AfriNIC-2

Meeting Minutes

The Internet Number Registry for Africa

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AfriNIC held its second public policy and member meeting from 26-27th April 2005 at Telecomunicacoes de Mocambique (TDM) Conference and Training Centre, Maputo - Mozambique. More than 100 participants from around the world attended the meeting.

They included AfriNIC members and Board of Directors, representatives from ICANN, LACNIC, APNIC, RIPE NCC, NSRC, ARIN, ISOC, AfNOG, officials from governments and African Network Operators at large.

This meeting followed the official recognition of AfriNIC (by the ICANN) as the fifth Regional Internet Registry serving Africa and the Indian Ocean regions two weeks before - a momentous event that would change the future of the internet on the African continent.

The meeting started on 26/4/2005 Tuesday morning at 09:30 with a speech from the Minister of Telecommunications in Mozambique , preceded by a word of welcome delivered by the chairman of the AfriNIC Board of Directors, Mr. Pierre Dandjinou.

Highlights:

Major highlights of the AfriNIC-2 meeting included:

o AfriNIC signing an MoU to become a full member of the NRO,
o Official transfer of documents from RIPE NCC, ARIN and APNIC to AfriNIC,
o Update/Report from AfriNIC,
o Updates from the NRO and the other RIRs,
o Election of representatives to the NRO NC (Number Resource Organization
   Number Council (who also become ASO AC members),
o Discussion on some proposed policies from the Policy Working Group,
o Election to fill vacant seats at the AfriNIC Board of Directors,
o Adoption of 2005 fee schedule.
o Adoption of 2005 Budget

DAY-1: 26/04/2005
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The AfriNIC Board Chair, Mr. Pierre Dandjinou, welcomed everybody to the second AfriNIC public policy meeting, and invited the Mozambique Minister of Telecommunications, HE Prof. Dr. Venancio Massingue to inaugurate the official opening of the meeting. The minister was grateful to his fellow internet pioneers in Africa (like Dr. Nii Quaynor and Alan Barett), the Chairman of the AfriNIC Board, Mr. Pierre Dandjinou, the AfriNIC CEO, Mr. Adiel Akplogan and other people for having worked hard to make AfriNIC a reality for Afr ica .

AfriNIC becomes a member of the NRO:
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At this meeting, AfriNIC became an official member of the NRO by signing a joinder to the NRO Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). AfriNIC became a welcomed and celebrated addition to the NRO, which now includes all five RIRs (ARIN, RIPE NCC, LACNIC, APNIC and the new AfriNIC).

The AfriNIC CEO, Mr. Adiel Akplogan, presented gifts to various members of the other Regional Internet Registries who dedicated time and resources during the transition time to make AfriNIC a success. A beautiful painting was also received from LACNIC to AfriNIC. A special gift was presented to Richard Jimmerson from ARIN, for his valuable efforts of inter-RIR co-ordination during AfriNIC's set up and transition.

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Various items for the day:
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Presentations items for the rest of the day included updates from ARIN, RIPE NCC, APNIC and LACNIC (given by the respective CEOs all present in Maputo), the ASO and NRO reports (given by one of the AfriNIC Region ASO Observers, Mr. Alain P. Aina), talks about implementation of IPv6 and reverse delegation, a tutorial about how to request IP resources in the AfriNIC region and a presentation from the AfriNIC Board Chairman about the relationship between AfriNIC and the international internet community.

A particularly interesting presentation was from Jordi Palet Martinez from the European IPv6 Task Force, also co-Chair of the "IPv6 Forum, Education and Promotion Working Group". The presentation was: "IPv6 is an innovation opportunity". He gave a live demonstration of IPv6 at work - remote-controlling various devices at his home from Africa , and signaling/monitoring his dogs at home.

Elections of representatives to the NRO - Number Council (NC)
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Under the terms of the MoU signed between the ICANN and the RIRs in October 2004, the NRO Number Council now performs the role of the Address Supporting Organization - Address Council (ASO AC). Members of the NRO NC then also become the ASO AC members.

According to the NRO MoU, the NC must be composed of two members selected by the regional policy forum of each of the RIRs and one must be appointed by the board of each RIR.

Since AfriNIC is now a fully accredited Regional Internet Registry, three representatives had to be elected at the AfriNIC-2 meeting.

These representatives will represent the AfriNIC region internet community at the NRO Number Council (NC).

