ICANNASO

Address Supporting Organization

Webinar

Updating ICP-2: Advancing Internet

Number Governance for the Future

21 OCTOBER 2025

NRO NC (ASO AC)

What is it?	The Address Supporting Organization (ASO) was established by ICANN to advise on Internet number resource policy
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 election for Seat 10 of the ICANN Board Monitor and support Global Policy Development Process Conduct ICP-2 Review process

2025 NRO NC (ASO AC) Members



Kevin Blumberg* (ARIN)



Nick Nugent (ARIN)



Amy Potter (ARIN)



Akinori Maemura* (APNIC)



Nicole Chan (APNIC)



Di Ma (APNIC)



Esteban Lescano* (LACNIC)



Jorge Villa (LACNIC)



Ricardo Patara (LACNIC)



Hervé Clément* (RIPE NCC)



Constanze Bürger (RIPE NCC)



Andrei Robachevsky (RIPE NCC)

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 nearly 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 <u>ongoing</u> responsibilities
- Potential <u>derecognition</u> 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:

- 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

ICP-2 Review Timeline (Principles Document and Consultation)

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 Doc
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 April 2025	ASO AC published draft 'RIR Governance Document' and launched community consultations
28 August 2025	ASO AC published revised draft 'RIR Governance Document' and launched community consultations

For Your Reference

ICP-2 Principles Consultation Report



https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordinationpolicy-2/icp-2-principles-questionnaire-report-anddata/

Draft RIR Governance Document



https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/rir-governance-document/

ICP-2 Review Timeline

Q1-Q4 2024

Review of ICP-2, Drafting Core Principles

Existing document assessed by ASO Address Council for relevance and accuracy, core requirements for RIRs identified.



Q4 2024 - Q1 2025

Community Input on Principles and Feedback Reporting

Questionnaire available on the Number Resource Organization (NRO) website, ICANN public comment period hosted; analyzed community feedback and made it public.



01 2025

Drafting the Updated Document

Incorporated feedback from the questionnaire.



Q2 2025

Public Comment on Draft

The draft was made available to the global Internet community and presented to RIR and ICANN communities for a consultation and discussion period.



To Be Determined

Approval & Adoption

The ASO AC will present the recommended document to the NRO Executive Council and ICANN, which will determine procedures for approval and adoption.



Q4 2025 - Q1 2026

Final Review

Outcomes of public comments, including amendments to the draft criteria, will be presented to the Internet community at RIR meetings and other publication channels for review.



Q3-Q4 2025

Second Public Comment on Draft

The updated draft will be available to the global Internet community and to RIR and ICANN communities for a consultation and discussion period.



Q3 2025

Drafted the Updated Document

Incorporated community feedback from the questionnaire.

ICANN | ASO

Address Supporting Organization



https://www.nro.net/icp-2-rir-governance-document-v2

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

(RIR Governance Document)



Supporting Documents

Redline of changes -

https://www.nro.net/wp-content/uploads/RIR-Governance-Document-v2-deltas.pdf

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

FAQ - https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/faq/

Redline of changes

- (h)(i) Policy Compliance: An RIR must comply with all policies adopted through its policy development process Number Resource Policies applicable to it, so long as those policies Number Resource Policies do not obligate the RIR to violate any applicable law of the RIR's jurisdiction.
- (i)(j) Impartiality: An RIR must operate and apply its policies Number Resource Policies in a manner that is impartial and consistent.
- (j)(k) Transparency: An RIR must maintain and publish comprehensive records of its governance, activities, and finances in a timely and accessible manner. The RIR's Governing Body must provide mechanisms for its Members to ask questions, provide input, and receive timely and meaningful responses to legitimate questions.
- (k)(1) Performance: An RIR must provide stable, reliable, secure, accurate, and accountable RIR Services using <u>such</u> standard protocols and specifications as <u>may be</u> adopted by the NRO.
- (I)(m) Continuity: An RIR must maintain and follow continuity and redundancy procedures and to maintain the availability of its RIR Services. An RIR must regularly, and subject to appropriate escrow or data protection controls, share such records, data, Regional Policy implementation procedures, and systems with an Emergency Operator sufficient to enable another RIR or entity designated by the other RIRs the Emergency Operator to perform its RIR Services, if necessary.

