The internet ecosystem consists of a collaborative network of organizations responsible for standardization, coordination, administration, and day-to-day management in the Internet sphere, including the IETF, ICANN performing the IANA function, the RIRs, governments, IGOs, and NGOs, and many others. Each organization has a specific role and provides fundamental value to the overall functioning of the Internet.

Global Internet Number Resource policy is developed through a bottom-up, open, and inclusive approach. Beginning in geographic regions, issues are raised through the Regional Internet Registry (RIR) communities in the Internet Number Resource Organization (NRO) and brought into the Address Supporting Organization (ASO). Global policies are forwarded to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) Board of Directors and upon ratification, new policy is implemented by ICANN’s Internet Assigned Numbers Authority department (IANA) working cooperatively with the RIRs and their constituencies in the respective regions.

The ASO AC oversees the global policy development process for the creation of global Internet Number Resource policies, and delivers agreed policies to ICANN’s Board of Directors for ratification.

The ICANN Board ratifies global Internet Number Resource policies for implementation.