ASO AC Teleconference
Wednesday, 1 July 2026
12:00 PM UTC
DRAFT Minutes

Attendees	Observers	Apologies
AFRINIC Saul Stein (Saul S.) Musa Stephen Honlue (Musa S.) Nitin Kelawon Sookun (Nitin K.) **APNIC** Nicole Chan (Nicole C.) Devesh Tyagi (Devesh T.) Maemura Akinori (Akinori M.) **ARIN** Alyssa Quinn (Alyssa Q.) Amy Potter (Amy P.) – Vice Chair Kevin Blumberg (Kevin B.) **LACNIC** Esteban Lescano (Esteban L.) – Vice Chair Jorge Villa (Jorge V.) Ricardo Patara (Ricardo P.) **RIPE NCC** Constanze Buerger (Constanze B.) Hervé Clément (Hervé C.) – Chair **Secretariat** Germán Valdez (Germán V.) Laureana Pavón (Laureana P.) – Minutes	**AFRINIC** Madhvi Gokool **APNIC** Bhadrika Panchal **ARIN** Eddie Diego John Sweeting Hollis Kara Michael Abejuela **LACNIC** Ignacio Estrada **RIPE NCC** Ulka Athale Angela Dall'Ara **ICANN Org** Andrew McConachie Ozan Sahin Carlos Reyes **ICANN Board** Christian Kaufmann (Christian K.) **Community** Deborah Swati Lall Mirjam Kühne Julien Massé Christopher Quesada Oscar robles Kat Hunter	Andrei Robachevsky (Andrei R.)

New and Updated Action Items

New Action Item 260701-1: Akinori M. to prepare a suggested ASO AC input on the Review of Reviews draft report.

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Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call
3. Agenda Review
4. Approval Minutes June 2026
5. Review Open Actions
6. RIR Governance Document Update
7. ICANN Board Seat 9 Vacancy
8. CCG RoR Update
9. RIR Meeting Update/Reports
    a) AFRINIC 37
10. AOB
11. Closed Session
    a) Draft Team Consultation to ASO AC
    b) ICANN Board Seat 9 Election
12. Adjourn

1. Welcome

Hervé C. opened the meeting at 12:01 pm UTC. He noted that AFRINIC had recently announced the election of two NRO NC representatives: Musa Stephen Honlue and Nitin Kelawon Sookun. Their terms began on June 2026, with terms ending on 31 December 2029 and 31 December 2028 respectively. The Chair welcomed the new members and noted that this restored full Council representation for the first time since 2022.

2. Roll Call

Roll call was taken and quorum was established.

3. Agenda Review

Hervé C. reviewed the draft agenda, including the items scheduled for the open session and the closed session.

No additional items were proposed. The agenda was accepted as presented.

4. Approval Minutes June 2026

Hervé C. noted that a minor correction had been submitted regarding the attendee list for the June 2026 minutes. The Secretariat confirmed that the correction had been noted.

A motion to approve the minutes was called by from Esteban L., with support of Constanze B.

There were no objections and no abstentions. The June 2026 minutes were approved.

5. Review Open Actions

Action Item 240605-3: Hervé C. to prepare a new monthly report on the ICP-2 review and send it to the ASO AC for feedback. Hervé will then send the final version of this report to the EC prior to the next NRO EC meeting

Hervé C. reported that the action item to prepare a monthly report on the ICP-2 Review and send it to the NRO EC had been completed for the current month. He explained that, following ICANN 86, the RIR Governance Document had been completed by the drafting team and was under ASO AC review until 2 July 2026. The aim was to send the document to the NRO EC on 6 July 2026.

Esteban L suggested keeping the action item open, noting that one final report may be needed this month to reflect the progress made and the completion of the ASO AC's work at this stage of the process.

New Action Item 260506-1: Akinori M. to study the RoR CCG's document "Refined Outline of Suggested Reviews System" and alert the ASO AC if he identifies any issues requiring the group's attention.

Akinori M. reported that the situation regarding the Review of Reviews Cross-Community Group had evolved and that he would provide a substantive update later in the meeting.

Status: CLOSED

6. RIR Governance Document Update

Hervé C. introduced the update on the RIR Governance Document. He recalled that the ASO AC had met extensively during ICANN 86 in Seville, holding approximately 15 working sessions, including one session open to the community and a wrap-up presentation at the end of the meeting. He noted that the ASO AC worked with RIR legal teams, ICANN Legal, and other support teams during ICANN 86. These interactions helped clarify several issues in the document and allowed the drafting team to complete a revised draft.

Amy P. reported that the drafting team had produced two drafts following ICANN 86. The RIR legal teams had provided feedback on the post-Seville draft, and the revised draft had been circulated to the full ASO AC for review.

ASO AC members were asked to provide any final feedback by the end of Thursday, 2 July 2026. Amy explained that the drafting team would need time to incorporate any final comments and prepare the version to be submitted to the NRO EC on Monday, 6 July 2026.

Esteban L. encouraged all ASO AC members to review the document and provide comments within the deadline, noting the importance of completing the document and transmitting it to the NRO EC.

Hervé C thanked Amy P., the drafting team, the full Council, the RIR legal and communications teams, and ICANN staff for their contributions.

7. ICANN Board Seat 9 Vacancy

Hervé C. noted that Alan Barrett's term for Seat 9 would have continued until the ICANN Annual General Meeting in 2027. The ASO AC therefore needed to select a person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of that term. He also noted the following constraints and contextual points:

- The ASO AC needs to proceed as soon as possible.