Rationale

Recognition (Material Improvement)

Background: The criteria set forth in Section 3.1 are necessary conditions for a candidate RIR to be recognized, but they are not sufficient. That is, a candidate RIR may not be recognized unless it meets all of those criteria, but just because a candidate RIR meets all of the criteria does not mean it will automatically be entitled to recognition. As set forth in Section 2.5 (Coordination Limitation), because each additional RIR will increase the complexity of the Internet numbers registry system, as each RIR will need to work with the new RIR and vice-versa, the number of RIRs in the Internet numbers registry system is expected to remain small.

Changes: To clarify when a candidate RIR might not be recognized, despite otherwise meeting all the necessary criteria for recognition, we added a new clause to Section 3.1, which explains that a candidate RIR will only be recognized if doing so would materially improve the functioning of the Internet numbers registry system relative to the then-existing state of affairs.

Relevant Sections: 2.5, 3.1(f)





https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-

2/community-engagement/

Share your input on the AFRINIC Discussion List

Your feedback is vital! Mailing list discussion options and other community engagement details are available on the **NRO** website.

Feedback can also be submitted via ICANN's Public Comment.

https://www.icann.org/en/publiccomment/proceeding/second-draft-of-the-rir-governancedocument-28-08-2025

Revised RIR Governance Document

The revised RIR Governance Document represents a detailed update to the original draft, with the overarching goal of strengthening the RIR system. These updates were **based on community input** received.

Key changes include:

- Title: Small change to the title of the document
- Preamble: Expanded, explaining the goals of the document
- Implementation Procedures: Reference to separate "Implement Procedures" document that may provide further implementation details on any obligation

Revised RIR Governance Document

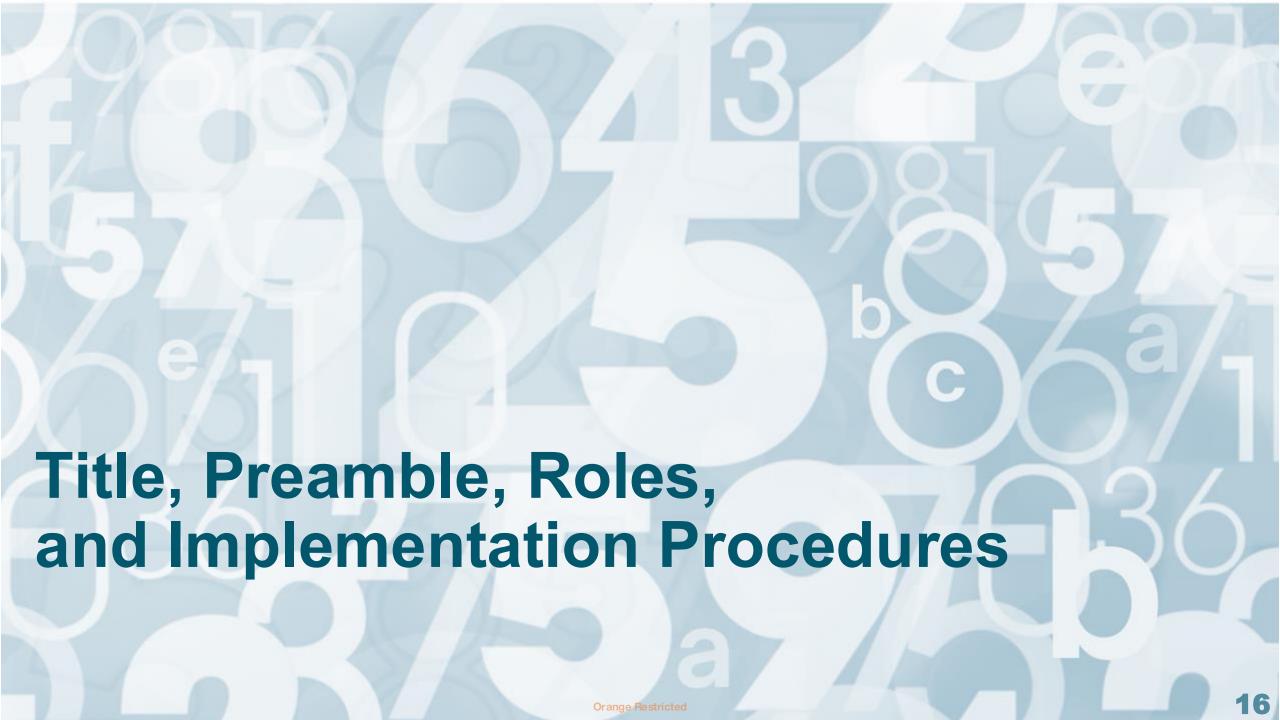
Key changes (continued):

