

ICANN | ASO

Address Supporting Organization

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

ICANN Board-ASO session

Andrei Robachevsky, RIPE NCC NRO NC representative

Jia Rong LOW, NRO EC Chair



Agenda

Opening Remarks (5 mins)	ICANN Board Chair, ASO Shepherd and NRO EC Chair
RIR Governance Document Progress (25 mins)	Andrei Robachevsky, ASO AC Representative
Next Steps for RIR Governance Document (10 mins)	Jia Rong Low, NRO EC Chair
NRO Strategy 2026-2028 (20 mins)	Jia Rong Low, NRO EC Chair

Updating ICP-2

Strengthening the Internet number registry system



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

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 more than **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

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

ASO AC Recommended Version: Substantive Update

Definitions and decisions:

Clearer terms and decision-making provisions

Derecognition:

Rehabilitation first; clearer review and decision steps

Audit and compliance:

Five-year audits plus distinct Compliance Reviews

Recognition:

More detailed, transparent and workable processes

Consultation:

Clarified when consultation may occur

Emergency Continuity:

Faster activation with safeguards

Definitions, Decision-making, Structure.

Definitions

Added or amended:

- ASO
- Audit
- Compliance Review
- Notice of Pending Derecognition
- Notice of Pending Recognition
- Rehabilitation Plan
- Temporary Emergency Continuity Arrangement
- Temporary Emergency Operator
- Transition Plan

Decision-making

- New article 1.4 clarifies that entities decide under their relevant procedures, including available appeal or challenge mechanisms

Structure

- **Changes:** Recognition and Derecognition are now addressed in dedicated articles
- **Rationale:** Reduces duplication and improves flow

Clarification and Safeguards

Service Region

Article 2.2

Changes: Adds 'geographically continuous area of substantial scale, comprising many distinct jurisdictions' **Rationale:** Clarifies concept, and support coordination efficiency

Community Consultation

Article: 2.7

Changes: Added in version 3

Rationale: Clarifies that the document neither prevents nor obliges an RIR or ICANN to consult during Recognition or Derecognition assessment

Amendment Conditions

Article: 7.2

Changes: The document cannot be amended during a Temporary Emergency Continuity Arrangement or while Derecognition is pending

Rationale: Avoid hasty changes or weakened requirements during difficult moments

Recognition Process

Redrafted, process from proposal to decision



Recognition: Key Process Changes

- At least two-thirds RIR support is required for recognition
- Conflicts of interest and input from potentially affected RIRs are explicitly considered
- Candidate RIRs can receive substantive feedback and refine their proposals during the process
- Assessments and supporting rationales must be published at each major stage, ensuring transparency and accountability
- ICANN then makes the recognition decision subject to the support threshold

Audit: Key Process Changes

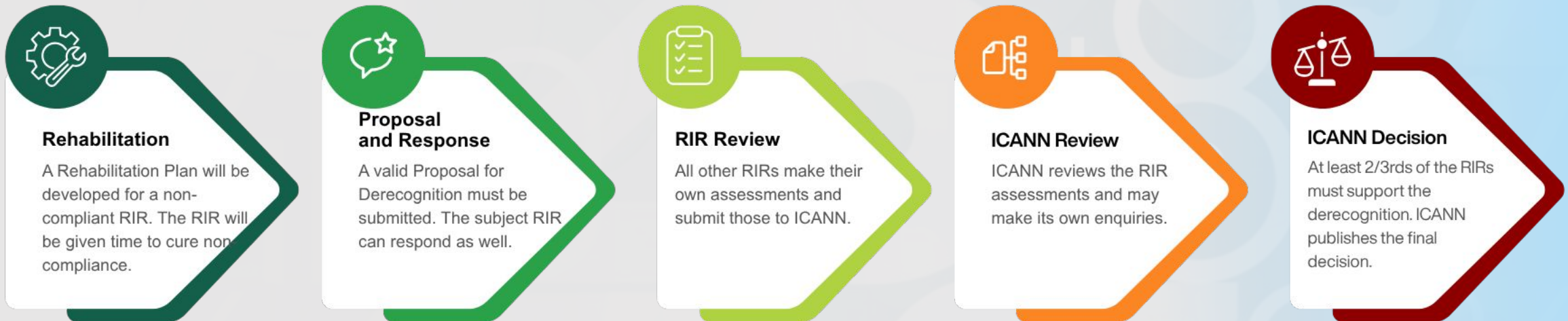
- Sets regular Audits at once every five years
- Replaces 'Ad Hoc Audits' with more targeted Compliance Reviews and adds safeguards against misuse
- Frequency and performance ensure appropriate follow-up
- Creates a more proportional and complete compliance framework
- Balances effective oversight with the need to avoid unnecessary burden on RIRs
- Ensures issues identified through Audits or Compliance Reviews are addressed
- ICANN ensures that audits are carried out, evaluates requests for Compliance Reviews, and if needed, non-compliance is addressed through a Rehabilitation Plan. ICANN may also initiate a compliance review.

