

# 2025-May-23: Minutes NRO EC Teleconference

**FINAL**

**Date: Friday, 23 May 2025, 11:00 AM UTC**

## Attendees

### Executive Council:

Hans Petter Holen (HPH)	RIPE NCC	Chair
John Curran (JC)	ARIN	Vice-Chair
Ernesto Majo (EM)	LACNIC	
Jia Rong Low (JRL)	APNIC	Treasurer

### Observers:

Nirmal Manic (NM)	AFRINIC
Vikash Dabee (VD)	AFRINIC Receiver
Richard Jimmerson (RJ)	ARIN
Michael Abejuela (MA)	ARIN
Nancy Carter (NC)	ARIN
Bill Sandiford (BS)	ARIN
Ignacio Estrada (IE)	LACNIC
Eduardo Jimenez (EJ)	LACNIC
Alejandro Guzman (AG)	LACNIC
Athina Fragkouli (AF)	RIPE NCC

### Secretariat:

Laureana Pavon (LP)	Minutes
German Valdez (GV)	Executive Secretary

# New and Updated Action Items

**New Action Item 250523-1:** HPH to draft a polite reply to Smart Africa saying that the NRO will not provide financial support to cover the travel cost of experts and resource persons to the awareness sessions Smart Africa is organizing.

## New Resolutions

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# Agenda

**1.- Welcome**

**2.- Agenda Review**

**3.- RIR Observers to AFRINIC Elections**

**4.- Smart AFRICA Support Request.**

*11:30 AM UTC Mr Dabee to Join Call*

**5.- AFRINIC Update**

**6.- ICP-2 Review Process Update**

## Outline

- Secretariat to update on last development on the ICP-2 Review Process

**7.- ICANN 83 Preparations**

## Outline

- Secretariat to update in ICANN 83 NRO/ASO activities

**8.- RIR CEO Updates**

**9.- Minutes Review**

- 2025-April-15: Minutes NRO EC Teleconference - DRAFT (Pending ARIN, LACNIC, RIPE NCC)

- 2025-March-18:Minutes NRO EC Teleconference - DRAFT (Pending ARIN, LACNIC, RIPE NCC)
- 2025-March-9: Minutes NRO EC f2f- DRAFT (Pending ARIN, LACNIC, RIPE NCC)

## **10.- Next Meetings**

- a) Tuesday 17 June 2025 Teleconference
- b) Tuesday 15 July 2025 Teleconference
- c) Tuesday 19 August 2025 Teleconference

## **11.- Open Actions Review**

## **12.- AOB**

## **13.- Adjourn**

# **Minutes**

## **1.- Welcome**

HPH welcomed everyone at 11:02 UTC.

## **2.- Agenda Review**

The draft agenda was reviewed and approved as written.

## **3.- RIR Observers to AFRINIC Elections**

JC shared that, through AFRINIC staff, the NRO EC had received a request from the Receiver asking the NRO to nominate and send two representatives from the RIRs to attend and act as Observers during the proceedings on AFRINIC's election day. He noted that, historically, the RIRs have had observers in each other's elections (scrutineers). As the EC has offered support to the Receiver, he JC would be in favor of supplying some observers, with clear specification of their role (call out anything unusual). JC then volunteered John Sweeting to be one of these observers.

EM agreed. To him, it's clear that the RIRs are sending someone to observe the election process. We should be present there, it's the responsibility of the RIR community to be there to stand with AFRINIC in this moment, but we have to be clear in what the observers can do and what we can bring to the process.

JRL agreed that they need to send observers, clarifying what their role will be. If we are able to define what their role in the process is in writing, it will provide clarity.

HPH added that the report of the observers should be very clear: “We’ve observed but will not take a stand”. As JC said, we have a tradition of doing this, but we need to request written expectations of what the role will be.

All agreed that JC will lead the conversation on this.

As for who the other observer accompanying John Sweeting will be, EM noted that LACNIC is discussing who will be the volunteer from LACNIC and he will share this information as soon as the decision is made. LACNIC is considering sending a community member rather than a staff member to observe the AFRINIC elections, e.g. someone from the LACNIC Electoral commission.

#### **4.- Smart AFRICA Support Request**

HPH said he had received a letter with a follow-up and request for support letter. While this letter was displayed on screen, HPH went over the request. Smart Africa is planning to organize one-day awareness sessions in at least five countries with the highest number of AFRINIC members in each region and they are requesting financial support to cover the cost of four experts and resource persons in each of the targeted countries.

JC replied that this is a new type of request for which the NRO has no precedent. This may or may not advance many of the principles we uphold. JC said that, normally, he would be inclined to not provide financial support.