- Recognition/Derecognition: Additional protections in Recognition and Derecognition procedures for affected RIRs, including the possibility for a candidate RIR to be recognized on less than the unanimous approval of the existing RIRs
- Audits/Proposals: New criteria for RIR members or ICANN to request ad hoc audits or propose derecognition
- Emergency Continuity: New 'Emergency Continuity' procedure to temporarily transfer an RIR's responsibilities to an 'Emergency Operator'

Revised RIR Governance Document

Key changes (continued)

- ICANN's role: Has a defined capacity to intervene in specific circumstances:
 - ICANN cannot unilaterally recognize or derecognize an RIR or initiate emergency continuity procedures
 - ICANN can initiate a proposal to derecognize an RIR
 - ICANN can initiate an ad hoc audit of an RIR
 - In the recognition process, if the candidate RIR requests a review, ICANN must appoint a qualified, independent third-party to review the proposal for recognition



Title

Previously: 'Governance Document for the Recognition, Maintenance, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries'

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

Rationale

'Operation' better describes the nature of the operational requirements in the document

Preamble

Change

Longer preamble that clearly defines the document's purpose and goals

Rationale

Provides more context for the document and explain how its provisions are intended to advance certain goals

Implementation Procedures

Change

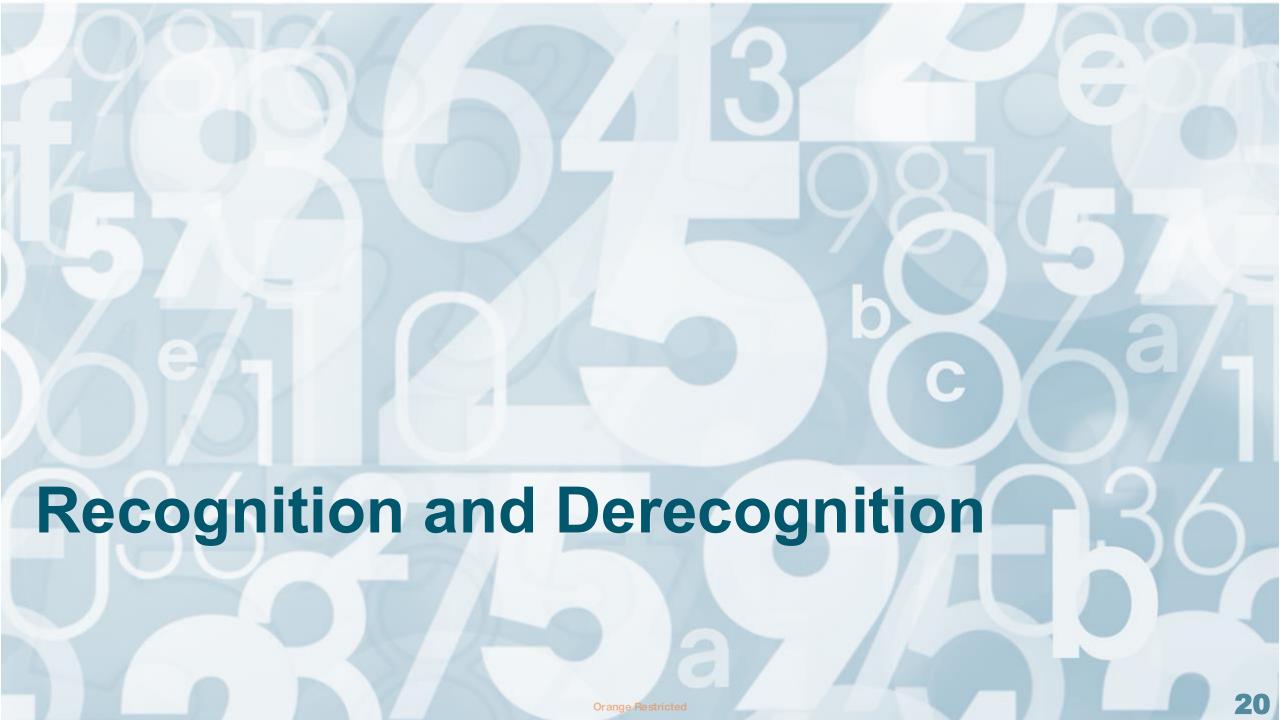
New **Section 1.3** notes that the the RIRs and ICANN may jointly develop specific additional procedures to implement the RIR Governance Document ('Implementation Procedures')