Emergency Continuity

Changes	Rationale
Allows an affected RIR to initiate a Temporary Emergency Continuity Arrangement for its own services	The affected RIR can act quickly to maintain continuity of its services
Lowers the approval threshold from unanimity to agreement by ICANN and two-thirds of the RIRs	Makes it easier to initiate emergency arrangements while retaining appropriate collective oversight
Allows ICANN and the RIRs to undertake additional engagement with the affected community	Strengthens transparency through community engagement, where possible, and publication of a report
Clarifies that the scope of the arrangement may be increased or decreased	Enables a faster and more agile response to sudden emergencies, including natural disasters
Renames the role from 'Emergency Continuity Operator' to 'Temporary Emergency Continuity Operator'	Editorial and structural update
NO CHANGE: The 90-day limit is retained	Prevents a temporary arrangement from becoming the default or permanent mode of operation

Derecognition

A last resort, now aligned closely with Recognition



Derecognition can be proposed by any RIR; a group of members of that RIR's total members consisting of 25% of the membership or 2,000 members (whichever is lesser); ICANN

Derecognition: Key Process Changes

- Establishes a more detailed and transparent Derecognition process
- Makes rehabilitation and an opportunity to remedy non-compliance explicit prerequisites
- Aligns the review and decision stages more closely with the Recognition process
- Ensures Derecognition is used only as a last resort
- Prioritizes restoring compliance before progressing to Derecognition
- Strengthens consistency, transparency and accountability throughout the process
- ICANN makes the derecognition decision following Rehabilitation efforts and in accordance with the RIR assessments

Overview: ICANN's Role (1)

- Receiving Proposals for Recognition and Derecognition
- Publishing the RIR assessments for proposals for Recognition and Derecognition
- Carrying out its own assessment as well, and also requesting RIRs to reassess proposals and suggesting changes to Recognition proposals
- Assessing whether there is support from two-thirds of the RIRs, with the exclusion of the RIRs whose service region or revenue would be materially impacted, or the subject RIR in case of derecognition
- Making the decision in accordance with the RIR assessments

Overview: ICANN's Role (2)

- Ensuring that regular audits are carried out and publishing audit reports
- Evaluating Compliance Review requests and carrying those out when needed. ICANN may also initiate a Compliance Review if it reasonably believes there is non-compliance.
- In case of non-compliance – publishing a report, developing a Rehabilitation Plan with the RIRs and verifying remediation of the non-compliance
- Initiating and renewing a Temporary Emergency Continuity Arrangement with 2/3rds of the RIRs, conducting a review and publishing a report after the arrangement has ended.

How the RIR Governance Document strengthens the Internet number registry system



In Summary

- Modernizes ICP-2 by creating a clear governance framework for the full lifecycle of an RIR
- Reaffirms existing expectations of RIRs — independence, non-profit, community-driven and transparent
- Strengthens the resilience of the global Internet number registry system by ensuring emergency continuity provisions
- Enhances oversight through regular audits, allows for proactive identification of potential issues through compliance reviews and supports rehabilitation in case of non-compliance
- Strengthens the ICANN-RIR relationship and partnership – provides ICANN with an updated role with respect to RIR governance as a neutral assessor and a mandate to act under defined circumstances
- Improves the overall accountability of the RIR system

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



Progress and Next Steps

- The NRO EC has provided the document to ICANN for consideration
- RIR and ICANN teams have been meeting all week at ICANN 87 and discussions have been very productive
- We are all committed to completing this process as quickly and diligently as possible
- 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 by the RIRs and ICANN

Questions / Discussion



NRO Strategy 2026-2028

Shared priorities for coordination
among the Regional Internet Registries

Jia Rong Low, NRO EC Chair



Purpose and Strategic Priorities

Collective action where coordination across RIRs provides global value

- 01 Governance** Coordinate implementation of the RIR Governance Document
- 02 Security** Strengthen RPKI and security information sharing
- 03 IPv6** Support deployment and prepare for long-term Internet growth

01: The Internet Number Registry Governance

Consistent implementation

Set shared priorities and coordinate with ICANN

Joint frameworks

Where appropriate, convene temporary task forces, including on registry service continuity

Public outputs

Publish the results of NRO-facilitated work to support transparency

02.1 Security: RPKI

2026 targets

IETF acceptance of a Trust Anchor Constraints document

Deployment of ASPA functionality in RPKI systems

2027–2028 considerations

The Engineering Coordination Group will consider improvements to:

Inter-RIR transfer reliability
Operational consistency
RPKI service resilience

02.2 Security: Threat Intelligence Coordination

Shared process

Agree how RIRs share relevant threat intelligence and security incident information

Assessment

Identify metrics to assess the effectiveness of coordination

Progress reporting

Use the established task force to report on this work

03 IPv6: Deployment and Leadership

Lead by example

Support IPv6 through RIR operations and procurement policies

Identify barriers

Develop a shared mechanism to track global deployment obstacles

Exchange experience

Share best practices across regions to complement regional efforts

Summary

Area	Intended outputs	Timing
Governance	Implementation priorities and public outputs Shared frameworks where appropriate	2026–2028
RPKI	TA Constraints document and ASPA deployment Consider further operational improvements	2026 targets 2027–2028
Threat intelligence	Sharing protocol, assessment metrics and task force progress reporting	2026–2028
IPv6	Operational support, barrier tracking and exchange of best practices	2026–2028

Questions / Discussion

Opportunities for collaboration



Thank You