- Because Christian Kaufmann currently serves in Seat 10 and is from the RIPE NCC service region, the ASO AC cannot select a candidate from the RIPE NCC region for Seat 9.
- ICANN had confirmed that the person selected to complete the remainder of Alan Barrett's term would not have that period count as one of the full consecutive terms for ICANN Board service.
- The ICANN NomCom is expected to announce its selected ICANN Board directors in late August or early September 2026.
- The ASO AC Operating Procedures provide three possible paths for filling a vacancy:
    - Section 9.5.1: Selection from a previous candidate list.
    - Section 9.5.2: Selection from public nominations.
    - Section 9.5.3: Selection from Address Council nominations.

Hervé C read Section 9.5.3, which provides that Address Council members nominate at least two candidates for the open seat, after which the Secretariat notifies potential candidates and nominees complete the required certification letter and questionnaire.

Esteban L. expressed support for using Section 9.5.3, noting that it combines Address Council nominations with the shortest available process to fill the vacancy.

Kevin B. raised a process concern about discussing the matter in open session, noting that candidate-specific issues and conflicts should be handled carefully and, where appropriate, in closed session. He clarified that he did not object to Section 9.5.3 itself but emphasized the need for the ASO AC to be careful regarding conflicts of interest. He added that anyone who intends to participate as a candidate, or who may be conflicted, should recuse themselves from the relevant parts of the process.

Alyssa Q. agreed that conflicted members should not participate in discussions or decisions related to the process.

Following discussion, Hervé C. clarified that the open-session decision would be limited to the choice of procedure, while candidate-specific matters would be handled in closed session.

Esteban L. called a motion to use Section 9.5.3 of the ASO AC Operating Procedures for the ICANN Board Seat 9 vacancy process. Constanze Buerger seconded the motion.

Akinori M. abstained, noting that he could be considered a potential candidate. Saul S. indicated in the chat that he would not comment.

There were no objections.

Decision: The ASO AC agreed to use Section 9.5.3 of the ASO AC Operating Procedures — Selection from Address Council Nominations — for the ICANN Board Seat 9 vacancy process.

8. CCG RoR Update

Akinori M. provided an update on the Review of Reviews Cross-Community Group. He reported that, after extensive discussion, the CCG had produced a draft report that had been published for public comment. The public comment period is open until 4 August 2026.

Akinori M. explained that the draft report proposes changes to ICANN's review framework, including:

- An Accountability and Transparency Review every five years.
- A structural review every fifteen years.
- On-demand reviews for special topics, emerging topics, or consequential matters.
- The establishment of a Review Scoping Committee as a standing body to assess the need for additional reviews and help determine when on-demand reviews should be triggered.

Akinori M. noted that other ICANN communities, including parts of the GNSO and ccNSO, were already forming small groups to prepare public comment submissions. He asked whether any ASO AC members wished to help prepare a possible ASO AC response to the draft report. He indicated that, if no volunteers came forward, he would prepare a draft suggestion for ASO AC consideration.

Hervé C. noted that he and Akinori had been appointed by the NRO EC to participate in the Review of Reviews process. He suggested that a text prepared by Akinori and himself, and then reviewed by the ASO AC, could be considered part of that task. However, he also noted that preparing a full ASO AC response would be an additional workload at a time when the Council is focused on the ICP-2 Review.

Esteban L. noted that, once the ICP-2 Review work is completed, the Council may be better positioned to focus on the Review of Reviews and provide input.

New Action Item 260701-1: Akinori M. to prepare a suggested ASO AC input on the Review of Reviews draft report.

9. RIR Meeting Update/Reports

a) AFRINIC 37

Saul S. provided an update on AFRINIC 37, held in Nairobi as part of the Africa Internet Summit 2026.

He reported that the meeting was productive. The week included AFNOG activities, AFRINIC policy discussions, the AFRINIC AGMM, value proposition discussions, and an ISOC-focused day.

Saul S. noted that the policy sessions were not heavily attended in person but had encouraging online participation. Several policy proposals were discussed, with robust debate. Five policy proposals were presented. Two reached consensus, including:

- A soft-landing policy, subject to minor wording changes.
- An ASN uniqueness policy, also subject to minor wording changes.

Saul S. reported that the AFRINIC meeting and AGMM went well. The value proposition discussions were open, while the AGMM was held as a closed meeting.

He also highlighted that AFRINIC had elected two new NRO NC representatives.

10. Any Other Business

Christian K., speaking as an ICANN Board member and Board Governance Committee Chair, provided a brief update.

He noted that the ICANN Board Governance Committee had reviewed the remaining positions previously held by Alan Barrett. In most cases, no immediate replacement was needed because there remained sufficient voting participation and the Board would soon begin its regular slating process for the October AGM.

He noted that two roles had been filled, though they were not yet public at the time of the meeting. These included a caucus chair position and a liaison/contact role.

Christian K. also asked the ASO AC for information on:

- The expected timeline for filling Seat 9.
- Whether the selected person would serve the remainder of Alan Barrett’s term or begin a new full term.

Kevin B. responded that Section 9.5.3 was selected because it is the most expedited available ASO AC process. He also noted that ICANN’s due diligence and background check process could affect the overall timeline and encouraged ICANN to handle that step as efficiently as possible.

Christian K. explained that ICANN’s process involves at least two steps: a background check and Empowered Community approval.

Esteban L. responded that, based on the notification received from ICANN Legal, the appointment would be to fill the vacancy only and would therefore cover the remainder of Alan Barrett’s term, ending at the 2027 ICANN AGM. He noted that the ASO AC would still need to run the regular process for the next full term.

11. Closed Session

Hervé C closed the public portion of the meeting and invited ASO AC members and the Secretariat to remain for the closed session.

12. Adjourn

Constanze B. called a motion to adjourn the meeting. Devesh T. seconded the motion.

There were no abstentions and no objections.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm UTC