

ICANN | ASO

Address Supporting Organization

ICANN 86 | ASO Information Session

**RIR Governance Document:
Approaching the Finishing Line**

Amy Potter, Esteban Lescano
and Kevin Blumberg



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?	<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
How long do members serve?	Varies by region
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
When does it meet?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly virtual meetings• Annual in-person meeting
Focus of work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct ICP-2 Review process• Conduct election for Seat 9 (vacant) of the ICANN Board• Monitor and support Global Policy Development Process

2026 ASO AC Members



Saul Stein*
(AFRINIC)



Kevin Blumberg*
(ARIN)



Alyssa Quinn
(ARIN)



Amy Potter
(ARIN)



Akinori
Maemura*
(APNIC)



Nicole Chan
(APNIC)



Devesh Tyagi
(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

Remembering Alan Barrett

At this ICANN meeting, we mourn the passing of **Alan Barrett**.

Among his many achievements, Alan served on the AFRINIC Board, spent a decade on the NRO Number Council, and led AFRINIC as its CEO from 2015 to 2019. More recently, he represented the Address Supporting Organization on the ICANN Board – appointed in 2021 and again in 2024.



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 **ongoing responsibilities**
 - Potential **derecognition** of an RIR that can no longer adequately provide for the needs of its numbering community

ICP-2 Review Project

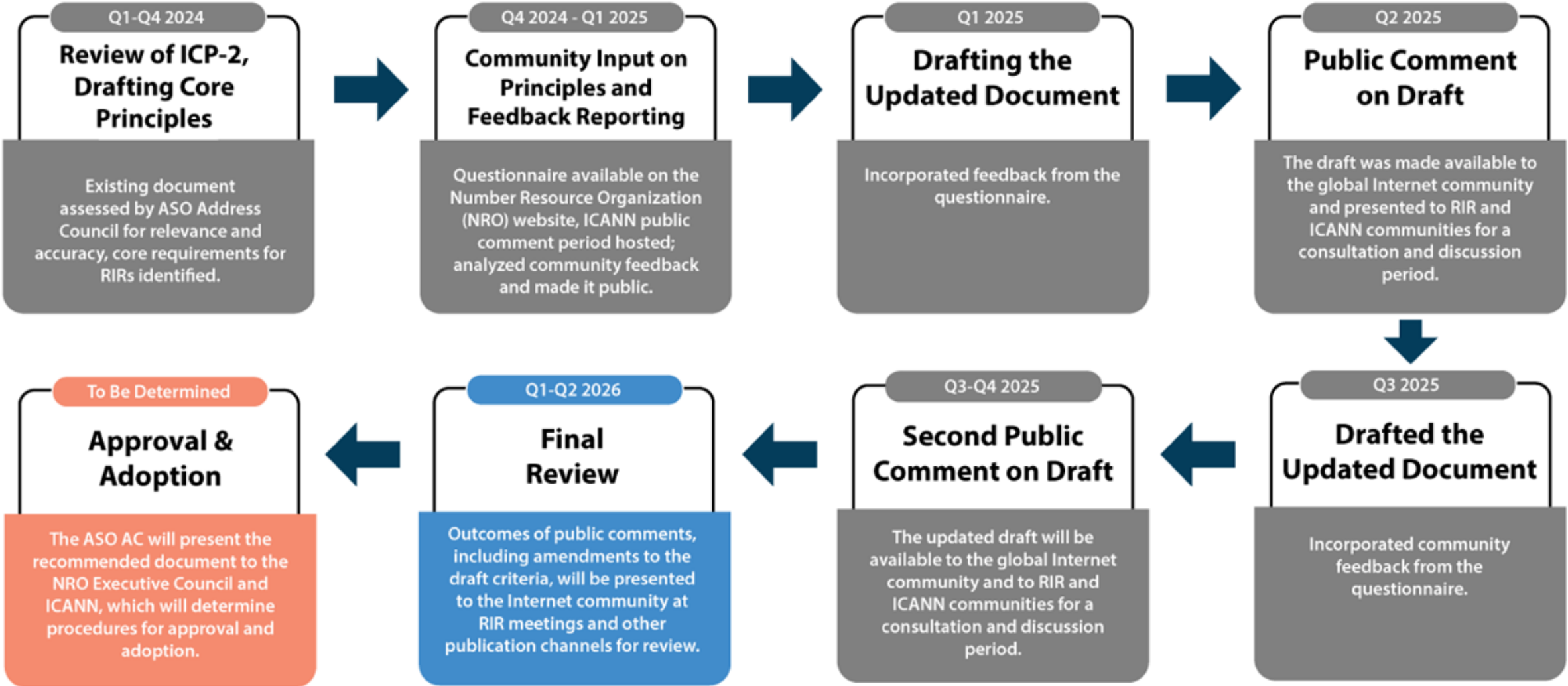
On 25 October 2023, the NRO EC* asked the ASO AC to help with two tasks aimed at strengthening the RIR System:

