

**ASO AC Teleconference
Wednesday 11 May
12:00 PM UTC
Minutes**

Attendees	Observers	Apologies
AFRINIC Mike Silber (Mike S.) – Vice Chair Wafa Dahmani Zaafour (Wafa Z.) Saul Stein (Saul S.) APNIC Nicole Chan (Nicole C.) Shubham Saran (Shubham S.) Di Ma (Di M.) ARIN Kevin Blumberg (Kevin B.) – Chair Chris Quesada (Chris Q.) LACNIC Ricardo Patara (Ricardo P.) Jorge Villa (Jorge V.) Esteban Lescano (Esteban L.) RIPE NCC Hervé Clément (Hervé C.) – Vice Chair James Kennedy (James K.) Sander Steffan (Sander S.) Secretariat Germán Valdez (German V.) Laureana Pavón (Laureana P.) – Minutes	ARIN Sean Hopkins (Sean H.) ICANN Staff Carlos Reyes (Carlos R.)	ARIN Martin Hannigan (Martin H.)

New action items from this meeting:

New Action Item 220511-1: GV to confirm with AFRINIC when a person will be appointed to take the place of Wafa Z. (whose resignation will take effect on 15 May 2022) on the ASO AC.

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Agenda

0. Welcome
1. Agenda Review
2. Review Open Actions
3. Approval Minutes April 2022
4. ICANN Board Election Wrap Up

5. ASO Appointment to ICANN NomCom
6. 2022 ASO AC Meeting (f2f or online)
7. RIR reports
 - a) ARIN 49 Report
 - b) LACNIC 37 Report
8. AOB
 - a) Wafa Zaafouri Announcement
9. ICANN NomCom Evaluation Nominees (CLOSED SESSION)
10. Adjourn

Closed Session

1. Evaluation of nominations by the ASO AC

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0. Welcome

Kevin B. welcomed participants at 12:02 UTC.

Roll call was performed, and quorum was established.

1. Agenda Review

The agenda was displayed on screen and approved as written.

2. Review Open Actions

Action Item 220309-1: Mike S. to start preparing a timeline for the core team (Hervé C., Saul S., Mike S., Sander S., and Ricardo P.) to work on the review of the ASO AC Procedures. OPEN – Changed from Mike S. to Hervé C.

Mike S. said he had been having some time challenges, that he will be happy to participate but that it might be useful for somebody else to take the lead.

Kevin B. said that during the meeting the ASO AC chairs hold prior to each ASO AC meeting the suggestion had been for Hervé C. to take the lead. He said that, with the completion of the ICANN board appointment, the ASO AC has a scenario where we can look at the procedures without the load of a board election. There is time from now until March 2023 for the ASO AC to shine and see if a light touch or a complete rework of the procedures is needed.

After some further discussion, the ASO AC decided that the Action Item 220309-1 will be transferred to Hervé C. Kevin B. noted that if the core group working on the procedures requires any resources (Zoom calls, etc.), the Secretariat can provide this support.

Hervé C. shared on screen a ppt file he had prepared on the 2022 ASO AC procedures review. He explained that procedures are failing the ASO AC more and more, providing examples of things that might be worked out. He said that the idea was to have smaller, dedicated core team to work on the review and then the

participation of the entire AC. Hervé C., Ricardo P., Saul S., Mike S. and Sander S. have already volunteered to be part of this core team.

Hervé C. then shared the proposed agenda to be discussed, a proposed timeline and some additional remarks, adding that he would circulate his ppt file to the ASO AC mailing list.

Kevin B. thanked Hervé C. for preparing the slide deck and several ASO AC members agreed that the content looks fine.

Esteban L. and James K. then volunteered to join the core group.

Kevin B. replied that if they are willing to be active participants, they are welcome to join.

Esteban L. and James K. were added to the core group to work on the 2022 ASO AC procedures review.

Action Item 220309-1 will remain open but change from Mike S. to Hervé C.

Action Item 220406-1: The Secretariat to send out the ASO Call for Nominations to 2022 ICANN NomCom for its distribution and publish the announcement tomorrow, 7 April 2022. **CLOSED**

Kevin B. confirmed that the call for nominations has already been sent out.

3. Approval Minutes April 2022

Hervé C. moved to approve the minutes of the 6 April ASO AC meeting as circulated, Esteban L. seconded the motion, no opposition or abstentions were heard, and the motion carried.

4. ICANN Board Election Wrap Up

Kevin B. observed that all the regions had sent out the notice of the appointment of Christian Kaufmann to the ICANN Board and that the process was wrapped up. He thanked everybody for their work on completing the ICANN nomination on schedule. He expressed his personal thanks to Ricardo P. for his work during the process, which went above and beyond.

Other members of the ASO AC joined Kevin B. in thanking Ricardo P. for his work.

5. ASO Appointment to ICANN NomCom

Kevin B. observed that this agenda item would be discussed during the closed portion of the meeting.

