

ICANN | ASO

Address Supporting Organization

ASO AC Recommended
Draft RIR Governance Document
Strengthening the Internet number registry system

ISPCP-ASO session

Andrei Robachevsky, RIPE NCC NRO NC representative

Jia Rong LOW, NRO EC Chair



ICANN ASO AC (Address Council)

What is it?	The Address Supporting Organization (ASO) was established by ICANN to advise on Internet number resource policy. It also functions as the Number Resource Organization Number Council (NRO NC).
How is it organized?	• 15 members (3 from each RIR region) • In each region – two are elected, one is appointed by the RIR
How long do members serve?	Varies by region
What does it do?	• Advises the ICANN Board • Oversees the Global Policy Development Process • Appoints two members to the ICANN Board (seats 9 & 10) • Appoints one member to the ICANN Nominating Committee
When does it meet?	• Monthly virtual meetings • Annual in-person meeting
Focus of work	• Conduct ICP-2 Review process • Conduct election for Seat 9 (vacant) of the ICANN Board • Monitor and support Global Policy Development Process

ASO AC / NRO NC Members



Musa Stephen
Honlue
(AFRINIC)



Nitin Kelawon
Sookun
(AFRINIC)



Saul Stein*
(AFRINIC)



Kevin Blumberg*
(ARIN)



Alyssa Quinn
(ARIN)



Amy Potter
(ARIN)



Akinori
Maemura*
(APNIC)



Nicole Chan
(APNIC)



Devesh Tyagi
(APNIC)



Esteban
Lescano*
(LACNIC)



Jorge Villa
(LACNIC)



Ricardo Patara
(LACNIC)



Hervé Clément*
(RIPE NCC)



Constanze
Bürger
(RIPE NCC)



Andrei
Robachevsky
(RIPE NCC)

*** Appointed by RIR Board**

Why revisit ICP-2?

1992	RIPE NCC established
1993	APNIC established
1997	ARIN established
1998	ICANN established
2001	ICANN adopted ICP-2
2002	LACNIC established
2005	AfriNIC established

- ICP-2 is **25 years old**
 - The Internet has changed over the last quarter century
 - The relationships between RIRs and ICANN and between each other have changed
- Need to more explicitly provide for:
 - An RIR's **ongoing responsibilities**
 - Potential **derecognition** of an RIR that can no longer adequately provide for the needs of its numbering community

ICP-2 Review Project

On 25 October 2023, the NRO EC* asked the ASO AC to help with two tasks aimed at strengthening the RIR System:

1. **ICP-2 Implementation Procedures:** Review and advise the NRO EC on its draft procedures for validating and addressing ongoing RIR compliance with ICP-2 ('Implementation Procedures')
2. **Strengthen ICP-2:** Revise ICP-2 to make the RIR system more accountable to the Internet community

Read more about the NRO EC at: <https://www.nro.net/about/executive-council/>

ICP-2 Review Work To Date

8 Oct 2024	ASO AC published a proposed set of 24 'core principles' to be included in the next version of ICP-2 ('Principles Document')
8 Oct – 6 Dec 2024	Public consultation on the ICP-2 Principles Document (ICANN Public Comment)
Dec 2024 – Feb 2025	ASO AC reviewed community feedback on ICP-2 Principles Document received during public consultation
24 Feb 2025	ASO AC published ICP-2 Questionnaire Summary Report ('ICP-2 Principles Consultation Report')
14 Apr – 27 May 2025	ASO AC published 'RIR Governance Document' (Version 1) and launched community consultations (ICANN Public Comment)
30 July 2025	ASO AC published 'RIR Governance Document' First Consultation Summary Report
28 Aug – 7 Nov 2025	ASO AC published 'RIR Governance Document' (Version 2) and launched community consultations (ICANN Public Comment)
2 Feb 2026	ASO AC published 'RIR Governance Document' Second Consultation Summary Report
6 Feb 2026	ASO AC published Q1 Status Report 'In progress' and 'In drafting'
8 May 2026	ASO AC published Status Report May 2026 'In progress' and 'In drafting'
7-11 June 2026	ASO AC working group sessions at ICANN 86 to finalize draft document
28 July 2026	ASO AC concluded its work reviewing ICP-2 following delivery of the 'ASO AC Recommended Draft RIR Governance Document' to the NRO EC
1 September 2026	ASO AC publishes Recommended Draft, rationale and redline version

Documents Available

- All documents are available on the NRO website
<https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/>
- Three community consultations and ICANN Public Comment processes held so far
- Summary of comments received published for transparency
- Status reports published to provide updates on work in progress in Q1 2026 and May 2026
- **ASO AC Recommended Draft RIR Governance Document** published in September 2026
- Engagements are listed on the Community Engagements page with links to archives
<https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/community-engagement/>

Governance Document for the Recognition, Operation, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries

(RIR Governance Document)

Version 3.4 (ASO AC Final Draft)

Preamble

This Governance Document for the Recognition, Operation, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries (the “**Document**”) succeeds the document Internet Coordination Policy-2: Criteria for Establishment of New Regional Internet Registries (“**ICP-2**”), adopted on 4 June 2001. It reflects a coordinated initiative led by the NRO Number Council, also serving as the ASO Address Council, in consultation with the global Regional Internet Registry and ICANN communities.

The global system for management of Internet Number Resources is a decentralized and coordinated system established to ensure the fair, efficient, and secure allocation and management of critical Internet resources. These resources include IP address space (both IPv4 and IPv6) and Autonomous System Numbers, which are essential for the operation of the Internet. The system is composed of Regional Internet Registries, each responsible for serving a specific geographic region. The system is based on open and bottom-up processes to ensure that the needs of the regional and global Internet community are met.

