

AfriNIC and the Community

AfriNIC Public Policy Meetings

AfriNIC-6

AfriNIC 6th public policy meeting was held in Abuja, Nigeria from the 28th April to 4th May 2007. This meeting which was held jointly with AfNOG, AfREN, AfTLD and INET Africa exposed the latest works being carried out on the IPv6 as well as Internet Governance and IP number resources allocation policy in Africa. The main focus of this

meeting was the IPv4 address exhaustion and what can be done by the community to address issues being raised by this exhaustion. As an incentive for greater IPv6 take-up and usage within Africa, a new fee schedule was approved for IPv6 Membership fees. Also, a 50% discount has been proposed to universities and research networks on set-up and annual membership fees, referenced earlier in this report.

One of the numerous outcomes of this meeting was the setting up of Birds of Feather sessions on IPv4 exhaustion, anti-spam and the Policy Development Process.

A large proportion of the meeting was also dedicated to discussions on the six proposed policies. Three policies reached consensus, two were withdrawn and one did not reach consensus, and the discussion will continue on the policy mailing list (rpd@afriNIC.net). It was also the opportunity for AfriNIC during that day to give an update of its activities as well as its plan for the remaining of 2007. This open, bottom-up process is central to the administration and management of the Internet.

The meeting also included two days of hands-on IPv6 training which was attended by 50 delegates. The training, which was provided by Cisco System and Consulintel, covered all aspects of IPv6 deployment, and was also used to train African trainers to whom AfriNIC will have recourse to for future training.



AfriNIC-6 was sponsored by Cisco System, Consulintel, Internet Society, Netcom, Linkserve, Skannet and Cyber Space. More information about the meeting can be found at <http://www.afrinic.net/meeting/afrinic-6>.

AfriNIC7

AfriNIC 7th public policy meeting was held in Durban, South Africa from the 23rd to 28th September 2007. This meeting exposed the latest works being carried out on the IPv6 as well as Internet Governance and IP number resources allocation policy in Africa.

One day was dedicated to Policy Makers and Internet Governance in Africa. Two round table sessions were held on that day to discuss issues related to 'Internet Governance Forum and Policy Makers in Africa: Expectation and Meaningful participation' and 'Enhance cooperation and participation of policy maker in Africa to Internet governance debate'.

A one-day IPv6 conference was also held during the meeting and this gave an opportunity to the delegates to learn about research being performed in the field in the continent.



During the meeting, MyAfriNIC, the Member Portal was also launched. This portal will allow members to manage their contact details, their IP Number Resources online as well as view their billing details.

A large proportion of the meeting was also dedicated to discussions on the four proposed policies. Three policies reached consensus one did not reach consensus and the discussion will continue on the policy mailing list (rpd@afrinic.net) regarding this one and two other policies which were not

presented for adoption. It was also the opportunity for AfriNIC during that day to give an update of its activities as well as its plan for the remaining of 2007 and for 2008.

The meeting also included three days of hands-on IPv6 training which was attended by 50 delegates. The training, which was provided by Cisco System and Consulintel, covered all aspects of IPv6 deployment.

AfriNIC-7 was hosted by the Department of Communications of South Africa and was sponsored by Cisco Systems, Internet Solutions, Internet Society, Uniforum and VSNL/Teleglobe.

communications area

Training

AfriNIC continued with its IPv6 awareness campaign by providing training in the following countries:

Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Tanzania, Angola, South Africa and Benin

In 2007, AfriNIC board also resolved the following:

"Noting the imminent exhaustion of the available pool of IPv4 address space, the AfriNIC Board resolves that efforts to draw the Public's attention to the problem and potential solutions such as IPv6 should be intensified, and instructs the staff to take appropriate actions in this regard

With this board resolution as guideline, the AfriNIC training team has planned for more than 15 IPv6 training sessions in 2008. The training plan can be seen at <http://www.afrinic.net/training>.

Survey

AfriNIC carried out its first member survey in February 2007. The feedback obtained enabled us to focus our attention to the areas which are of most concern to our members. Feedback was sought regarding the following:

- Content and Navigability of the Website
- The Policy Development Process
- Newsletter
- The Meeting Format

From the feedback obtained, the main issue identified was the website. In this regards, a new website will be launched in 2008.

2. Membership Liaison

New Membership Process

We have reviewed our membership process for simplification. Instead of having two documents to fill in, members now have only one document that can be filled in online via MyAfrinic.

ICONS

Afrinic has joined this APNIC's initiative to enable the African Internet Community to expand their knowledge and share information with a broad user base. ICONS is the Internet Community of Online Networking Specialists. We share network operation experience and knowledge of special interest to the African Internet community. By becoming a registered user, you will be able to upload information, discuss issues and ideas, and help shape the future of ICONS.

IPv6 Portal / Flyer

Afrinic has dedicated a new page on its website to IPv6 where the community can find information about IPv6 deployment, statistics and other articles.

Afrinic has also published an IPv6 flyer to provide more general information to the community about IPv6.

communications area

Please see <http://www.afrinic.net/policy.htm> for more information about the policy development process at Afrinic and details about the policies being discussed.



Multilateral Collaboration

Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

AfriNIC participated at the second Internet Governance Forum which was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil from 12 to 15th November 2007. Adiel A. Akplogan participated in the IPv4 to IPv6 workshop and Alain Aina was present on the panel in one of the main sessions on Critical Internet Infrastructures.

AfriNIC was also present through the Number Resources Organization (NRO) at the IGF. The NRO had a booth to provide information about number resources management to delegates.

Internet Society (ISOC)

The Internet Society helped members of the community to participate in AfriNIC meetings in 2007 in Abuja, Nigeria and Durban, South Africa. AfriNIC also provided logistical support to the Internet Society for them to hold sessions during AfriNIC meetings.

African Top Level Domain Organisation (AfTLD)

AfriNIC and AfTLD have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the 3rd May 2007 in Abuja, Nigeria during AfriNIC-6 meeting. Both organisations will collaborate to organise joint capacity building events on the continent. AfriNIC will also be providing financial management and administrative services to AfTLD.

AfriNIC also sponsored the AfTLD workshop which was held in Cairo in May 2007.

New Staff

Duksh Kumar Koonjoobeharry joined AfriNIC in December 2007. He is responsible for maintaining and generating content for the AfriNIC website as well as handling all Graphic Designing for AfriNIC. Duksh has previously worked as Multimedia Designer/Web Developer in several BPO organisations in Mauritius

