**ASO AC Teleconference**

**1 April 2020**
**12:00 PM UTC**

*Draft* **Minutes**

| Attendees | Observers | Apologies |
|---|---|---|
| **AFRINIC**<br>Wafa Dahmani Zaafouri (WD)<br>Noah Maina (NM)<br>Mike Silber (MS)<br><br>**APNIC**<br>Brajesh Jain (BJ)<br>Aftab Siddiqui (AS) - Chair<br>Simon Sohel Baroi (SB)<br><br>**ARIN**<br>Kevin Blumberg (KB) – Vice Chair<br>Martin Hannigan (MH)<br>Louie Lee (LL)<br><br>**LACNIC**<br>Esteban Lescano (EL)<br>Ricardo Patara (RP)<br>Jorge Villa (JV) – Vice Chair<br><br>**RIPE NCC**<br>Hervé Clément (HC)<br>Nurani Nimpuno (NN)<br>Filiz Yilmaz (FY)<br><br>**Secretariat**<br>German Valdez (GV)<br>Susannah Gray (SG) – Minutes | **ARIN**<br>Sean Hopkins (SH)<br><br>**ICANN Staff**<br>Carlos Reyes (CR)<br><br>**ICANN Board**<br>Akinori Maemura (AM)<br>Ron da Silva (RdS)<br><br>**Community**: 0 | |

**New Action Items From This Meeting:**

No new action items were assigned during this meeting.

**Agenda**

0. Welcome
1. Roll call
2. Agenda Review
3. Review Open Actions
4. Approval Minutes March 2020
5. ASO AC F2F Meeting

7. AOB
8. Adjourn

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## 0. Welcome

AS welcomed the attendees.

## 1. Roll Call

GV performed the roll call and declared quorum.

## 2. Agenda Review

HC added the following two items to AOB:

- The ASO AC's slide deck on the ICANN 67 website
- An update from the NRO EC on the .PIR sale Inspection Request to ICANN

KB added the following item and asked that it be discussed prior to the review of the open action items:

- The ASO AC's work plan, priorities and focus over the next few months

KB commented that it would be prudent for the ASO AC to go through the work plan and mitigate as much of the burden on the AC volunteers as possible during this unprecedented period. Some members might now have more time to work on the AC's actions but this might be an unfair burden on others who were experiencing complicated situations due to the Covid-19 situation. He suggested that only urgent issues be addressed and that he personally needed to be cautious about the amount of work that he took on at this time.

AS noted that, as volunteers, the AC should do as much as possible without impacting the other priorities in their lives: the health and wellbeing of themselves and their families and their day jobs were the number one priorities. He noted that the action items would be reviewed with this in mind during this unprecedented situation.

## 3. Review Open Actions

- **Action Item 200304-1: KB/AS/JV to update and circulate the ASO slide deck for each region to update prior to the ICANN 67 (virtual) meeting >** *CLOSED*.

AS commented that the slide deck had been uploaded to the ASO website. He asked CR to also add it to the ICANN Meeting archives.

CR noted that he would work with the ICANN Meeting team to get it uploaded.

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- **Action Item 191113-2: AS to develop a timeline and process for the items outlined in Action Item 191113-1:** *ALL to review the notes from the ICANN 66 closed working session and provide feedback, questions and additional comments on the Seat 9/10 Election procedures >* *IN PROGRESS*.

AS noted that this ongoing action item had been in progress for several months and that the AC were supposed to work on this during the F2F meeting at the ICANN 67 meeting, which had been cancelled. While there had been no official announcement, it was likely that ICANN 68 would also be a virtual meeting. He commented that the AC's work would now need to be continued online to work out the best possible solution under the current circumstances. Those items that had been discussed during the informal F2F session at the ICANN 66 Meeting could be worked on and the remaining issues could be discussed at a later date.

BJ suggested that a short-term working group be convened to go through the items discussed and then offer proposals to the wider group.

AS noted that he would send a kick off mail to the internal mailing list and share the notes from the informal discussion at ICANN 66. He asked all to share what they were willing to work on according to their availability.

- **Action Item 191113-8: Secretariat to set up a Confluence site for the ASO AC >** *IN PROGRESS*.

