked NM if he knew the reasons for this, and NM replied that he doesn't, as he only received an email from Benjamin.

HPH mentioned that this is good from a principles level. The NRO EC can express our willingness to provide support if needed.

OR thanked NM for his report.

4.- ICP-2

GV provided the following update:

- The ASO AC continued to work on the principles document. They have decided to continue meeting regularly to work on this document. They are now trimming down the document to keep only the most important, core principles.
- The second version of the document has been shared on the internal ASO AC list for review AC before making it public. This would be the first public version of the draft principles document.
- The ASO AC also completed a timeline for their ICP-2 activities. It includes the creation of a webpage for ICP-2 information.

JC observed that Kevin Blumberg had presented the ASO AC Update yesterday at ARIN 53 (https://www.arin.net/participate/meetings/ARIN53/materials/monday/arin53_asoac.pdf)

HPH thanked GV for the update. HPH added that he is getting pushed for more transparency and openness and suggested that there should be a page on the ASO website ASAP to consolidate all this information which we can update as needed.

JC agreed. This will keep us all on the same page.

OR noted that the EC has asked Hervé Clément to provide us a half-page update monthly, that is still pending. Hervé is currently on vacation; as soon as he comes back we will ask for that report and decide what to do with it.

JC replied that the EC needs that report to keep us informed, but a public page is also important.

OR agreed and the following action item was decided:

New Action Item 240416-1: The Secretariat to create a page dedicated to the ICP-2 Review on the ASO AC website. This page will be used to consolidate all ICP-2 related information and it will be updated as needed.

5.- NRO Cybersecurity and Government Engagement Programs

OR explained that we are about to complete the six-month pause of the two other programs. What information is relevant to decide how to proceed with them? These programs were created after an strategic workshop agreed by the five RIRs, so a formal conversation is needed.

JC said he is of a split mind. On the one hand, we decided that these programs are important for us strategically, so he would say “let’s get started.” On the other, we have the RPKI program where Sofia is doing a great job, and the program is gaining momentum. JC would not like to distract from this. Much of the cybersecurity will come out from the RPKI program. JC thinks it’s good to keep track of the plans for the other two programs, but he is a little nervous about going ahead with them right now and would suggest giving Sofia and the people working on RPKI some more time.

HPH mostly agreed with JC. Seeing the success of the RPKI program and making sure that our organizations get used to working this way is important. He also agreed with JC’s point of view on security. As for the government engagement program, that is important but perhaps we could adopt a different approach. The IGF is coming up (what if anything do we want to present?) and moving forward with the program would take time. We could work directly by volunteering one resource from our policy engagement teams to prepare something quickly.

After some further comments, OR summarized the situation as follows: we want to pause the two programs for at least six months, but meanwhile we will keep working on the governance side, as cybersecurity will probably be addressed by the RPKI program.

HPH agreed.

OR also noted that this government program should be aligned with the work RIPE is doing in its region and suggested that HPH let the EC know what he believes might be done in the meantime.

HPH agreed with OR's summary and suggestion.

6. NRO Distribution Formula Clarification

OR said he had a conversation with GV and believes that both interpreted the distribution formulas in the spreadsheet differently.

JC said that what is important for ARIN is that our CFOs say what's acceptable and then send that to us.

OR said that there are two options: we can charge AFRINIC for the full NRO expenses (including their part of the ICANN contribution) or we can charge AFRINIC only for the NRO's operational expenses.

JC says he sees no problem with expecting that every RIR that is a member of the NRO pay their part of the NRO expenses. He doesn't know if AFRINIC is in a situation to pay, he assumes that the lack of a budget means that they cannot (is this an operational expense or not?). Independent of what their share of the expenses, the question is how we handle past amounts, and this is what he needs to know. Are we going to ask AFRINIC to pay for the 2023 expenses? He needs the CFOs to see how that will be handled.

Regarding the ICANN contribution, NM said that he has made it an item in his provisions. He also discussed this with Benjamin, who agreed that this is something AFRINIC needs to pay (the full NRO expenses). This is for both 2023 and 2024.

OR said that they can expect payment from AFRINIC at some time.

JC said that what may not be solved is that last year we provided additional funds, and at some point NM is going to have to know who to send the money to cover the additional expenses. For 2024 we need to approve a distribution formula, for 2023 someone needs to do the math to know who sends who how much money.

7. Input to PICs/RVCs ICANN Consultation

OR invited comments.

JC said that he has a pragmatic problem with this: ARIN has a record of consultation with its community and given that this isn't directly germane to ARIN, he has no real process for consulting the ARIN community when it comes to DNS.

PW joined the meeting at this time.

OR agreed with JC and said that LACNIC has the same pragmatic problem. He recalled that it had been HPH who raised the question in the group about replying to Tripti as she was asking directly for comments on this topic.

HPH replied that RSSAC is discussing this now and is sending a response after carefully considering this. We've taken care of the additional scrutiny, so I am fine with replying in the sense of what JC said.

AF added that sometimes, when bylaws change in one area, this might affect others. This is something we should be mindful of whenever bylaws change (this is not the case right now). If this process results in modification to the ICANN bylaws, then we will be consulted once again and then it will be good to have another look to see if we are affected.

OR said that if the changes affect the NRO, then we are already affected. But he agreed that we don't need to be involved.

After some further discussion, the following action item was agreed:

New Action Item 240416-2: GV to draft a response to Tripti Sinha's request for written input on the PICs/RVCs ICANN Consultation. The reply should state that this is outside the ASO's focus areas and, while they will not be providing input at this time, the ASO will welcome future invitations to provide input.