Rationale

Address the community concern that additional details or procedures will need to be developed around certain general obligations in the RIR Governance Document

Note

The Implementation Procedures cannot contradict or override any terms of the RIR Governance Document



Recognition Process

Each RIR shall consider the proposal for

recognition and make a recommendation in

CONSIDERATION

favor of or against.

A candidate Regional Internet Registry may apply to be recognized as an RIR by submitting a proposal for recognition in writing to the RIRs and to ICANN.

PROPOSAL

If the RIRs unanimously recommend recognizing the Candidate RIR, they shall then refer the proposal for recognition to ICANN

ICANN

DECISION

ICANN shall consider and make the final decision to approve or reject any

Proposal referred to it

APPROVAL

REJECTION

If the RIRs do not unanimously recommend recognizing the Candidate RIR, the proposal for recognition will be deemed rejected.

RECOGNITION **REVIEW**

The Candidate RIR may petition for an ICANN review. An independent third party will conduct the review, and will either send the proposal back to the RIRs for reconsideration or uphold the rejection.

Recognition

Change

 A candidate RIR may be recognized on less than unanimous support by the existing RIRs if an independent third party appointed by ICANN determines that a single RIR has made a material error of fact or provided an inadequate justification for its recommendation not to recognize the candidate RIR

Rationale

- There was concern that an RIR could object to recognizing a new RIR for inadequate or illegitimate reasons
- We provided a mechanism to overrule a dissenting RIR while protecting the need for RIRs to ensure that they are not forced into business relationships with new entities that may not be lawful in their jurisdictions

Recognition Review

The Candidate RIR may submit a written request to ICANN for a Recognition Review, outlining its reasoning with supporting evidence.

ICANN shall publish the Objection and appoint a qualified independent third party to conduct the Recognition Review

OBJECTION

The independent third party will prepare a report, which will be published by ICANN. If it determines that any RIR has made any material error of fact or provided inadequate justification, it shall refer the Proposal for Recognition back to the RIRs for reconsideration.

If only a single RIR does not recommend Recognizing the Candidate RIR upon reconsideration and the Candidate RIR reasonably believes that the Dissenting RIR's recommendation was made in error or without adequate justification, the Candidate RIR may lodge a final Objection with ICANN.

If the independent third party determines as a result of the final Recognition Review that: The Dissenting RIR has made any material error of fact or provided inadequate justification in its final recommendation; and The Candidate RIR satisfies all requirements for Recognition, the Dissenting RIR's recommendation shall be disregarded, and the Proposal for Recognition shall be referred to ICANN.

