AfriNIC

AfriNIC-13 Meeting Report

South Africa, 20-26 November 2010

The Internet Number Registry for Africa

AfriNIC Ltd, 11th Floor, Raffles Tower, Cyber City, Ebene, Mauritius
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Meeting Briefing

The African Network Information Centre (AfriNIC) concluded its thirteenth biannual meeting held at Johannesburg, South Africa. The event was hosted by The Department of Communication of South Africa (DOC) and was sponsored by Uniform coza Registry, ISOC, Neotel and Internet Solutions.

With over 160 attendees, and around 30 remote participations through out the entire event from 18 countries and International organizations. Decision makers from the African and Global Internet Community; from different fields and scopes of interests such as governmental officials, regulators, telecommunications, academia, international organisations, Internet Service Providers, Finance, Banking and Satellite Communications attended the meeting and discussed the latest developments in global best practice for managing Internet resources and its impact on the African region.

Durning the meeting a large range of African and Global Internet related topics such as IPv6, RPKI and Cyber security were discussed and debated among the different members of the community. As a result of these discussions and deliberations two regional policies progressed to the "Last Call" phase.

The two day plenary sessions were preceded by four days of IPv6 training, Local Internet Registry (LIR) tutorials and Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) workshops. After the public plenary meeting a one day closed round table of governmental officials and law enforcement representatives met on the final day of the meeting for the African Government Work Group (AfGWG) discussions and a Law Enforcement and Cyber-security Workshop for Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs).

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Plenary Overview

Mr. Adiel Akplogan, CEO of AfriNIC and Dr. Viv Padayatchy, Chairman of AfriNICs board of Directors had the honour to welcome the Deputy Minister of Communication of South Africa, Mr. Obed Bapela to deliver the opening ceremony key note.

Mr Bapela expressed the support of the South African Department of Communications to AfriNICs continuous efforts to best serve the interests of the African Community especially in regards to IPv4 depletion and IPv6 deployment and encouraged the community to start taking measures to accomplish better African accessibility.

AfriNICs CEO then gave a briefing on where Africa stands today in terms of IPv6 adoption in the region and called for a plan of action to bring Africa up to speed with the rest of the world. According to Mr. Akplogan although deployment has started in Africa, however it is still slow to date with just 122 prefixes allocated by AfriNIC, equivalent to 6.28% of all connected networks in the region.

Following AfriNICs CEO's presentation AfriNICs newly appointed IPv6 program manager Mr. Hisham Ibrahim gave a presentation showcasing how each region in the world are going forward with their IPv6 plans, and pointing to the fact that although there is deployment in the African region it is not being properly announced to the rest of the world.

After his presentation where he called to the formulation of an African-wide IPv6 task force, It was agreed there is a need for such an organization to drive awareness of IPv4 depletion and the need for IPv6 adoption and coordination on both a National and Regional level to support road map formulation and implementation.

A number of speakers followed this call by showing support to it and sharing personal experiences with IPv6.

Mr. Modou Sall from Orange SN, gave an ISP's perspective on IPv6 deployment, showcasing the key challenge they face as an ISP to have all of their devices supporting IPv6. Mr. Sall emphasized on the fact that the future of the Internet in Africa is mobile and without IPv6 compatible devices the progress and growth could be damaged.

Mr. Andrew Alston, from TENET ZA followed with a present to give an academic point of view on IPv6. He stated that the academic network where he works is IPv6 end to end.

Mr. Alston pointed out that the key is not to view IPv4 and IPv6 as different, and that community needs to find a common ground and to work together.

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Another presentation was given by Mr. Graham Beneke, a south African local gave and end users perspective on living entirely on an IPv6 network. Mr. Beneke stated that almost everything online is reachable via IPv6, with of course the occasional fine tuning, and that the only thing that he personally had to give up in his "IPv6 only" daily activity was Skype which couldn't support IPv6.

IPv6 was not the only topic being debated and presented during the meeting Mr. Alain Aina gave an interactive presentation on Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI) and its importance to assure more secure routing capabilities, through adding a verifiable mean of a holder's current right to use those resources over the Internet.

