ASO AC Teleconference
Wednesday, 23 November 2022
12:00 PM UTC
Meeting Notes

Attendees	Observers	Incoming ASO AC Members
AFRINIC Mike Silber (Mike S.) – Vice Chair **ARIN** Kevin Blumberg (Kevin B.) – Chair **LACNIC** Ricardo Patara (Ricardo P.) **RIPE NCC** Hervé Clément (Hervé C.) – Vice Chair **Secretariat** Germán Valdez (Germán V.) Laureana Pabón (Laureana P.) – Minutes	**ICANN Staff** Ozan Sahin (Ozan S.)	**APNIC** Gaurav Kansal (Gaurav K.) **ARIN** Nick Nugent (Nick N.)

The meeting began with general introductions.

Some general recommendations were then presented:
- There is a fairly large onboarding document in the wiki we use.
- New members should read the procedures, a very important document that the AC refers to a lot and is currently under revies.
- Right now, there are only 14 ASO AC members and potentially in January there will be 13, it is a small body.
- It is important to ask any questions you may have, it's important that your voice be heard, you can use the mailing list or contact the chairs. Having a good dialogue is one of the most important parts of being on the ASO AC.

The role of the ASO AC was then presented and discussed, with new members having the opportunity to ask questions at any time.

a) Global Policy:
- Importance of understanding the difference between a global policy and a globally coordinated policy and its relation to the role of the ASO AC was stressed.
- Every ASO AC member, especially new members, should are aware of what a global policy is to monitor activities in their own regions.
- The 15 members do this together, it is important to bring anything we see in each of our regions to the mailing list to see whether there is something we need to do from a procedures point of view.

- Each year we appoint a person to act as PPFT (Policy Proposal Facilitator Team). The facilitator is there to watch each region, but all members can also watch to see if global policy is going on and bring it to the AC.
- Re global policy, the role of the ASO AC is to serve as shepherd. There are three ways to submit a global policy proposal, one of which is for the ASO AC to shepherd the proposal through all the regions to make sure that the policies are fundamentally the same. Our role is not to write or modify the policy, but to shepherd policy through the regions.

b) ICANN Board elections:
- We are mandated to appoint two ICANN Board members.
- The ASO AC elects an ICANN Board member two out of every three years.
- 2022 was a year off and a new process will begin in September 2023.
- The work of the ASO AC on ICANN Board elections is confidential, we document dates and times and everything that goes into the process but voting and discussions are considered confidential and are not kept from one year to the next. We keep historical records of questions that get asked, but responses from individual candidates get scrapped. Voting is closed too. It is meant to be a blind vote.
- ICANN board member profile: Generally speaking, the ASO AC looks for somebody to represent the numbers community on the ICANN board, somebody with a reasonable understanding of the address space, not just numbers, understands corporate governance, has a degree of board level capability to look at a balance sheet, can bring a good eye to the ICANN board: someone who can do us the numbers community proud. Not necessarily the most outspoken but somebody who can be the most relevant contributor to the ICANN Board. As the ICANN board deals so infrequently with numbers, we need someone who can be a contributor without forgetting where they come from and their numbering background.
- Anybody can be nominated: the election process is complex, but it is easy to be nominated.
- Conflicts of interest are rare but can happen. If a member of the ASO AC has a conflict of interest, it is good to bring it up and have the discussion (e.g., "I will not participate in the discussion because I work with the candidate.")

c) Appointment of a person to the ICANN NomCom
- Serving on the ICANN NomCom involves a significant amount of work.
- In the past, the ASO AC NomCom appointee was an ASO AC member, but now we try to find someone active in the numbers community but who is not on the AC. If you know someone who can serve on the NomCom, the process will begin in March/April.

Before concluding, some logistical aspects were discussed:
- The ASO AC meets remotely every month, with meetings lasting about an hour.
- ASO AC procedures say we meet in person usually at the first ICANN meeting of the year (Cancun, Mexico, in 2023).
- Whether we need to meet 12 times a year is currently under discussion.
- Each RIR handles travel differently (e.g., ARIN sends an AC member to each RIR meeting, but other regions may have other rules).
- Liaising with ICANN: Outside the ICANN board, the ASO AC has liaised with PTI in previous meetings, also the NomCom will come to us and have some discussion "Hi, we're the NomCom it's important to have your appointees and to have them for X date so we can do our own work." Those type of things. Also, we're available to the ICANN Board if they have questions regarding numbers, but this is not frequent.

What to expect for January 2023:

- We will have the review of the 2023 workplan to go through.
- The election of the ASO AC chair. Because of the timing, the current ASO AC handles the nomination among currently serving members, incoming members cannot be nominated as nominations are received in December. Historically, the idea is to have a chair who has already been on the AC for at least a year.
- Some housecleaning items (transparency review, review of our 2022 workplan, etc.).
- The work on the procedures is probably one of the most important things the AC will be working on in 2023, so please read them. We are working on a holistic review of all our procedures.
- Transparency: There is an increasing push to keep everything public, with the exception being the ICANN Board elections and NomCom appointment processes. ASO AC meeting minutes are public and the meetings themselves are open to observers. The ASO AC mailing list is also open. There is a private mailing list which is reserved for personal information (e.g., personal phone numbers).

Kevin B. concluded by saying that if any of the new members feel that there's a need for a new information session in January, the AC will be happy to schedule one.

The meeting ended at 13:09 UTC.