6. Global Policy Development

6.1. Authority

Under the provisions of Article 9 of the Bylaws for ICANN, the ASO is responsible for advising the ICANN Board with respect to policy issues relating to the operation, assignment, and management of Internet addresses.

Under the provisions of the ICANN Address Supporting Organization MoU, the Address Council is tasked to perform this task.

6.2. Overview

The Global Policy Development Process is defined in the Section 6 of ICANN ASO MoU and detailed in the Attachment A of that same document.

Global Policies follow RIRs processes for presentation, discussion and consensus verification. The Address Council can be involved in the introdutory or ratification phase

ASO/AC will designate members from its group to oversee policy discussions in their respective RIR's forum to identify any proposal that migth be considered as Global Policy.

Once the proposal has followed each RIR's policy development process, the ASO/AC will confirm the validity of the process and forward it to ICANN for ratification by its Board

6.3 Defintions

6.3.1 Global Policy Proposal Facilitators

It will consist of a sub group of the ASO/AC with the responsability to oversee the RIRs' policy discussions.

At the beginning of each term the Address Council shall organize at least one (1) Policy Proposal Facilitator Team (PPFT) consisting of one council member from each of the regions. Additional PPFTs can be formed as needed.

PPFT members will be responsible to inform ASO/AC about the introcution of any potential Global Policy proposals and to keep the group updated about the dicussions that could follow.

6.3.2 Global Policy Presentation

A Global Policy development process can be initiated via different processes.

6.3.2.1 Submition via RIRs policy development processes

A Global Policy proposal can be presented via the RIR's policy development process and the proposal author(s) would be required to submit it to the other RIRs to follow their own processes.

In this case, no action from the ASO/AC is required in order to start the discussion.

PPFT members should notify ASO/AC chair whitin 10 days and the proposal would be disucssed in the next scheduled ASO/AC meeting.

The ASO/AC could determine that such proposal would not fit as Global Policy and if so, the PPFT members would be asked to advice the proper RIRs policy officers about this observation.

The ASO/AC will determine if the policy proposal fulfils the requirement of a Global Policy. If not, the PPFT members would be asked to advice the RIRs policy officers about this observation.

6.3.2.2 Submition via ASO/AC

Any community member could ask the ASO/AC for help on the process of starting a Global Policy.

The requestor should send a message to the e-mail address <TO BE DEFINED> with a detailed explanation of the problem, justification and a rough idea of a proposal.

ASO/AC chair would notify the council within 10 days of receiving the request and ask to have it in the agenda of the next scheduled meeting.

At the meeting, the ASO/AC will deliberate and decide if the presented idea meets the definition of Global Proposal. Should it not metr the requirements, the ASO/AC chair will communitate the decistion to the requestor.

In the case the the proposal meets the definition of Global Proposal, the ASO/AC chair will communicate to the RIRs' Policy Officers about the new global proposal and will designate a PPFT member to work with the requestor on the proposal; editing and submiting it via the RIRs' policy devolopment processes.

6.3.2.3 Submition by ICANN Board

The ICANN board can request the ASO/AC to initiate a Global Policy process.

In such case, ICANN Board would send the request via ICANN secretariat to the ASO/AC Chair. The request would include a explanatory of the viewpoints that call for a global policy.

The ASO/AC will organize a specific PPFT, according to 6.3.1, to work the ICANN desiganted presentor of the proposal and will communicate to each of the RIRs' Policy Officers to have it submitted for dicussion according to their policy development processes.

6.4 Discussion Phase

Once submited to each of the RIR's policy forums, the proposal will follow a discussion phase as per each RIR's process.

During the discussion phase, PPFT members will report to the ASO/AC about the progress and of the conclusion of the process in each RIR.

6.5. Ratification Phase

The Ratification Phase begins when the Number Resource Organization (NRO) Executive Council (EC) transmits the final global policy proposal to the Address Council. A global policy proposal is finalized once it has been ratified in each RIR policy forum and any language reconciliation has been completed. The Ratification Phase consists of two (2) segments (either stages or components): the Address Council Review segment and the ICANN Board Ratification segment.