AS noted that he had been in touch with OR, Chair of NRO, who had been providing weekly updates on this item. The delay in this had been caused by recent internal changes at the RIPE NCC as well as the Secretariat's requests not being responded to in a timely manner. He continued that the ASO's Confluence site would be set up by the end of the month.

GV commented that a third party would host the site and that the NRO EC had agreed to the associated costs. He added that he would try to see if the implementation process could be sped up and hoped that the site could be set up within two weeks. He would let the AC know as soon as it was set up.

AS noted that the site would be a cloud-hosted solution, which was different to the set up that the NRO EC used for its site. RIPE NCC staff asked whether the legal team needed to get involved with GDPR compliance, as some Personally Identifiable Information (PII) would be stored. He noted that Confluence's parent company, Atlassian, was GDPR compliant so he did not feel it necessary to get legal counsel involved but that was ultimately up to the RIR. He continued that it was not clear whether the site would be in place before the May teleconference but this issue had been escalated and was being worked on. In the absence of Confluence, the work outlined previously would need to be done via the internal mailing list.

## 4. Approval Minutes March 2020

AS noted that HC had circulated some small edits to the minutes, which would be implemented before being published.

HC proposed the motion to accept the minutes from the March 2020 teleconference. KB seconded the motion. There were no objections. Motion carried

AS asked the Secretariat to publish the minutes on the ASO website after making the requested edits.

## 5. ASO AC F2F/Virtual Meeting

AS noted that he had recently attended a meeting with the ICANN SO/AC leadership, where the status of ICANN 68 and the outcome of the ICANN 67 virtual meeting had been discussed. The ICANN Board will soon vote on whether ICANN 68 would be virtual only.

RdS commented that the Board had held a briefing with staff. He assumed that ICANN 68 would be virtual; the Board would vote on this next week. Meanwhile, there were ongoing discussions on what had been learned from the first virtual meeting and what improvements could be applied to a virtual ICANN 68.

KB noted that, irrespective of the Board's decision, he would be very surprised if current international travel restrictions would be lifted by then. Even if travel were possible, it would likely not be cost effective and might mean a 14-day quarantine period upon return. He noted that the AC should decide whether there was any real benefit to holding a 'virtual F2F' during the scheduled ICANN meeting or whether the meeting could be done before/after. The work of the ASO AC was not specifically tied to the ICANN Meeting.

BJ asked if CR could provide links to any information that summarized the feedback and the lessons learned from ICANN 67.

CR noted that staff was working on such a document and that he would share it as soon as it was published. He noted the following documents might also be useful:

- Post-ICANN67 Policy Report: https://go.icann.org/post67
- ICANN67 By the Numbers Report: https://meetings.icann.org/en/remote67/icann67-technical-report-24mar20-en.pdf.pdf

NN commented that the June ICANN Meeting was normally focused on DNS policy. The AC had decided that this was not its priority and had, in the past, specifically chosen not to meet officially at these meetings. She added that she did not see any reason to hold a meeting, virtual or physical, around the ICANN meeting: the AC's work could be completed on the scheduled teleconferences. An F2F meeting could be arranged for later in the year.

JV (via chat) noted that the AC needed to do its work virtually: June was too early to expect that the world would be back to normal.

FY (via chat) agreed: the AC should use its limited bandwidth to focus on the work that needed to be done – the ICANN Board election process.

AS noted that the second ICANN meeting of the year was usually focused on policy but this year it might focus more on community engagement. Once more was known about the format, schedule and time zone, the AC could discuss whether it wanted to hold sessions during ICANN 68 or not.

KB agreed with NN. He noted that the AC had discussed holding an F2F during one of the RIR meetings, which have now all moved to virtual formats as well. He proposed that the end of June would be an appropriate time to meet virtually to get some work done. The AC could decide during the May teleconference whether a virtual meeting in June would be appropriate, depending on the global situation. The Board selection process would need to start before the end of the year so work would have to be done virtually.

JV (via chat) commented that as any virtual meeting would be closed, it could be set up at the AC's convenience.

AS noted that discussion on the work to be done should continue on the mailing list until there was more information about what was happening with ICANN 68.