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/>

The ICP-2 Review Process Explained

In 2023, the ASO Address Council began reviewing Internet Coordination Policy 2 (ICP-2), which was developed in 2001 to set criteria for the establishment of new Regional Internet Registries. The review is needed to ensure the criteria remains relevant, accurate, and aligned with today's Internet landscape. Review of ICP-2 is an open and transparent consultation process, allowing participation from across the global Internet community.




ICP-2 Review Work Till 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
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
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
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 finalise draft document

Documents Available

- All documents are available on the NRO website <https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/>
- Three community consultations and ICANN Public Comment processes held so far
- Summary of comments received published for transparency
- Status reports published to provide updates on work in progress in Q1 2026 and May 2026
- Engagements are listed on the Community Engagements page with links to archives <https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/community-engagement/>



**RIR Governance Document Version 2
Consultation**
Status Report May 2026

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
INTRODUCTION	2
ITEMS IN PROGRESS AND UNDER DRAFTING	3
Recognition Threshold (previously Unanimity Minus One)	3
Status: In progress.....	3
Recognition Review (Independent Third Party)	3
Status: In progress.....	4
Emergency Continuity Initiation and Renewal Procedures	4
Status: In progress.....	4
Derecognition Thresholds	5
Status: No change.....	5
Audits	5
Status: Drafting.....	6
Ad Hoc Audit (renamed Compliance Review)	6
Status: Drafting.....	6
Document Structure	6
Status: Drafting.....	7
Transition and Continuity	7
Status: Drafting.....	7
Audit Obligations	7
Status: Drafting.....	7
Derecognition (Audit as a part of derecognition).....	7
Status: No change.....	7
Derecognition (Rehabilitation as a part of derecognition).....	8
Status: Drafting.....	8

Where are we now?



ICANN 86 Activities

- 15 working group sessions to discuss the updated draft
- One open session to demonstrate work
- Discussions with ICANN team to get clarity on ICANN's role and responsibilities
- Information session to provide an update

The ASO AC is planning to submit the document to the NRO EC in the coming weeks

Version 3: Overview of Pending Changes

- **Definitions:** Updated to include terms “compliance review” and removes terms no longer applicable to the document
- **Document Structure:** The document is being restructured for improved flow
- **Recognition:** Requires a threshold of 2/3rds majority of RIRs and ICANN approval
- **Compliance Review:** Allows for members to request a review of RIR compliance against specific provisions in this document in between periodic audits
- **Emergency Continuity:** Updated process also allows an affected RIR to trigger an Emergency Continuity e.g. in cases of natural disaster to allow the Emergency Operator to provide services
- **Derecognition:** Rehabilitation is explicitly included as a step prior to derecognition

Updates on Key Issues



Document structure

Background:

- Same issue is addressed across multiple sections

Feedback:

- Document is too complex and would benefit from restructuring

- Document will be restructured for improved flow and clarity

Recognition Threshold

Version 2

- **Previously unanimity minus one**
- Allows for recognition of a Candidate RIR with one dissenting RIR under certain conditions

Feedback

- Conflict of interest among multiple RIRs
- Existing RIRs will be required to cooperate with any new RIRs
- Recognition process should account for effective coordination and cooperation
- Possibility that an RIR may be unable to act or take decisions on recognition

Agreement that the process:

- Should require a two-thirds threshold
- Must consider possible conflicts of interest