6.5.1. Address Council Review

When the NRO EC transmits the policy proposal to the Address Council for ratification, it will establish a calendar start time. Within sixty (60) days of this start time the Address Council will conduct a final review the proposal.

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Upon receiving a global policy proposal from the NRO EC the members of the PPFT for that proposal will produce a report consisting of a statement that the published policy development process of each of the RIRs was or was not followed. If it is determined that the published policy process was not followed, the report will provide detailed information where, when and how the process was not followed.
Upon completion of its final review, the Address Council will, by majority vote accept or reject the PPFT report.

Depending on the result of the voting and recomendation from PPTF, the following actions, described below, can be taken:

6.5.1.1. Pass the proposal to ICANN for ratification as a global policy

If the Address Council determines the global policy processes was followed correclty and has voted to accept the PPFT recommendation, it will then authorize the Chair to transmit the proposal to the ICANN secretariat for ratificaion by the ICANN Board of Directors.

The proposal will then follow ICANN internal process for ratificaion.

6.5.1.2. Advise the NRO Executive Council that the Address Council has concerns as an outcome of its review and that the proposal requires further review within the public policy development process.

If the Address Council determines the global policy processes was not followed and has voted to accept the PPFT recommendation on that, the Chair of the Address Council will so notify the Chair of the NRO EC of these concerns and if appropriate, request that the proposal be returned to the regional policy fora for further consideration.

6.5.1.3. Request the NRO Executive Council for an extension of time to complete the review of the proposal.

If the Address Council was not abble to reach an aggrement, through the vote about the PPFT recomendation, the Chair of the Address Council will so notify the Chair of the NRO EC and will request an extension of time to complete its review.

[WE NEED TO DETERMINE WHAT TO DO NEXT]

[SHOULD PPFT REVIEW THE RECOMMENDATION REPORT? AND ASO/AC CONDUCT NEW VOTING? WHAT IF SITUATION PERSISTS?]

6.5.2. ICANN Review and Ratification

6.6.2.1. ICANN Board Actions

Once the global policy proposal is ratified by the ASO/AC, the Chair will notify the ICANN secretariat about its decision and ICANN will them follow its internal process of ratification.

According to this process, ICANN may either:

- Accept the proposal by a simple majority vote; or
- Reject the proposed policy by a supermajority (2/3) vote; or
- By a simple majority vote request changes to the proposed policy;
- Take no action in which case the policy will be considered ratified as it was presented to ICANN.

6.6.2.2. ICANN Board Acceptance and Ratification

When the ICANN Board accepts the proposal as presented it will so notify the Address Council. The Chair of the Address Council will so notify the Chair of the NRO EC. The NRO EC will notify the RIRs who in turn will each follow their own process of policy implementation.

6.6.2.3. ICANN Board Rejection

If the ICANN Board rejects a proposal it will provide the Address Council with it specific concerns regarding the policy proposal. The Address Council, through its chair, will work with the NRO EC to examine the concerns and make an effort to resolve them with the ICANN Board. If the concerns cannot be met without changing the substance of the policy proposal, the proposal will be returned to the RIR fora with the ICANN comments.

[WE NEED TO DEFINE THE TIME WINDOW FOR THAT DISCUSSION AMONG THE PARTS]

6.6.2.4. ICANN Board Change Request

If the ICANN board requests changes to the policy language the Address Council will provide this request to the NRO EC. The NRO EC will consult with the RIRs. If one of the RIRs objects to the proposed language change, then the proposal will be returned to the RIRs for new dicussions following ther policy development processes. . If all of the RIRs accept the proposed changes, the NRO EC will so notify the Address Council who will in turn notify ICANN who will then take the action prescribed in the ASO MoU.

6.6.2.5. Notice of Rejection

In the event that the ICANN Board rejects a proposal transmitted as described in paragraph 6.6.2.4 above, the Address Council will so notify the NRO EC who will in turn take action as prescribed in the ASO MoU.