ASO AC Teleconference
Wednesday 12 January 2022
12:00 PM UTC
Draft Minutes

Attendees	Observers	Apologies
AFRINIC Mike Silber (MS) – Vice Chair Saul Stein (SSt) **APNIC** Nicole Chan (NC) Shubham Saran (SSa) Di Ma (DM) **ARIN** Kevin Blumberg (KB) – Chair Martin Hannigan (MH) Chris Quesada (CQ) **LACNIC** Ricardo Patara (RP) Jorge Villa (JV) **RIPE NCC** Hervé Clément (HC) – Vice Chair James Kennedy (JK) Sander Steffan (SS) **Secretariat** Germán Valdez (GV) Laureana Pavón (LP) – Minutes	**ICANN Board** Alan Barrett (AB) **ICANN Staff** Carlos Reyes (CR) **ARIN** Sean Hopkins	**LACNIC** Esteban Lescano (EL)

New action items from this meeting:

New Action Item 220112-1: HC to make the final edits to the 2021 ASO AC Work Plan Review over the next 7 days, after which there will be a 7-day comments period. If no objections are raised, the review will be approved and published by the Secretariat in 14 days.

New Action Item 220112-2: The ASO AC will have a 7-day period for making modifications or additions to the 2022 ASO AC Work Plan (grammatical, typographical, not substantial), after which there will be a 7-day comments period. If no objections are raised, the review will be approved and published by the Secretariat in 14 days.

New Action Item 220112-3: The ASO AC will have a 7-day period for making modifications or additions to the Annual Transparency Review report, after which there will be a 7-day comments period. If no objections are raised, the report will be approved and published by the Secretariat in 14 days.

New Action Item 220112-4: GV to send out a reminder of the dates/times and Zoom links for the ASO AC meetings scheduled for 2022 so that everybody can add these to their calendars.

New Action Item 220112-5: Each region to select one member to serve on the PPFT and send their names to the mailing list in the next seven days.

=================

Agenda

0. Welcome
1. Agenda Review
2. 2022 ASO AC Chair Election Results
3. 2022 ASO Vice Chairs Appointments
4. Review Open Actions
5. Approval Minutes December 2021
6. ASO AC 2022 Meeting
7. 2022 ASO AC Teleconference Schedule
8. 2021 ASO Work Plan Review
9. 2022 ASO Work Plan
10. Annual Transparency Review
11. Global Policy Procedures Change Next Steps.
12. Form the Policy Proposal Facilitator Teams (PPFT)
13. AOB
    • ICANN Board Election Update (CLOSED SESSION)
14. Adjourn

ICANN Board Election Topics
• Due diligence review
• IC representatives
• Interview Phase Timeline
  o Written Questionnaire
  o Video Conference Interviews

=================

0. Welcome

KB welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 12:03 UTC by wishing everyone a happy new year. He then mentioned that during the end of 2021 the ASO AC had a great onboarding session with incoming members, that this is an ongoing process, and that if anyone has any questions, they should feel free to ask.

1. Roll Call

GV performed roll call and quorum was established. Out of the 14 members currently seated on the ASO AC, 13 were present on the call.

2. 2022 ASO AC Chair Election Results

GV explained that a call for nominations was sent to the closed ASO AC list on 1st December, with a deadline of 31st December. A couple of reminders were also sent. KB was nominated and accepted the nomination as per procedure. Even with one candidate, just as previous years, the Secretariat opened voting with an abstention option. After one week, 13 members voted KB as the 2022 ASO AC chair, and a confirmation email was sent to the list.

Several ASO AC members congratulated KB on his reelection.

3. 2022 ASO Vice Chairs Appointments

KB explained that the rules specify that the vice chairs cannot be from the same region as the chair and that they must each be from a different region. He added that vice chairs are selected by the chair and that, this year, he has selected and confirmed that HC and MS will continue to serve as vice chairs for the 2022 period.

Several members also congratulated the vice chairs for their new appointment.

1. Agenda Review

No further items were brought up for discussion and the agenda was approved as circulated.

4. Review Open Actions

New Action Item 211201-1: GV to include a list of 2022 ASO AC members' time zones on Confluence. **COMPLETED**

Action Item 211103-1: The ASO AC to have a 14-day period to discuss the redline version of the ASO AC Operating Procedures (Global Policy Development) sent by KB to the mailing list on 3 November 2021. GV to open a vote 14 days from today so that the results will be ready before the December ASO AC meeting. **COMPLETED**

Action Item 211103-2: GV to circulate the 2021 ASO AC Work Plan Review prepared by HC in December for approval during the January 2022 ASO AC meeting. **COMPLETED**

At KB's request, HC confirmed that he had made a couple of minor changes and that there are still a few things missing (e.g., acceptance of 2022 Work Plan, which will be completed in January). He added that the few things that are missing are not problematic, they simply have not been completed yet.