Mr. Aina demonstrated in his presentation the four phases of the NRO roadmap for RPKI and AfriNICs plans to implement them and to start deployment on the 1st of January 2011.

Mr. Timothy McGinnis followed Alain's demonstration with a presentation on the "Emerging challenges and opportunities for RIR". Mr. McGinnis showed support to the African IPv6 Task Force, RPKI and AFGWG/LEWG initiatives, while hinting also on other issues and challenges in the Global Internet Community.

Also a brief update from the remaining four RIRs was given by the RIR representatives at the meeting highlighting on some of their latest projects, accomplishments and challenges.

All presentations from AfriNIC 13 can be viewed at

http://meeting.afrinic.net/afrinic-13/index.php/the-meeting/agenda

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Policy Development Meeting Report

The AfriNIC Policy Development Process (PDP) works through bottom up procedures and is open to anyone with an interest in Internet number resource management in the region. AfriNIC invites participation from all stakeholders, including governments, private sector and civil society to ensure that its policies take into consideration the reality of the environment whilst ensuring a stable and smooth development of the Internet in the region.

A. Appointment of Interim co-chairs, AfriNIC Policy Development Working Group

As Chairman of the AfriNIC Board of Directors Dr. Viv Padayatchy announced on behalf of the Board the decision to appoint S. Moonesamy and Dr. Paulos Nyirenda as interim PDWG Chairs until proper elections can be organized.

https://lists.afrinic.net/pipermail/rpd/2010/001165.html

Dr Paulos Nyirenda declined the appointment, preferring to wait for elections, while S. Moonesamy accepted his appointment. Alan Barrett was selected as co-chair along side S.Moonesamy. It was made noted that the 2011 Nominations Committee would be responsible for the election of the PDWG Chairs for AfriNIC-14.

B. Abuse Contact Information in the AfriNIC service region Proposal (AFPUB-2010-GEN-006)

http://www.afrinic.net/docs/policies/AFPUB-2010-GEN-006.htm

This proposal introduces a reference to a specific and dedicated object which shall be used in the future as the one and only place to publish abuse contact information within the AfriNIC region. The mentioned object can be referenced in the inetnum, inet6num and aut-num objects in the AfriNIC Whois Database. It will provide a more accurate and efficient way for abuse reports to reach the correct network contact.

The Interim co-chairs determined that there was consensus on progressing this proposal to Last Call. No changes were suggested during the meeting.

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C. Addition of Real Contact Email into ASN Whois Bulk Data Proposal
(AFPUB-2010-GEN-007)

http://www.afrinic.net/docs/policies/AFPUB-2010-GEN-007.htm

This proposal suggested adding the real contact email address into the ASN whois bulk data, or some other dataset if the community wanted to keep the current one intact.

The Interim co-chairs determined that there was no consensus for this proposal. Some objections were that it was too vague, that it seemed too specific to one particular user of the data, and that the intent of the proposal could be satisfied under the abuse contact information proposal (AFPUB-2010-GEN-006).

D. Global Policy for IPv4 Allocations by the IANA Post Exhaustion Proposal
(AFPUB-2010-v4-003/AFPUB-2010-v4-006)

http://www.afrinic.net/docs/policies/AFPUB-2010-v4-006.htm

This policy suggests allowing all IPv4 inventory regardless of prefix size to be returned to, and subsequently reallocated fairly and equitably by the IANA post-runout.

The Interim co-chairs determined that, even though there was rough consensus in favor of the proposal, compliance with the Policy Development Process requires that the proposal should not progress to Last Call now.

E. IPv4 Soft Landing Proposal (AFPUB-2010-v4-005)

http://www.afrinic.net/docs/policies/AFPUB-2010-v4-005.htm

This policy suggests that in order to ensure a smooth transition to IPv6, AfriNIC's pool should be managed to provide members with address space after the IPv4 pool is depleted, in order to maintain and deploy IPv4 networks while deploying IPv6 networks during a gradual transition to IPv6. This document proposes a strategy for allocation and Assignment and maintenance of AfriNIC's final /8 block of IPv4 from IANA.

The Interim co-chairs determined that there was consensus on progressing this proposal to Last Call.

The detailed policy list can be viewed at

http://www.afrinic.net/policy.htm

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