In progress

- Discussions ongoing on ICANN's role in the process

Recognition Review

Version 2

- If the existing RIRs do not unanimously recommend recognition of a new candidate RIR, the candidate RIR may request an ICANN recognition review, potentially conducted by an independent third party

Feedback

- The document should prescribe minimum attributes of the independent third party
- Whether the qualifications for the third party should be in the implementation details instead of the RIR Governance Document
- ICANN may wish to evaluate whether it wishes to use a third party

- The approval threshold for recognition has been lowered to two-thirds
- The process requires transparency and publishing the rationale behind decision-making
- An independent third-party review mechanism is not required by ICANN

Audits and Compliance Review

Version 2

- Can be initiated by any RIR or group of RIRs; a group of members of the impacted RIR (25% of RIR's total membership or 2,000 members, whichever is lower); ICANN
- Uses the term “ad hoc” audits

Feedback

- Range of comments:
 - Lowering the threshold
 - Anti-misuse mechanisms should be considered

- Frequency of audits updated to once every five years
- “Ad hoc” audit renamed “compliance review”
- Members can request a “compliance review” in between periodic audits
- Threshold for compliance check lowered to 1,000 members or 15% of the RIR's membership, whichever is lower
- Mechanism to prevent misuse of compliance mechanisms. Members must first make efforts to address grievances through the existing RIR mechanisms

Emergency Continuity (Initiation and Renewal Procedures)

Version 2

- Procedures require unanimous agreement of all other RIRs and ICANN

Feedback

- Concern that emergency measures could be extended without enough oversight
- Unanimity requirement too high
- Add clear criteria for extending Emergency Continuity procedure
- Concern that 90 days may be inadequate to recover from the emergency situation

- Simplifying initiation mechanism; threshold to initiate will not require unanimity
- Allows for affected RIR to initiate an Emergency Continuity for themselves
- No limit for renewals
- Text will allow the Emergency Operator to take a staged approach in providing the affected RIR Services

Derecognition Threshold

Version 2

- Can be initiated by:
 - Any RIR or group of RIRs;
 - A group of members of the impacted RIR (25% of RIR's total membership or 2,000 members, whichever is lower);
 - ICANN

Feedback

- Range of comments:
 - Lowering the threshold
 - Anti-capture mechanisms added

- Derecognition is final recourse and threshold is deliberately high
- No change to member ability to initiate process
- Audit threshold separated from derecognition process

Rehabilitation

Background:

- Article 6.2 requires efforts to be made to rehabilitate a non-compliant RIR before derecognition, however rehabilitation is not listed as a step under the derecognition process under Article 2.3(b)

Feedback:

- Need to include rehabilitation as a step in the derecognition process

- Text will be amended to include the obligation to attempt to rehabilitate an RIR before further derecognition steps are taken

Transition and Continuity

Background:

- Smooth transfer of services and operations of Derecognized RIR to an interim or successor entity as directed by ICANN

Feedback:


- Article should address transition in more detail, to ensure communities remained engaged during the transition and to protect the rights of affected resource holders

- Text outlining requirements for a transition plan that ensures continuity of services included in v3

Looking ahead



ICP-2 Review Timeline (Upcoming)

Q1 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Status Report Q1 2026 shared at APNIC 61 and ICANN 85• In-person working group at ICANN 85
Q2 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Status Report May 2026 shared at ARIN 57, LACNIC 45, and RIPE 92• In-person working group at ICANN 86, 8-11 June 2026
Q2-Q3 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final ASO AC version of the Document delivered to NRO EC
 Q3-Q4 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RIRs and ICANN complete review of the Document• Document presented to RIR and ICANN communities
Q4 2026 onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NRO and ICANN begin approval and adoption process, including final call for comments

Document Handover

- The publication of the next version will complete the ASO AC's work on revising ICP-2
- The final draft will be handed back to the NRO EC (the RIRs) and ICANN for completion
- Any further community consultation leading up to the adoption of the document will be managed by the RIRs and ICANN
- We've been working on updating ICP-2 since ICANN 78 in 2023
- Our sincere thanks to all stakeholders who have provided input throughout this process



Questions?

Thank You