No concerns were heard regarding the existing document.

HC confirmed that he expects that everything will everything be completed after this call, so the following action item was decided:

New Action Item 220112-1: HC to make the final edits to the 2021 ASO AC Work Plan Review over the next 7 days, after which there will be a 7-day comments period. If no objections are raised, the review will be approved and published by the Secretariat in 14 days.

Action Item 211103-3: SSt and JK to work on a draft 2022 ASO AC Work Plan and circulate it to the list. Include this as an agenda item for the January ASO AC meeting. **COMPLETED**

KB: this was circulated

MS noted that there is no radical work being undertaken, that the workplan is mostly a business-as-usual holding pattern, as the likelihood of an in-person meeting in 2022 is looking remote and he's not sure the ASO AC can achieve much without a face-to-face meeting. He commented that there was not an enormous amount of involvement and participation last year and that, this year, the ASO AC has to select a new ICANN Board member, but we shouldn't be looking for things to do but trying to make sure that it's business as usual in 2022.

KB observed that, in 2021, there was a record number of candidates to the ICANN Board and that this had translated into a great workload on the AC during covid. The workplan as circulated follows what the ASO AC has done each year historically. He wondered how much time the ASO AC wants to commit to each topic. For example, procedures: does the ASO AC want to do a light touch or heavy review?

KB also said that, based on the transparency review, one item he'd like to add is to review the Confluence wiki and determine whether something should be made publicly available.

HC said he'd just send minor modifications to the 2022 Work Plan (year, composition of the IC).

New Action Item 220112-2: The ASO AC will have a 7-day period for making modifications or additions to the 2022 ASO AC Work Plan (grammatical, typographical, not substantial), after which there will be a 7-day comments period. If no objections are raised, the review will be approved and published by the Secretariat in 14 days.

SS then asked about the IANA review.

KB explained that the IANA review is not specific to the ASO AC but draws from it, so it is not part of the ASO AC Work Plan.

GV confirmed that the IANA review—a review of the services provided by the IANA to the RIRs—is conducted by another committee. In the case of AFRINIC, ARIN and RIPE NCC, the members of the ASO AC are the members of the IANA RC. In the APNIC and LACNIC regions, IANA RC members are elected separately by the community.

Although there is overlap in membership, the IANA Numbering Services Review Committee is a separate committee.

On another note, GV mentioned that the ASO review will be postponed and will not happen in 2022.

Action Item 211103-4: KB and SSa to work on the Annual Transparency Review and circulate it to the mailing list. **COMPLETED**

KB mentioned that the Annual Transparency Review is also available on Confluence for editing. The main difference from previous years is the observer role given to all ASO AC members to view and see the QRC and IC processes. Also, the review of the content of the wiki to see if anything should be made public. Everything has been done well from a transparency point of view.

KB then wondered whether there is a better, more transparent way of doing things now that the ASO has opened up after the last ASO review and corresponding recommendations. He mentioned that one area of concern was that the ASO AC and the ASO have not met with the ICANN Board now for three years due to covid. He noted that the ASO AC may not have a substantive topic to address with the ICANN Board, but that it might be good to have a refresher to comment what the ASO is doing. He concluded by saying that he would investigate the possibility of having a joint session.

New Action Item 220112-3: The ASO AC will have a 7-day period for making modifications or additions to the Annual Transparency Review report, after which there will be a 7-day comments period. If no objections are raised, the report will be approved and published by the Secretariat in 14 days.

Action Item 211103-5: Prior to the January ASO AC meeting, GV to review the RIR event schedule with an eye out for hybrid/face-to-face meetings during the first part of the year. **CLOSED**

KB noted that, unfortunately, due to the current situation with the omicron covid variant, this point is mute.

GV agreed that there is much uncertainty in terms of what the different RIR meetings will look like, at least for ARIN, the RIPE NCC and LACNIC. Those meetings were meant to be hybrid, but at this point it is difficult to anticipate whether this format will be maintained.

KB added that it's not simply about only whether the conferences will be held but also whether individual members will be able to travel from their locations.

5. Approval of minutes

HC moved to approve the December 2021 NRO AC meeting minutes and the motion was seconded by SSa. SSt abstained, as he was not part of the ASO AC in December. No objections were heard, so the motion carried.

7. 2022 ASO AC Teleconference Schedule

GV noted that the proposed schedule was to hold a meeting on the 1st Wednesday of each month, with a few exceptions, one being this January meeting (to avoid the end-of-year season), 9 March (to avoid clashes with APRICOT and ICANN), 11 May and 12 October (to avoid clashes with LACNIC meetings).

KB asked the others if there were any concerns regarding the time of the meetings.

No objections were heard, so the teleconference dates and times were approved and will be published on the ASO website and circulated.

