

Global Policy Proposal for remaining IPv4 address space – Background Report, 8 September 2008

Introduction

Global Internet Number Resource Policies are defined by the [ASO MOU](#) - between ICANN and the NRO - as "Internet number resource policies that have the agreement of all RIRs according to their policy development processes and ICANN, and require specific actions or outcomes on the part of IANA or any other external ICANN-related body in order to be implemented". Attachment A of this MOU describes the Development Process of Global Internet Number Resource Policies, including the adoption by every RIR of a global policy to be forwarded to the ICANN Board by the ASO, as well as its ratification by the ICANN Board. In this context, the ICANN Board adopted its own [Procedures](#) for the Review of Internet Number Resource Policies Forwarded by the ASO for Ratification.

Among other features, these Procedures state that the Board will decide, as and when appropriate, that ICANN staff should follow the development of a particular global policy, undertaking an "early awareness" tracking of proposals in the addressing community. To this end, staff should issue background reports periodically, forwarded to the Board, to all ICANN Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees and posted at the ICANN Web site.

At its meeting on 20 November 2007, the Board resolved to request tracking of the development of a global policy proposal for allocation of remaining IPv4 address space, under discussion in the Regional Internet Registries. The status overview presented below is compiled in response to this request and will be further updated as developments proceed, for information to ICANN entities and the wider community. This is the fifth issue of the tracking of this policy.

Status Overview

Originally, two slightly different global policy proposals were introduced for allocation of the remaining IPv4 address space:

- A version (1) "Global Policy for the Allocation of the Remaining IPv4 Address Space", first presented at LACNIC X in May 2007
- A version (2) "End Policy for IANA IPv4 allocations to RIRs", first presented at APNIC 24 in September 2007

Both featured the same approach, distribution of an equal number N of /8 IPv4 address blocks to each RIR when the IANA free pool would reach the threshold value of $5xN$, but differed in the proposed value of N , notably 2 or 1, respectively. The proposals were discussed in parallel in the RIRs and regarded essentially as one proposal, with a view to converging on a value for N . In February 2008, agreement was reached for a unified proposal (3). The current proposal is thus:

- Version (3) "Global Policy for the Allocation of the Remaining IPv4 Address Space", first presented at APNIC 25 in February 2008

The proposal was introduced at the subsequent meetings of all other RIRs. It has now been adopted in ARIN, AfriNIC, LACNIC and RIPE, and is in final call in APNIC. If adopted by all the RIRs, the proposal will subsequently be handled by the NRO EC and the ASO AC according to their procedures before being submitted to the ICANN Board for ratification. The table below indicates the status within each RIR for the current proposal. Hyperlinks are included for easy access. An additional table shows the history of previous proposals.

It should be noted that other policy proposals have been put forward and are being discussed regarding IPv4 address space exhaustion, although only those mentioned above have been scoped as global policy proposals in the sense of the ASO MoU, i.e. focusing on address allocation from IANA to the RIRs, and recognized by the ASO AC as global policy proposals in that meaning.

Status of current proposal (3) - for previous proposal history see separate table

RIR	AfriNIC	APNIC	ARIN	LACNIC	RIPE
Proposal Introduced	16 Feb 2008 afpol-v4gp200802 (3)	23 Jan 2008 prop-055-v002 (3)	8 Feb 2008 prop 2007-23 (revised) (3)	21 Feb 2008 LAC-2008-01 (3)	3 March 2008 prop 2008-03 (3)
Discussion list	Resource Policy Disc. List	SIG-Policy	Public Policy Mailing List	Politicas – Policy Mailing List	Address Policy WG
Public Forum	AfriNIC 8 24 May - 6 June 2008 (consensus)	APNIC 26 25 - 29 Aug 2008 - Slides (3) (consensus)	ARIN XXI 6 - 9 April 2008 - Slides (3)	LACNIC XI 26– 30 May 2008 - Slides (3) (consensus)	RIPE 56 5 – 9 May 2008 - Slides (3)
Final Call for Comments	23 June - 8 July 2008	28 Aug - 24 Oct 2008	14 – 29 April 2008	13 June – 28 July 2008	22 July - 19 August 2008
Next Public Forum	AfriNIC 9 22 – 28 Nov 2008	APNIC 27 18 -27 Feb 2009	ARIN XXII 15 – 17 Oct 2008	LACNIC XII 25 - 29 May 2009	RIPE 57 26 – 30 Oct 2008
Adoption	AfriNIC Board, 13 August 2008		ARIN Board, 24 June 2008	LACNIC Board, 5 August 2008	Adopted on 8 Sept 2008
Link to document	afpol-v4gp200802 (3)	Proposal-055-v002 (3)	Policy prop 2007-23 revised (3)	LAC-2008-01 (3)	RIPE-436 (3)
Link to Policy Development Process	Policy Development Process	Policy Development Process	Internet Resource Policy Evaluation Process	Policy Development Process	Policy Development Process
Status	(3) adopted	(3) in final call	(3) adopted	(3) adopted	(3) adopted

History - previous proposals (1) and (2)

RIR	AfriNIC	APNIC	ARIN	LACNIC	RIPE
Proposal Introduced	9 July 2007 afpol-v4gp200707 (1) 29 Aug 2007 afpol-v4ep200708 (2)	26 July 2007 prop-051-v001 (1) 8 August 2007 prop-046-v002 (2)	28 Aug 2007 prop 2007-18 (1) 28 Aug 2007 prop 2007-23 (2)	23 April 2007 LAC-2007-07 (1)	30 July 2007 prop 2007-06 (1) 15 Oct 2007 prop 2007-07 (2)
Public Forum	AfriNIC 7 23 - 28 Sept 2007 - Slides (1) - Slides (2)	APNIC 24 29 Aug – 7 Sept 2007 - Slides (1) - Slides (2)	ARIN XX 17-19 Oct 2007 - Slides (1) - Slides (2)	LACNIC X 22- 25 May 2007 - Slides (1)	RIPE 55 22 - 26 Oct 2007 - Podcast (1+2)
Final Call for Comments	2 Oct - 17 Oct 2007			13 June - 28 July 2007	
RIR Board Endorsement				(1) Ratified by LACNIC Board on 5 Dec 2007,	
Links to documents	afpol-v4gp200707 (1) afpol-v4ep200708 (2)	Proposal-051-v001 (1) Proposal-046-v002 (2)	Policy proposal 2007-18 (1) 2007-23 (2)	- English (1) - Spanish (1) - Portuguese (1)	Policy proposal 2007-06 (1) 2007-07 (2)
Link to Policy Development Process	Policy Development Process	Policy Development Process	Internet Resource Policy Evaluation Process	Policy Development Process	Policy Development Process
Status	(1,2) withdrawn	(1,2) withdrawn	(1,2) withdrawn	(1,2) withdrawn	(1,2) withdrawn