An election was held in the afternoon of 26/04/2005. Eligible voters were people residing and working in the AfriNIC service region. The vote count gave:

Sylvia Geha Kezengwa: **27 votes**

Yaovi Atohoun: **16 votes**

Jean Robert Hountomey: **33 votes**

Ali Drissa Badiel: **23 votes**

Wycliffe Ochieng: **5 votes**

Out of the 5 nominees, the following were declared elected:

- Jean Robert Hountomey **04/2005 - 12/2008**

- Sylvia Geha Kezengwa **04/2005 - 12/2007**

Alan Barrett was appointed by the AfriNIC board to serve for a **1 year mandate (04/2005-12/2006)**

The day was wound-up with a glamorous social event at Hotel Cardosos in the centre of Maputo .

DAY-2: 27/04/2005
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The second day was dedicated to policy discussions and the member Annual General Meeting (AGM). A formal document transfer from ARIN, RIPE NCC and APNIC to AfriNIC was also conducted.

Key issues of the day:

- Official transfer of member documents/data from other RIRs to AfriNIC.

- IPv6 global allocation policy: The NRO perspective

- discussion of various policy documents that were proposed on the policy working group,

- presentation and adoption of the 2005 budget,

- presentation and adoption of amendments to the fee schedule,

- renewal of the vacant seats in the AfriNIC board,

- presentation of current stats from AfriNIC RS department,

- how AfriNIC/AfNOG should co-operate, and

- the possibility of setting up an IPv6 task force in our community.

Other various presentations were made, including the Policy Development Process in the AfriNIC service region and the NRO perspective about the IPv6 global allocation policy.

Official transfer of authority from ARIN/RIPE NCC/APNIC to AfriNIC

On the morning of 27/4/2005 at AfriNIC-2, the RIRs - APNIC, ARIN, and the RIPE NCC signed letters transferring to AfriNIC formal authority for the parts of the region they had previously served, including all registration and accounting documentation and DNS administration. This now completed the transfer of all custodial and registry processes for the entire AfriNIC service region.

IPv6 global allocation policy: The NRO perspective
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This was presented by Ray Plzak, President and CEO of ARIN (The American Registry for Internet Numbers). ARIN is the Regional Internet Registry serving North America (Canada and the USA). This is a cordinated proposal from the 5 RIRs (ARIN, RIPE NCC, APNIC, LACNIC and AfriNIC), under the umbrella of the NRO, to IANA (The Internet Assigned Numbers' Authority). It addresses the procedure that IANA should consider while making IPv6 allocations to the RIRs. The policy proposal suggests a minimum allocation of /12 from IANA

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to RIR if 50% or greater of the current v6 allocation has been utilised, or the available IPv6 space cannot cater for the RIR's 9 (nine) month requirements. The policy also suggests that IANA should allocate a /12 of IPv6 to a new RIR irrespective of utilisation or any space transferred from other RIRs.

Policy Proposals:

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Some new policies and a few amendments to current policy were proposed 2 weeks before the AfriNIC-2 meeting. According to the current AfriNIC policy development process, at least 30 days of discussion are needed on the policy working group mailing list prior to face-to-face discussion and consequent consensus at the public policy meeting. These policies are:

Policy for IPv4 End-Users:

Minimum Assignment: /24

Criteria: - show existing utilisation of /25 from upstream

- Or, justify immediate need of 50% of total requested.

Additional space:

- 25% immediate utilisation,and

- 50% utilisation in 1 year.

IXPs, Root Server or ccTLD Operators:

- Assignment no greater than /24.

- At least 2 peer ISPs in an IXP

Temporary IP assignemnts in the AfriNIC region

- The activity requiring temporary IP resources should be publicly documented and available, preferably on a website.

- The IP resources must be returned to AfriNIC after the experiment.

- Resources are assigned on a lease basis for a period of one month.

- The assignment can be renewed after providing the necessary information .

- The size of the assigned IP resource will be determined from the plan submitted by the requesting entity.

Change in Policy for AS Number Assignments:

Major change:

- An entity requesting an AS number from AfriNIC must be an AfriNIC member in good standing.

- LIRs cannot assign AS numbers to other organisations, other than their own network infrastructure.

group mailing list, by sending an email to policy-wg-request@afrinic.net with the subject

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Summary of discussion about the above policy proposals:
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o The AS number proposal did not get much discussion.

o Temporary Assignments and Experiments:

- Some concerns about a 1 month return period being too short.

- One member mentioned that some temporary allocations tend to get 'tainted' by some carriers (due to frequent withdrawing and injecting of the prefix into the global routing table) - though others said this is never the case.