ICANN shall consider and make the final decision to approve or reject any Proposal referred to it

ICANN

DECISION

RECOGNITION REVIEW

RECONSIDERATION

Each RIR shall then reconsider the Proposal for Recognition, taking into account the independent third party's report and determination, but shall not be obligated to reach a different recommendation.

If all the RIRs provide adequate justification and uphold their original recommendation to not recognise the Candidate RIR, the proposal is rejected.

REJECTION

REVERSAL

Derecognition

A proposal for derecognition of an RIR may be submitted to the RIRs and ICANN by:

- Any RIR or group of RIRS;
- A group of Members of the RIR that is the subject of the Proposal, where such group consists of at least 25% of the RIR's total Members or 2,000 Members, whichever is lesser; or
- ICANN

PROPOSAL

The other RIRs and ICANN will publish the proposal, and the RIR subject to derecognition may respond to the claims made.

SUBMISSION & RESPONSE

If the RIRs unanimously recommend derecognition, they will refer the proposal to ICANN, who will make the final decision.

ICANN shall consider and make the final decision to approve or reject any Proposal referred to it

> ICANN DECISION

CONSIDERATION

Each RIR will consider the proposal and independently make a recommendation to either approve or reject the proposal. These recommendations and their reasons will be published. **REJECTION**

APPROVAL

If the RIRs do not unanimously recommend derecognition, the proposal is rejected.

Derecognition Proposal (1)

Change

Provided additional protections for an affected RIR in the derecognition process:

- Proposal: Strengthened criteria for derecognition proposal rationale and details required
- Response: Opportunity for affected RIR to publicly respond in writing
- Transparency: ICANN must publish the reasons for its decision

Rationale

It is important to ensure that the derecognition process is transparent, faithful to the requirements of the RIR Governance Document, and protective of the rights of the affected RIR

Derecognition Proposal (2)

Changes

- New threshold of 2,000 members or 25% of the members of an RIR, whichever is lower, to initiate the derecognition process
- Also allows for ICANN to initiate the derecognition process (but derecognition still requires RIR approval)

Rationale

- Different RIRs will have different numbers of members and different criteria for becoming a member
- Allowing ICANN to initiate derecognition provides additional neutrality



Regular Audits

Previously: General requirement for RIRs must undergo periodic audits

Now: Frequency is specified: each RIR must be audited at least once every **three** years

Rationale

- Provide more specificity around frequency of periodic audits
- Ensure that problems are identified early on

Ad Hoc Audits

Change

An ad hoc audit of an RIR can be requested by:

- The other RIRs by majority decision (previously required unanimity)
- 2,000 members or 25% of the members of the RIR, whichever is lower (new)
- ICANN (new)

Rationale

Provide additional mechanisms to catch problems early on



Emergency Continuity

New

- Mechanism to quickly and temporarily transfer an RIR's responsibilities to an 'Emergency Operator' in urgent situations
- Requires unanimous agreement of other RIRs and ICANN
- Must be time-limited, publicly justified, and followed by a community consultation

Rationale

Need to ensure continuity of service in emergency situations that don't involve derecognition or situations in which derecognition is being pursued but may take a long time