At KB's request, GV confirmed that he keeps a Google calendar with all ASO AC meetings.

New Action Item 220112-4: GV to send out a reminder of the dates/times and Zoom links for the ASO AC meetings scheduled for 2022 so that everybody can add these to their calendars.

6. ASO AC 2022 Meeting

KB observed that the current covid situation is very variable, so it's difficult to anticipate meeting within the next three to six months.

KB asked GV to add "Review whether to hold a 2022 ASO AC face-to-face or online meeting" on the May teleconference agenda.

8. 2021 ASO Work Plan Review

Already discussed under agenda item 4. Review Open Actions.

KB noted that there must be a more efficient way of organizing the meetings rather than going through the action items to avoid duplication.

9. 2022 ASO Work Plan
Already discussed under agenda item 4. Review Open Actions.

10. Annual Transparency Review
Already discussed under agenda item 4. Review Open Actions.

11. Global Policy Procedures Change Next Steps.

KB explained that there had been some edits to the ASO AC procedures and that, after voting, these changes did not pass. Because there was one abstention and two members did not vote, the required 80% approval was not reached.

KB asked whether the person who believes the changes should not move forward would like to share why they believe this. He then expressed his concern about the lack of participation.

No replies were heard regarding concerns with passing the procedures as modified.

KB said that different options might be discussed to address the lack of participation, e.g., roll call vote, etc. He mentioned two concerns: 1) the ASO AC does not have a well-defined policy when it comes to when a vote is anonymous or not, 2) in the case of the ICANN Board election process and others, it's good for votes to be anonymous, but why are things like procedure changes voted anonymously? Is there a reason for this or is it merely historical?

KB said that, in his opinion, anyone who does not vote should be called out, as the option to abstain exists. If after a week someone is unable to vote, they are unable to fulfill their obligations. He added that there are improvements that can be made and that he will work with the vice chairs on some suggestions on how to address this. The lack of clarity when it comes to the voting needs to be fixed.

SSt said that perhaps the person who voted no can say why, as others may agree, perhaps they can speak publicly or with the chairs so we can fix the problem.

RP said that the ASO AC has many new members, so this will be good for them to take a look at the proposed changes to the procedures.

KB said that the ASO AC can't keep voting until the procedures are approved. We should be looking and saying a) the lack of voting is a concern or 2) we rushed through this process, which was mostly editorial, we can go back, review it and do a more thorough review with a better understanding if there needs to be additional changes and run this through a second round with the AC.

KB then went over and explained each of the proposed changes that were not approved.

KB added that more work can be done on this, that his preference would be to do a new review and address the lack of participation in the review and in the voting.

SSa said that he was one of the persons unable to vote, that there was a medical condition and he completely missed voting, something that had never happened to him before. He fully supports voting changes to the procedures by roll call.

Several other members agreed.

KB noted that, unfortunately, current ASO AC procedures don't allow for this and perhaps this is something the ASO AC should look at in 2022 (a non-vote is a no vote).

SSt asked KB if he is proposing a more in-depth review.

KB replied that it would be very beneficial to have new eyes to fix grammatical issues but also to use this as a confirmation of the order of operations related to the MoU. He does not believe that a heavy edit is required, but a review of the edits vs the redline is worthwhile.

SSt said he is happy to help on that. He agreed that everyone should be voting and asked whether a deadline is necessary, or voting can remain open until everybody has voted.

KB said that perhaps 7 days—especially in December—might not be enough and a longer timeline might be appropriate but keeping voting indefinitely would not be a good idea (what happens if not everyone has voted by 40 days?).

SSt agreed that aiming for 7 days is great, but that in case of medical reasons or the holiday season an extension might be appropriate.

KB said he would entertain a longer period for the next round, as 7 days might not be appropriate at this time. Everyone is all learning how to vote remotely.

SSt said that, in his opinion, shorter is better, and that the Secretariat could reach out and send reminders to those who have not voted.

GV confirmed that he sends reminders specifically to the people whose votes are pending, as well as a general reminder to the list.

KB concluded the topic by saying that there's still a lot of work to do on this.

11. Form the Policy Proposal Facilitator Teams (PPFT)

KB noted that the role of the PPFT is explained in the ASO AC Operating Procedures, but that, basically, they must monitor each region for anything related to global policy.

KB recommended not forming this team on the call but that each region appoint one member to be the PPFT lead and send that to the list in the next 7 days.

No objections were heard.

New Action Item 220112-5: Each region to select one member to serve on the PPFT and send their names to the mailing list in the next seven days.

12. AOB

At this point, KB confirmed that there were no observers on the call and the ASO AC continued their discussion in closed session.

13. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, SSt moved to adjourn the meeting. SS seconded the motion, no objections were heard, so the meeting was adjourned at 12:22 UTC.