

The logo for ICANN | ASO, featuring the text "ICANN | ASO" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The background is a dark blue-grey with a network of white lines and dots, resembling a globe or a data network.

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Address Supporting Organization

ASO AC – ICANN Board

Presenting the Draft “RIR Governance Document”

ICANN 83 | 8 June 2025

The background of the slide features a network diagram with various nodes and connecting lines in shades of blue and green. The nodes are represented by small circles, some of which are highlighted with larger, semi-transparent circles. The lines are thin and light-colored, creating a complex web of connections.

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Address Supporting Organization

About the ASO AC

ICANN ASO AC (Address Council)

What is it?	The Address Supporting Organization (ASO) was established by ICANN to advise on Internet number resource policy
How is it organized?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 15 members (3 from each RIR region)● In each region - two are elected, one is appointed by the RIR
What does it do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 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

2025 Address Council 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)

*Appointed by RIR Board

ICP-2 Review

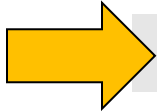
Background Information, Process and Timeline

What is ICP-2?

- Internet Coordination Policy 2
- Document that provides criteria for recognizing new RIRs
 - Examples
 - Sufficiently large proposed service region
 - Support of local numbering community
 - Technical capability
- <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/new-rirs-criteria-2012-02-25-en>

ICP-2 Timeline (New RIRs under 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



Why revisit ICP-2?

- 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 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 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

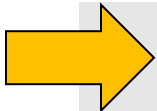
ASO AC reviewed community feedback on ICP-2 Principles Document received during public consultation

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



Proposed Principles to Update ICP-2 *(completed)*

Core Principles and Consultation

The ASO AC drafted proposed principles that would form the basis of updating ICP-2. The principles were shared with the RIR and ICANN communities for feedback from 8 October to 6 December 2024.

ICANN Public Comment: 14 responses received

RIR Questionnaire: 298 responses received

The responses were analysed, and a summary report of the RIR Questionnaire was published in February 2025. Input from both processes was used to inform the drafting of the document.

ICP-2 Principles Consultation Report



<https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/icp-2-principles-questionnaire-report-and-data/>

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Introducing the Draft “RIR Governance Document”

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

Draft “RIR Governance Document”



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

The draft “RIR Governance Document” represents a comprehensive update to ICP-2, introducing detailed governance structures, operational requirements, and procedures for the full lifecycle management of RIRs, all developed through extensive community consultation. The draft document:

- Clarifies scope and lifecycle management
- Formalizes governance structures
- Strengthens operational requirements
- Clarifies roles, responsibilities, and procedures

Clarified Scope and Lifecycle Management

Original ICP-2 (2001): Focused primarily on the criteria for the establishment of new RIRs.

RIR Governance Document (2025): Clarifies the scope to encompass the entire lifecycle of RIRs, including:

- **Recognition:** Criteria and processes for recognizing new RIRs.
- **Operation:** Ongoing obligations and requirements for RIRs to maintain recognition.
- **Derecognition:** Establishes procedures for the potential derecognition of RIRs that fail to meet specified criteria.

Formalization of Governance Structures

Original ICP-2: Outlined principles such as neutrality, impartiality, and bottom-up policy development but lacked detailed governance structures.

RIR Governance Document: Introduces more detailed governance requirements, including:

- **Member-Controlled Governance:** Majority of an RIR's governing body must be elected by its members.
- **Corporate Governance:** Requires RIRs to adhere to good corporate governance procedures.
- **Anti-Capture Measures:** Requires RIRs to implement controls to prevent any single entity or group from gaining undue influence over an RIR.

Strengthened Operational Requirements

Original ICP-2: Emphasized technical capabilities and the provision of registration services.

RIR Governance Document: Expands operational expectations to include:

- **Audit Obligations:** RIRs must undergo regular audits by external and independent auditors to ensure compliance.
- **Transparency:** Requires comprehensive public documentation of governance, activities, and finances.
- **Continuity Planning:** Mandates procedures and redundancies to ensure service continuity, including the ability for another RIR to assume services if necessary.

Clarification of Roles, Responsibilities, and Procedures

Original ICP-2: Provided general guidelines while only implying the roles of various organizations.

RIR Governance Document: Clearly delineates responsibilities:

- **RIRs:** Must initially approve any proposal to recognize or derecognize an RIR.
- **ICANN:** Exercises final authority to approve or reject proposals, following consultation with RIRs.
- **Procedures:** Specifies procedures and approval thresholds for proposals.

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Consultation

14 April 2025 - 27 May 2025

ICANN Public Comment Closed on 27 May 2025

The proposed “Governance Document for the Recognition, Maintenance, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)” (“the RIR Governance Document”) sets forth the

- Rules and criteria for recognizing new RIRs
- Operating obligations and requirements of RIRs
- Rules and criteria for derecognizing RIRs

If adopted by ICANN and the RIRs, the RIR Governance Document would supersede and replace the [Internet Coordination Policy 2 \(ICP-2\)](#).