8.- Updating NRO Presentation Archive

GV said that this agenda item comes from an observation by HPH that it is important to keep this archive updated. GV apologized for having dropped the ball on this. Now, after HPH's suggestion, he has uploaded the presentations, and the archive is now fairly updated. The Secretariat has updated its processes and will keep the NRO Presentation Archive up to date going forward.

OR noted that this is extremely important at this stage.

9.- RIR CEO Updates

JC:

- We are in Barbados at ARIN 53 Meeting, and PW & HPH are here with me.
- Everything has been well received, including Kevin Blumberg's (remote) presentation on ICP-2. Sofia will present an update on the NRO RPKI program. Everything is running smoothly.
- ARIN has an open consultation regarding fees among members.

PW:

- Everyone is aware that I am leaving, the recruitment process for a new director general has already begun. The idea is to get this done as soon as possible, perhaps by the end of June. There will be an acting person until the new director general comes in. There is also a transition process planning underway.
- The senior team has changed with the APNIC restructure, we now have four value streams and a senior director for each (Operations, Development, Engagement, Registry).
- We had a successful meeting in Bangkok, the next APNIC meeting will be held in Wellington, NZ, from 30 August to 6 September.

OR:

- Not much to mention. Just a reminder that the upcoming LACNIC event will be held on 6-11 June in Panama. This will be the first LACNIC meeting of the year and will include the General Member Assembly. We are proposing an annual fee increase based on inflation, this has already been discussed by the community and will hopefully be approved (a basic majority is needed).

HPH:

- We are five weeks ahead of the RIPE meeting, we will have the annual vote on the charging scheme.
- There are also two seats on the board up for election, that will be interesting to see.

JC noted that, with the ICP-2 review, there will be discussions about what good RIR governance is. During the next 6-12 months, we may have to inform, educate, talk about the implications of this if we want to help the community in making informed decisions.

OR added that this is a big challenge. We want to be open and transparent, but we have the responsibility to keep things going.

10.- Open Actions Review

Action Item 240319-1: GV to organize a meeting of the NRO EC with the AFRINIC management teams to discuss the continuity of the AFRINIC engagement plan. **CLOSED**

Action Item 240319-2: OR, JC, PW, and HPH to look at the final version of the ICP-2 Implementation Procedures, as if these procedures are ever invoked, they will have implications for every RIR.

Re Action Item 240319-2, OR asked how the others would like to do this review. This document was initially produced and reviewed by our legal team. Do we want a new look from the same people or something different?

JC said he is not sure if this is an action item. The question is “what’s the process for the final adoption?” He asked whether ICANN has commented or seen this, and, if so, he would like to put this on the NRO EC agenda and approve it.

OR said that we decided not to send this to ICANN until reviewed by the EC. We can send the procedures to ICANN and see.

JC recommended that the NRO EC send them to ICANN for review and say that if ICANN is ready to approve them, then the EC is ready too.

OR noted that we already shared this with Steve Sheng, who replied that this would have to go through the ICANN consultation process.

After some further discussion, JC proposed, and all agreed updating Action Item 240319-2 as follows:

Updated Action Item 240319-2: The NRO-EC to approve the final version of the ICP-2 Implementation Procedures during their next meeting (May 2024) and transmit them to ICANN.

Action Item 240319-3: The Secretariat to set up a meeting with the chair and vice-chairs of the ASO AC to transmit to them that the NRO EC would like to receive monthly updates on the progress of the ICP-2 review. This brief update should answer the following: 1) please tell me what you've done the last period; 2) please tell me what you plan to do in the next period, and 3) please tell me if you have any obstacles that you need help with. **IN PROGRESS**

Action Item 240319-4: OR to send a message to Kim Davies saying that the NRO agrees to go ahead with the practical work (the IANA is happy to provide the services) and that once AFRINIC is ready, they can hold a IANA SLA Signing party. **IN PROGRESS**

Action Item 240319-5: OR to send a message to the IANA RC thanking them for their excellent service in preparing the 2023 IANA RC Report. **CLOSED**

Action Item 240115-5: GV to circulate the document (IETF - Consent to Assign) so that each of the four CEOs can share it with their legal departments and individually sign the consent to assign the IETF Trust Contract. **IN PROGRESS**

Action Item 240115-6: GV to prepare a Doodle poll to decide a date for a meeting with the Interplanetary Chapter of the Internet Society. **IN PROGRESS**

Action Item 240116-7: OR to follow up on Net Mundial, the statement the NRO is being asked to sign, and the implications/ pros and cons of signing this statement as the NRO.
OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS

11.- Next Meetings

- a) Tuesday 14 May 2024 Teleconference
- b) Tuesday 18 June 2024 Teleconference
- c) Tuesday 16 July 2024 Teleconference

No issues were brought up regarding the dates for the next three NRO EC meetings.

d) Does the EC require a f2f meeting?

OR said that his passport and US visa had been stolen a few days ago from his home, so he will not have the possibility to travel after Panama for as long as it takes to get new documents. However, if the EC decides to have a f2f meeting during May or June, OR can follow via teleconference.

JC proposed having a f2f NRO EC meeting at APNIC 58 in New Zealand, potentially with the new APNIC executive director and/or with PW. That's the first week of September.

OR said he would hopefully have his passport back by then.

PW agreed.

HPH needs to check, but he should be able to attend.

JC noted that in the US it's Labor Day weekend, but he has no problem.

PW will check the schedule for the event and see which day would be available and circulate this.

12.- AOB

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13.- Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 UTC.