
GAC Meeting with the Address Supporting Organization (ASO)

Session 17

Session Objective

The GAC will be meeting with the Address Supporting Organization (ASO) to discuss public policy matters of mutual interest.

Both groups have not had an opportunity to meet at an ICANN meeting for a long time, ICANN81 is an opportunity for both groups to reconnect and facilitate future dialogue and collaboration.

Background

The ASO is one of ICANN's three Supporting Organizations (SOs) that reviews and develops recommendations on Internet Protocol (IP) address policy and advises the ICANN Board on policy issues relating to the operation, assignment, and management of IP addresses.

The ASO does not develop policy relating to Internet number resources itself but rather ensures that the [Global Policy Development Process \(GPDP\)](#) has been correctly followed in each Regional Internet Registry ([RIR](#)) region.

- **ASO and NRO**

The Address Supporting Organization (ASO) and the Number Resource Organization (NRO) are two separate bodies. While they are closely linked, they each have distinct responsibilities.

The [NRO](#), as the coordinating body for the five RIRs, fulfills the role, responsibilities and functions of the ASO. These functions and responsibilities are outlined in the [ICANN-ASO Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#).

The NRO provides secretariat support for the ASO, acts as a coordinating mechanism for the five RIRs and participates, as the ASO, in the [ICANN Empowered Community](#).

- **ASO Address Council**

The ICANN-ASO MoU states that the ASO shall have an Address Council ([ASO AC](#)) consisting of the 15 members of the Number Resource Organization (NRO) Number Council (NRO NC).

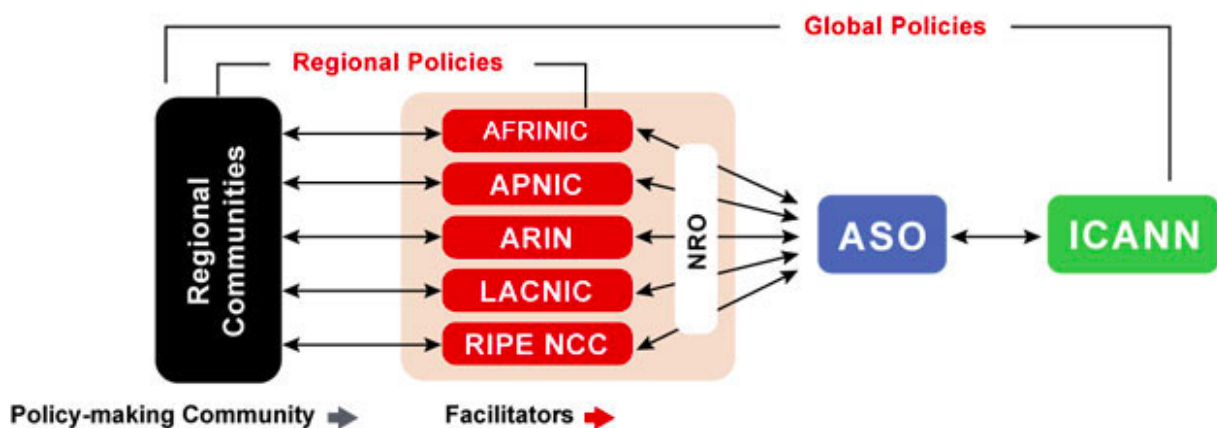
Among other activities, the ASO AC oversees the [GPDP](#), provides recommendations to the ICANN Board on the management of IP address space and the recognition of new RIRs, and [appoints Directors](#) to serve in the ASO's two seats (Seat 9 and Seat 10) on the ICANN Board.

Each of the five RIRs appoints three members to the ASO AC. Each RIR's community appoints two members and one member is appointed by the RIR's Executive Board.

While similar in name, the ASO and the ASO AC are distinct groups and have separate responsibilities.

- **Global Policies**

Global policies govern how Public Technical Identifiers ([PTI](#)), the organization charged with performing the [IANA functions](#), issues Internet number resources to the Regional Internet Registries ([RIRs](#)). The RIRs then distribute these Internet number resources to their members according to the [regional policies](#) developed by their respective communities.



Current Status and Recent Developments for discussion at ICANN81

At ICANN81, the ASO will update the GAC on the review of the Internet Coordination Policy ([ICP](#))-2: Criteria for Establishment of New Regional Internet Registries.

The review is meant to set forth core principles for providing a stronger Regional Internet Registry (RIR) system with greater accountability to the Internet community.

- **Public Comment Proceeding**

On 25 October 2023, the Number Resource Organization Executive Council (NRO EC) [asked](#) the ASO AC to establish and manage a process to propose updates to the Internet Coordination Policy 2 (ICP-2) document, in consultation with each of the RIR communities, to provide the RIR system with greater accountability to the Internet community.

You can find an overview of the ASO AC activities since October 2023 leading up to this Public Comment proceeding [here](#).

This Public Comment solicits feedback on the ICP-2 version 2 principles document. It complements an NRO EC effort to solicit feedback from each of the RIR communities. The Public Comment proceeding opened on 8 October 2024 and will be closing on 25 November 2024:

<https://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/proceeding/proposed-internet-coordination-policy-2-icp-2-version-2-principles-08-10-2024>

After feedback is received on this principles document, by 25 November 2024, the ASO AC will proceed to draft a full version of a proposed revised ICP-2 document based on the feedback and present that document to the same stakeholders for further feedback.

Key Reference Documents

- [ICANN ASO - How it Works](#) (*ICANN79 GAC capacity development session*)
- [ICP-2 Review webpage](#)
- [ICP-2 Review timeline](#)

Document Administration

Title	ICANN81 GAC Session Briefing - GAC Meeting with the ASO
Distribution	GAC Members (before meeting) and Public (after meeting)
Distribution Date	Version #1: 25 October 2024