<https://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/proceeding/governance-document-for-the-recognition-maintenance-and-derecognition-of-rirs-14-04-2025/submissions>

The background of the slide features a network of interconnected nodes and lines in shades of light blue and teal. The nodes are represented by small circles, some of which are highlighted with larger, semi-transparent circles. The lines connect these nodes, creating a complex web-like structure.

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Community Engagements Planned

ASO AC at ICANN 83

Sunday, 8 June

- ASO and ICANN Board, 09:00-10:30

Monday, 9 June

- ASO and At-Large, 10:45-12:15, South Hall 3C
- ASO and RSSAC, 13:45-15:00, South Hall 1

Tuesday, 10 June

- APAC Space, 09:00-10:15, North Hall
- ASO and ISPCP, 13:45-15:00, Terrace 2B
- ASO Information Session, 15:30-17:00, Terrace 2A

Wednesday, 11 June

- Africa Space, 09:00-10:15, South Hall 3 A/B
- ASO and GAC, 11:30-12:15, Forum Hall

ICP-2 Timeline

The Draft “RIR Governance Document” Consultation

14 April 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft “RIR RIR Governance Document” published• RIR consultations in each region and ICANN Public Comment proceeding launched
27 May 2025	Public consultation closes
 9-12 June 2025	ASO AC will review feedback received
September 2025	The revised “RIR Governance” document will be published
Q4 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final review and revision of updated document• Begin NRO and ICANN approval and adoption process

A background network diagram consisting of a complex web of thin, light blue lines connecting various nodes. Some nodes are represented by small, solid blue circles, while others are larger, semi-transparent light blue circles. The overall aesthetic is clean and technical, suggesting a digital or network environment.

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ICANN's Role

ICANN's Role under the RIR Governance Document

- (1) Changes to RIR Status
- (2) Auditing Ongoing Compliance with the RIR Governance Document
- (3) Amending the RIR Governance Document

ICANN's Role (Changes to RIR Status)

Recognition Process under ICP-2

- ICANN seems to have sole authority to recognize new RIRs:
 - “[T]his document provides criteria and guidelines specifically for ICANN to take into account when evaluating applications for recognition of new RIRs.”
 - “[I]t is the responsibility of ICANN to approve the establishment of new RIRs.”

Recognition Process under RIR Governance Document

Section 2.3(a)

- **Proposal:** A candidate RIR may apply to be recognized by submitting a proposal to the RIRs and to ICANN
- **Step 1 (RIR Recommendation):** RIRs must unanimously approve (“recommend”) the proposal for it to advance to the next step
 - Otherwise, the proposal is rejected (one exception)
- **Step 2 (ICANN Approval):** ICANN makes the final decision whether to approve/reject
 - According to ICANN’s standard/appropriate decision-making process

Derecognition Process under RIR Governance Document

Section 2.3(b)

- A proposal to derecognize an RIR may be submitted to the RIRs and ICANN by
 - Any RIR or group of RIRs
 - At least 25% of the members of the RIR to be derecognized
- **Step 1 (RIR Recommendation):** All RIRs (except for the affected RIR) must unanimously approve (“recommend”) the proposal for it to advance to the next step
 - Otherwise, the proposal is rejected, and the RIR remains recognized
- **Step 2 (ICANN Approval):** ICANN makes the final decision whether to approve/reject
 - According to ICANN’s standard/appropriate decision-making process

Procedural Details

Section 2.3(c)

- **Order:** A proposal to recognize or derecognize an RIR must first be approved/recommended by the requisite number of RIRs before ICANN can act on it
- **Origination:** ICANN cannot initiate any proposal to recognize or derecognize an RIR
- **Consultation:** ICANN must first consult with and give substantial consideration to the input of each RIR, including the affected RIR, before making the final decision

Reconsideration/Appeal

- **Reconsideration:** If the RIRs do not recommend recognizing a new RIR (such that the proposal doesn't advance to ICANN):
 - Candidate RIR may petition to ICANN to review the proposal
 - ICANN may refer the proposal back to the RIRs for reconsideration
 - But RIRs are not obligated to reach a different decision on reconsideration

[Section 2.3(a)(iv)]
- **Appeal:** No procedures for “appealing” an adverse decision by ICANN

ICANN's Role (Auditing RIR Compliance)

Audits

- **Regular:** Each RIR must undergo periodic audits to ensure compliance with the RGD
 - Periodicity not specified
 - Conducted by ICANN or party appointed by ICANN
- **Ad Hoc:** RIRs can trigger an ad hoc audit
 - If they reasonably believe an RIR is not complying with the RGD
 - As an alternative or precursor to derecognition
 - Require unanimous decision by the RIRs (minus the affected RIR)
 - Conducted by ICANN or party appointed by ICANN

ICANN's Role (Amending the RGD)

Amendment/Review

- **Amendment:** RGD may be amended by unanimous agreement of the RIRs + ICANN
 - (after consulting their respective communities)
- **Periodic Review:** NRO and ICANN will periodically assess whether to review/amend the RGD at least every 10 years

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Questions?