Accountability Issues

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What is “Accountability” for us?

- Compliance with what the community wants
  - Open, inclusive, transparent, bottom up Policy Development Process
  - Constant communication with the community
- Operational accountability
  - Membership-based organisation
  - Elected Board - responsive to what membership wants
  - Governance documents for transparency and reference
- Continuing evolving framework
- Similar for all RIRs

Why is accountability important now?

- This is our achievement - not a given for all organisations
  - ICANN meeting in London, IGF in Istanbul
    - Various questions around ICANN's accountability
    - Distrust - impression that Board is not accountable
    - Other organisations under scrutiny
- Need to defend our system
  - Communicate to the rest of the world how our accountability works
  - Documentation in a collective and comparable way for all RIRs

RIRs Accountability (1)

- RIR Governance Matrix published on Number Resource Organization (NRO) website:
  - **https://www.nro.net/about-the-nro/rir-governance-matrix**
  - Includes links to bylaws, policy development processes, operational procedures

1. RIR Bylaws and Operational Documents
2. Regional Policy Development Processes
3. Contractual Relationship with Members
4. Terms and Conditions for Internet Number Resources
5. Terms and Conditions for Historical Resources
6. Due Diligence and Resource Maintenance
7. Auditing of Internet Number Resource Registration Records
8. Number Resource Dispute Resolution
9. Deregistration of Internet Number Resources
10. Use of the Database and Privacy Issues
11. Handling Requests for Information by Law Enforcement Authorities
12. Security Management and External Auditing
13. Budget and Activity Planning

1. RIR Bylaws and Operational Documents

RIR	Document
AFRINIC	AFRINIC Bylaws AFRINIC Membership fees Billing Policy
APNIC	APNIC By-laws Articles of Association Memorandum of Association
ARIN	By-Laws of American Registry for Internet Numbers, LTD. Articles of Incorporation w/Amendments ARIN Fee Structure
LACNIC	LACNIC Creation Agreement Statute
RIPE NCC	RIPE NCC Articles of Association Charging Scheme Clearing House Procedure Treasury Statute RIPE NCC Executive Board – Functions and Expectations Adoption Process for the RIPE NCC Governance Documents

RIRs Accountability (2)

- RIRs accountability Q&As published on Number Resource Organization (NRO) website:
  - **https://www.nro.net/about-the-nro/rir-accountability**
  - Set of Q&As reflecting the discussions on ICANN's accountability
  - Links to documents on the RIRs Governance Matrix

RIRs Accountability (3) - Next Steps

Governing Board Structure

Number, nomination process, election process, term length, term limits

Budget and Activity Approval

Decision making process

Fee Approval

Decision making process

Bylaw/Operational Document Control

Adoption/amendment process

ICANN's Accountability

- An old discussion
- Important for our community
  - ICANN "stamps" our Global Policies
  - ICANN must comply with the community's decisions
  - We need to make sure that ICANN will not infringe our system by creating a parallel process etc
- Now especially relevant due to the IANA stewardship transition

Replacement of NTIA Stewardship

NTIA

Contract with ICANN

- **Obligations of ICANN**
- **Consequences if ICANN does not comply**

Replacement of NTIA Stewardship

~~NTIA~~

~~Contract with ICANN~~

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?

How do we make sure that ICANN will comply with its obligations?

How do we enhance ICANN's accountability?

ICANN's accountability discussions

In the beginning

A very broad topic, must be an independent process to the IANA transition

…but disagreements

Essential aspect of the transition!!

Finally:

Part of ICANN's accountability indeed related to the transition and other parts are broader

Creation of Accountability Cross Community Working Group (CCWG)

Accountability CCWG

- Draft Charter
  - The RIPE NCC (as ASO representative) in the Drafting Team
- Two Work Streams
  - **Work Stream 1** - accountability issued that can be:
    - solved before the IANA transition or
    - identified as relevant to the IANA transition to be solved later
  - **Work Stream 2** - broader accountability issues
  - ***Out of Scope:*** Accountability issues of RIRs
- Participants (2-5) from each SO, AC and individuals
- Charter to be circulated

Questions?