This document covers the complete lifecycle of a Regional Internet Registry (RIR), starting from its establishment to its operation and potential derecognition, as well as the necessary conditions for inter-RIR coordination to ensure the Internet Numbers Registry System serves the global Internet community. In particular, this document sets forth:

1. **Rules and criteria for recognizing new RIRs**, ensuring rigorous and transparent evaluation for any entity seeking official status as an RIR.
2. **Operating obligations** for RIRs, enhancing clarity on governance, accountability, and service delivery duties.
3. **Criteria and procedures for derecognition** of an RIR should it fail to adhere to established standards, thereby safeguarding global Internet Number Resource reliability and integrity.

Goals of the RIR Governance Document.

- **Ensure Accountability to the Global Internet Community.** Codifying governance expectations and responsibilities to foster transparency, responsiveness, and member-driven oversight.
- **Support System Stability and Continuity.** Reinforcing long-term resilience by defining lifecycle criteria and remediation paths in the event an RIR fails to meet its obligations.

Document Handover

- We've been working on updating ICP-2 since ICANN 78 in 2023
- The publication of the ASO AC Recommended Draft RIR Governance Document completes the ASO AC's work on revising ICP-2
- The final draft was handed back to the NRO EC (the RIRs) and ICANN for completion in July 2026
- Any further community consultation leading up to the adoption of the document will be managed by the RIRs and ICANN
- Our sincere **thanks to all stakeholders** who have provided input throughout this process

Key Changes in Recommended Draft (1)

- **Clearer definitions and structure** for Audit, Compliance Review, Rehabilitation Plan, Temporary Emergency Continuity Arrangement, Temporary Emergency Operator, and Transition Plan.
- **A restructured Recognition process**, with a two-thirds RIR support threshold, conflict-of-interest disclosure, clearer ICANN responsibilities, and greater transparency
- Alignment of the Derecognition process with the Recognition process, with an emphasis on **Rehabilitation**

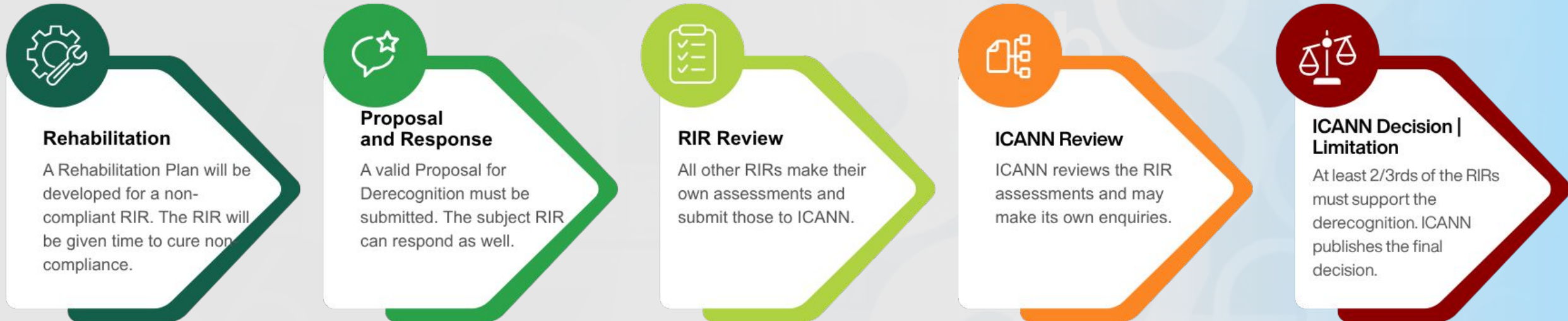
Recognition Process

Redrafted, process from proposal to decision



Derecognition

A last resort, now aligned closely with Recognition



Key Changes in Recommended Draft (2)

- A revised **audit and compliance framework**, including a five-year regular audit cycle, a distinct Compliance Review process with safeguards against misuse.
- Revised **Emergency Continuity** procedure – renamed it to Temporary Emergency Continuity Arrangement to provide clarity, an affected RIR can initiate a Temporary Emergency Continuity Arrangement by itself, initiation requires two-thirds of the RIRs and ICANN.
- **Some safeguards:** the RIR Governance Document cannot be amended during a Temporary Emergency Continuity Arrangement, or while a proposal for Derecognition is pending.

References

ASO AC Recommended Draft RIR Governance Document



www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/rir-governance-document-version-3/

Rationale document



www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/rir-governance-document-version-3-summary-of-differences-and-rationale-for-changes/

Next Steps

Jia Rong Low, NRO EC Chair



Next steps

- The NRO EC has provided the document to ICANN for their consideration
- Discussions ongoing at ICANN 87 in Bali
- Updates on the next stage of community engagement after ICANN 87

Key milestones

- Last call on final draft
- Public Comment Process
- Adoption of the document by RIR and ICANN Boards
- Development of implementation procedures (RIRs and ICANN)

This week



ASO Sessions

Sunday, 18 Oct	13:15–14:30	ASO and RSSAC
Sunday, 18 Oct	15:00–16:00	ASO and ALAC
Tuesday, 20 Oct	16:30–17:30	ASO and ISPCP
Wednesday, 21 Oct	09:00–10:00	How it works: RIRs
Wednesday, 21 Oct	15:00–16:00	Joint Session: ICANN Board and ASO

Thank You