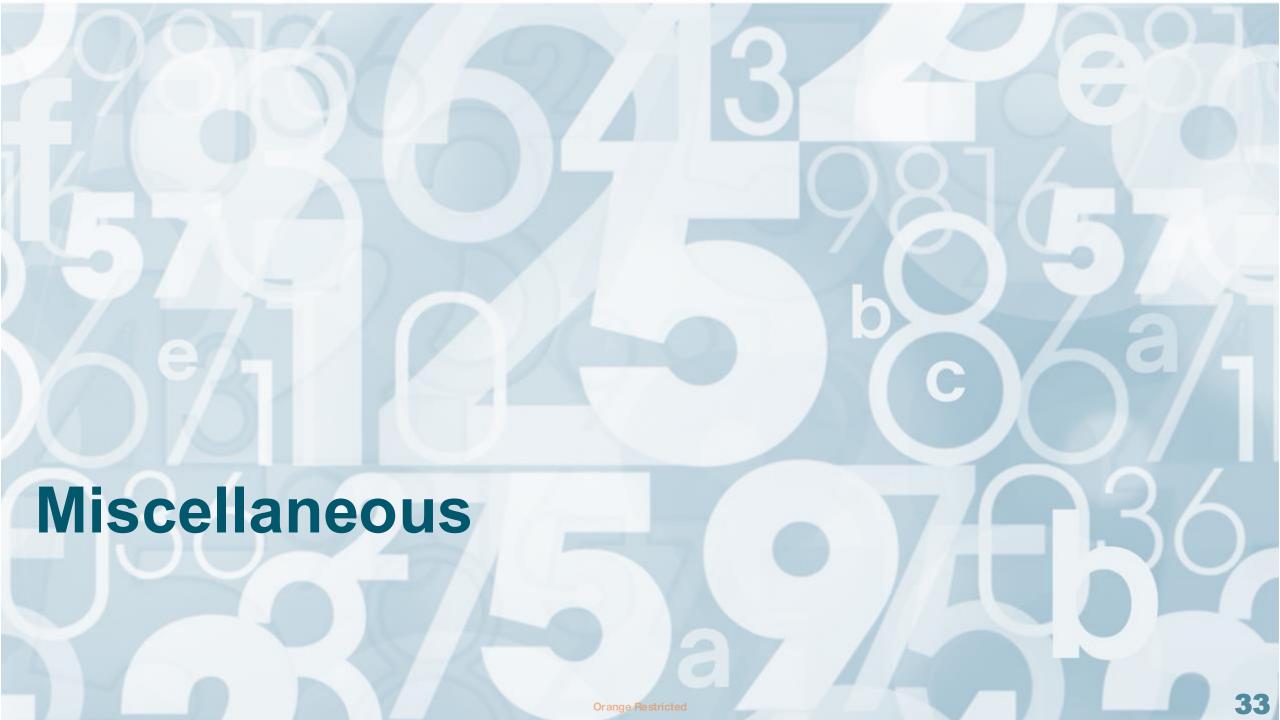
Emergency Continuity Protections

New

- Rationale: ICANN must publish rationale and scope of Emergency Continuity and initiate community engagement process as soon as possible
- Limitation: Emergency Continuity cannot exceed 90 days (unless formally renewed)
- Postmortem: RIRs and ICANN must conduct post-event review, publish report, and provide community feedback process

Rationale

- Ensure that Emergency Continuity process is accountable and does not become a substitute for derecognition
- Ensure lessons from Emergency Continuity are documented and RIR and ICANN communities remain engaged



Rectification

Changes

- Each amendment to the RIR Governance Document must specify a grace period to become compliant
- Three-year grace period to become compliant with any obligations that were not already contained in ICP-2 after adoption of the RIR Governance Document

Rationale

- Ensure clarity by requiring grace periods to be clearly specified in any amendment
- Provide current RIRs with the time necessary to align their processes with the RIR Governance Document

New Section on Dispute Resolution

4.1(q) Dispute Resolution

 Require each RIR to provide a fair and effective adjudicative mechanism for members to enforce their rights against the RIR

New Section on Good Faith

2.8 Good Faith

- Explicitly states that ICANN and all RIRs will act in good faith and with fair dealing under the RIR Governance Document
- Requires all actions to be undertaken promptly and within reasonable timeframes

Reminders

Feedback on this Consultation must be submitted by 7 November 2025.

icp2-review@afrinic.net

https://www.nro.net/policy/internetcoordination-policy-2/communityengagement/ Please share constructive feedback that is specific to this document.

We are particularly interested in hearing your views on whether this draft addresses questions and concerns with the previous draft.

This document does not address the implementation of the RIR governance framework; comments on implementation will be considered out of scope.



Thank You