NN commented that the discussion was getting stuck on what was happening with the ICANN 68 Meeting: the AC's priority was the ICANN Board selection procedures. There had been an open action item to produce a timeline/process and give feedback for the last five months but zero progress had been made. She continued that she was surprised to see that there has not been an action item on today's agenda to discuss the election improvement process.

AS noted that NN could have added this to the agenda.

NN noted that the main priority as a group was improving the ICANN Board selection process: it was now April and the AC needed to start this work. Once the work had started, the AC could then assess when it could or should meet.

AS agreed. He noted, however, that only he had sent emails related to this agenda item: there had been no interest or input from others so far.

KB noted that this lack of input could be due to malaise or disinterest or lack of time. He asked the AC if it thought that the current procedures were sufficient given the current situation.

FY commented that the AC discussed this topic in detail during the informal F2F meeting in November. No actions were assigned during this meeting as it was informal but notes were taken. She continued that, in the December teleconference, the AC repeated that it should move forward with this work and asked the Chairs to lead this process, assigning the action to develop a timeline (Action Item 191113-2). She asked if there was a timeline that could be discussed as the review part of this action had been completed.

AS commented that everything had been included in the email he had already sent.

FY noted that the email had been sent in February. There had been two teleconferences since then: having the topic on the agenda brought it to everyone's attention. She added that the AC should hold separate dedicated teleconferences about this topic. The AC had spent half a day working on this in November so there was a lot to discuss and it was hard to resolve everything on the mailing list. She continued that while volunteer time was being minimized due to the situation, this should take priority. She suggested that the upcoming teleconferences be used to focus on the election procedures.

AS noted that he would send another email and it would be up to each person how much they could contribute. He asked everyone to re-read the notes from the informal F2F meeting at ICANN 66.

NN agreed with FY. She asked that, as Chair, he drove the discussion on this. She noted that she had proposed that the AC discuss the election procedures during the F2F meeting and had given a lot of input. However, the remainder of the work could not just be left to the mailing list: the AC needed to have focused sessions on this, which needed to be moderated and chaired. She added that the time available in the teleconferences should be used to actually get the work done and she would like to see some progress on this.

AS commented that the work should have started via the mailing list but this had not happened.

KB noted that progress was down to people's time commitment: he did not believe that the current election procedures were broken enough to prioritize them over his other commitments during this very uncertain period.

KB proposed the motion to rescind all work on action items related to the ICANN Board election procedures for the remainder of 2020 given the current situation.

NN objected to the motion. No one seconded the motion. Motion not carried.

BJ asked for clarification.

KB clarified the motion and added that the discussion on this topic was currently not productive for the AC. He noted that there was nothing substantively wrong with the current election procedures so there was no urgent need to continue the discussion at this time.

MS suggested that KB was proposing that the work on this continued but didn't focus on the 2020 election cycle but rather on the 2021 cycle. If the AC could manage to implement changes this year, it would be great but the election cycle should not be held up or the work rushed in order to get everything finalized for the 2020 cycle.

KB agreed and thanked MS for articulating this. He retracted his previous motion and asked if anyone would be willing to second the motion as outlined by MS.

No one seconded the motion.

FY (via chat) noted that she did not agree that the AC should abandon its duties because of the current situation. There might be delays but extra time could be requested and, in the worst-case scenario, the existing procedures could be used.

AS commented that the proposed motion might be too severe. He suggested that the AC start working and see what could be done with the time that some people might have available.

KB agreed: he reiterated that he was just trying to prevent undue pressure on volunteers.

HC noted that the only action necessary now was to prepare a virtual meeting to continue the discussion.

AS noted that whatever could be achieved would have to be done initially on the mailing list and then on monthly calls. Dedicated calls could be arranged if necessary with the Secretariat's support.

## 7. AOB

- **The ASO AC's slide deck on the ICANN 67 website (HC)**

This item was discussed under Action Item 200304-1.

- **An update from the NRO EC on the .PIR sale Inspection Request to ICANN (HC)**

KB noted that he had sent a mail to the NRO EC regarding this item but there had not yet been any follow up from the NRO EC.

## 8. Adjourn

KB proposed the motion to adjourn. NM seconded the motion. There were no objections. Motion carried.

The meeting ended at 13:05 UTC.

*-END-*