- A need for these allocations to come from a single large reserved block.

- Suggestion that AfriNIC asks the requestor for their routing decisions/plans, and base the approval from that.

- Issues about the costs involved were also raised - whether this is prefix-size based or a general similar fee irrespective of allocation size.

o IPv4 End-User Assignments:

- Concerns about the /24 minimum not being a good thing given the rapid growth of the routing table.

- Several people were not concerned about the routing table growth, as such prefixes are usually not numerous.

- Questions about what happens to end-user PI requests between now and the next member meeting, when the policy will be discussed and approved/rejected by the members.

- The AfriNIC CEO advised that AfriNIC will enforce the policy from the respective former RIR of the member, until this policy is adopted by AfriNIC.

During the policy discussions, some members raised the issue about the need for a policy to recover unused resources in the AfriNIC region. This issue will be addressed by the policy working group.

Co-operation between AfriNIC and AfNOG:

AfNOG (The African Network Operators Group) has been conducting workshops and meetings once a year for 5 years now. It is also not unusual that most people attending the AfNOG workshops and meetings are the same people attending the AfriNIC meetings - since they usually represent network operators, who are usually AfriNIC members. Discussions were held to find a suitable way of having AfNOG and AfriNIC work together at these meetings.
Experiences from the NANOG/ARIN and APRICOT/APNIC relationship were shared with the meeting. No major decisions were taken at the meeting, but it was advised that an MoU be signed between AfriNIC and AfNOG to partake joint organisation of the meetings, infrastructure, connectivity setup and other logistical requirements.

Possibility of setting up an IPv6 task force in our community
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A brief discussion was held about the possibility of setting up an IPv6 Task Force in the African community. Many ideas were shared during this time. The major point of discussion was that a task-force may have some legal and procedural/formal implications that may not work well for the African community at this time. It was later decided that mailing lists be setup instead, and whoever is interested can join the forum. These mailing lists will be hosted at AfriNIC. The naming has not yet been decided - more about this will follow on the AfriNIC-discuss mailing list.

Budget for 2006/2007:

AfriNIC's budget for the year 2006/2007 was presented to and consequently adopted by the members during the AGM. The voted budget has 491,000 USD as income, 360,908 as OPEX and 66400 of CAPEX.

Fees Schedule:

Some amendments were made by the AfriNIC Board of Directors to the fees schedule as follows:

o Decrease the membership-only (associate member (without any allocated resources) fee from 400 USD to 100 USD

o Increase in fees for Medium, Large and Extra Large membership categories as follows:

  • **Medium becomes 6,500 USD from 5,000 USD**
  • **Large becomes 13,000 USD from 7,000 USD**
  • **Extra Large becomes 20,000 USD from 15,000 USD**

The AGM unanimously approved these figures.

Board Election - Renewal of Seats 5 and 6:

Seats 5 and 6 (for the Central Africa and Indian Ocean Region respectively) had fallen vacant. For each seat, a primary and alternate member is selected according to the AfriNIC by-laws. The members were therefore required to elect persons to fill these seats. An election was conducted which ended as follows:

Central (Seat 5):

Didier Kasole CD Primary
Gaetan Bouraga GA Alternate

Indian Ocean (Seat 6):

Viv Padayatchy MU Primary
Kenny Yiptong MU Alternate

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Congratulations, especially to Gaetan Bouraga, who was the only new person on board !

LIR TRAINING
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AfriNIC conducted training sessions for members/LIRs and other interested parties. The major objective was to train ISP staff on how to interact with the AfriNIC whois database, and how to request internet resources from AfriNIC. Two sessions - English and French, were held at TDM, on Saturday 23rd April 2005 for the whole day. Each session had about 25 people. The next training event will be held in South Africa, and the venue and date will be confirmed later.

AFRINIC-3
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The third AfriNIC public policy meeting will be held in Cairo, Egypt from 22nd-24th November 2005. Registration details and agenda will be online soon.

END OF MEETING.
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The meeting was closed at 14:30 by the AfriNIC Board Chair and the CEO.

THANKS AND GRATITUDE:
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AfriNIC would like to express its full gratitude to:

o HE Prof. Dr. Venancio Massingue
o MICTI
o TV CABO Mozambique
o AfNOG secretariat
o ISOC
o Afilias
o NSRC

For their contribution and support to make this meeting a success. See you all at AfriNIC-III in Cairo!!

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