EM added that it's complicated. We need to be clear that we are willing to collaborate with AFRINIC's recovery but that it is AFRINIC who is responsible. EM believes it's best not to support this.

HPH observed that Smart Africa has many other potential sources of funding and should easily be able to find the resources they need.

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

**New Action Item 250523-1:** HPH to draft a polite reply to Smart Africa saying that the NRO will not provide financial support to cover the travel cost of experts and resource persons to the awareness sessions Smart Africa is organizing.

The group then shared who will be attending ICANN 83 in Prague in a few days, after which they decided that the NRO EC will not be meeting at ICANN.

HPH then shared that he had received a message from Arthur Carindal, AFRINIC staff representative to the CCG, asking for funding to travel to ICANN 83. After some discussion, all agreed that this request should be formally submitted through AFRINIC.

#### **5.- AFRINIC Update**

At 11:30 UTC, VD joined the meeting.

PHH explained that the EC would like to discuss with VD the request to provide observers for the AFRINIC election.

VD shared an update on the AFRINIC Board election (which has been set for 23 June), providing an overview of the election process and timeline.

JC told VD that the EC has offered our support for these elections and that the RIRs have often had RIR staff/community members participate in observing elections. He said that it would be helpful in this case to have a short, formal request for the observers, setting out the expectations for what the observers will be expected to do.

VD replied that he would prepare the request on Monday.

PHH thanked VD and noted that once the terms of reference are available, it should be no problem appointing the observers quickly.

PHH then said that the question had come his way as to whether AFRINIC is currently issuing IP addresses.

VD replied that AFRINIC has already issued a block of addresses to existing members and that AFRINIC is examining a request for new members and should be able to issue these resources next week. He added that, hopefully, AFRINIC will have the new board soon and all matters will be on the desk of the new board by the end of June.

JC recalled that, at one point, AFRINIC published online very clear information for its members about the status of lawsuits (active, dismissed, or judged on). Would it be possible to reflect the current status of outstanding litigations? The community judges AFRINIC not only on the existence of the board but also considering litigations.

VD replied that once the board is constituted, many matters will be solved.

JC added that, as a membership organization, AFRINIC members will benefit from any information the Receiver can provide.

PHH thanked VD for attending the meeting.

## **6.- ICP-2 Review Process Update**

GV provided an update on the ICP-2 review process, which is moving forward according to the published timeline. The consultation with the RIR communities will close on the 27th and all RIRs have had onsite and/or webinars on the ICP-2 update to provide updates of the process, with a special focus on community engagement activities. For the next ICANN meeting, the ASO AC has an intense agenda. Next steps: right after the conclusion of ICANN 83, the ASO

AC should submit a new version of the RIR Governance Document, then the NRO and the legal staff will have until mid-August to review and agree with the ASO AC.

HPH thanked GV for his update.

All shared and discussed their observations of community engagement in their respective regions.

## **7.- ICANN 83 Preparations**

The NRO EC will not be meeting at ICANN 83.

## **8.- RIR CEO Updates**

Each shared a very brief update about their RIR:

JRL:

- I just finished a board meeting, I updated some strategies with the team so I will have some more adjustments. Once I clean those up, I will share more about this.

EM:

- LACNIC 43 just took place; a very intense and well-attended meeting organized jointly with the Brazilian ISP association.
- During our meeting we had the ICP-2 consultation, that was good, some questions in line with the other regions, nothing different.
- We had our AGM and strong support from our members for our work and financial statements. We held the RIR board member meeting, which was a good experience.

AG added that the RIR board meeting was very good, the conversation with board members from different RIRs was very constructive. It was very successful and nice to take advantage of the board members who are present at RIR meetings. He believes this should continue, as it helps the discussions inside each RIR.

HPH observed that RIPE could not organize a session but had planned a dinner for board members from the different RIRs who were present at the RIPE meeting, which was also very useful.

JC thanked EM for receiving him and two of his board members at the RIR board gathering. All were very pleased with the meeting and agree that we should have these whenever possible. He also thanked HPH for the dinner, which was also very productive.

## **9.- Minutes Review**

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HPH suggested that everyone review the pending minutes.

#### **10.- Next Meetings**

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- c) Tuesday 19 August 2025 Teleconference

No conflicts were mentioned at this time.

#### **11.- Open Actions Review**

Due to the lack of time during the teleconference. it was decided that GV and HPH would set up a call to review the open action items or meet at ICANN 83 to do this.

#### **12.- AOB**

#### **13.- Adjourn**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 UTC.