6. 2022 ASO AC Meeting (f2f or online)

Kevin B. said that the ASO AC has an opportunity later in the year to possibly look at a face-to-face meeting. The key consideration is having a defined reason to meet, which will depend on the work that comes out of the procedural review group. Whether the NRO EC will approve the meeting remains to be seen.

He said that the options for a possible f2f meeting would be at an ICANN or an RIR meeting. Over the next months, once they start to announce where meetings will take place, that will be the main determining

factor in terms of the ASO AC's request. We want to keep the costs down, but also make it as simple as possible for everyone to attend.

Esteban L. expressed his support for a f2f meeting, particularly because there are many new members in this group that began their term last year, so it's important to meet in person and know each other.

The others agreed.

Chris Q. asked whether in-person meetings require quorum.

Kevin B. said that historically teleconference support has been provided for those who were unable to attend. He suggested waiting for the procedures review team to advance in their work, look at potential meeting locations for a f2f meeting, and then see who would be able to attend.

7. RIR reports

a) ARIN 49 Report

Kevin B. provided the following update on ARIN 49:

- As a whole, there was a lot of interesting discussion.
- There is still a significant number of proposals in the ARIN region.
- It was a hybrid meeting, very successful, probably in the future ARIN will continue using this format.
- It confirmed that in-person meetings are really important, as many policies that were stuck in the virtual meetings really took off at ARIN 49. Things just got done faster
- He will send a report on the policy activities at ARIN 49 to the ASO AC list.

Chris Q. agreed that f2f meetings are important, particularly for new members like himself to meet their colleagues.

b) LACNIC 37 Report

Ricardo P. reported the following:

- LACNIC had its meeting last week.
- He shares Kevin B's observation: it was very good to meet in person with colleagues, as more work gets done.
- It was a hybrid meeting, but more than 500 people attended in person.
- Four policy proposals were discussed.
- During the Policy Forum, we presented a report on the work of the ASO AC, we mentioned the latest election process, as well as other appointments the ASO has made in the past.
- He will also send a report on LACNIC 37 to the ASO AC mailing list.

Esteban L. and Jorge V. agreed with Ricardo P., it was wonderful to see many people from the community once again after two years.

Carlos R. mentioned that the International Trademark Association had recently had their first in-person meeting, which appears to have turned into a super spreader event for COVID, even though vaccination was required. He said he was curious to know if there were any similar spikes and the general experiences of ARIN 49 and LACNIC 37 to anticipate what may happen in The Hague for ICANN 74.

Kevin B. replied that, in the case of ARIN, as a participant, he had received no notification of COVID cases and the last time they had an in-person ARIN meeting somebody was infected, but there was no super spreader event. ARIN is being very proactive in getting out the messaging and many people are still being cautious.

Ricardo P. said that the LACNIC meeting ended just two days ago, so he does not have any information about any COVID cases being detected there. People were being cautious, Colombia required COVID vaccination to enter the country, as did some places such as the meeting venue.

Kevin B. added that in ARIN attendees were given a goodie bag that included two rapid tests, one for the beginning and one for the end of the meeting, a nice touch.

Sander S. said there was a regional RIPE meeting in Ljubljana last month and that some people on his flight had actually tested positive on the day before the meeting. During the meeting, however, he did not hear anything about the virus spreading, but self-tests and masks were available at the registration desk.

Carlos R. thanked everyone for sharing their experiences.

James K. asked how the hybrid format had worked, as some people were already raising concerns in the RIPE region about how to coordinate the sessions and the meeting with some people online and others in person.

Kevin B. in the ARIN region meetings have been hybrid for a long time, we didn't call them hybrid, but remote participation. A hybrid meeting is putting more of a focus on remote participation, making sure that remote participants have more tools available to them, and being more cautious that their voices are heard rather, whereas remote participation was more of an afterthought. In his personal opinion, hybrid does not replace in-person, but is much better than remote participation.

James K. thanked Kevin B. for his feedback.

8. AOB

a) Wafa Zaafouri Announcement

Wafa Z. shared that she will be joining AFRINIC as a staff member, that she has tendered her resignation to the ASO AC which will come into effect on 15 May, and that this is her last meeting with the group. She added that it has been my pleasure to be on the ASO AC for three terms.

Kevin B. thanked Wafa Z on behalf of the ASO AC for her years of volunteer service. He wished her well in her new endeavor.

Everyone thanked Wafa Z. and wished her all the best.

New Action Item 220511-1: GV to confirm with AFRINIC when a person will be appointed to take the place of Wafa Z. (whose resignation will take effect on 15 May 2022) on the ASO AC.

Kevin B. then asked those that will be attending ICANN 74 to please send a note to the Secretariat to try to get a list, as it might be nice to meet for a coffee.

9. Closed Session

Kevin B. then proceeded to confirm that there were no observers present on the call and the ASO AC continued their discussion in closed session.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, Hervé C. moved to adjourn the meeting, Esteban L. seconded the motion, no opposition was heard, and the meeting was adjourned at 13:04 UTC.