AfriNIC Policy AFPUB-2011-v4-003-draft-02 – Limited out of region allocation of IPv4 Resources

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A Brief Summary

- IPv4 Resources in the rest of the world either have, or are running out fast
- Foreign entities should be allowed to get resources from AfriNIC – but pay a penalty fee for being out of region
- The proposal is only in effect until the soft landing policy triggers
- The proposal only allows for a single /8 to be utilized for this purpose
- Any foreign entity applying for space under this proposal would still be bound by standard allocation rules

The Facts…..

- At current allocation rates we are set to deplete years after everyone else.

- Internet resources are valuable – based on the sale of IP addresses to Microsoft v4 address space suddenly has a value attached to it

- Current policy pre-soft landing already allows for foreign entities to get their hands on AfriNIC space

The opinions….

- Because of the short term high value of IPv4 resources, when the world runs out of space, they will come looking for space where its available…. In Africa
- With IRDB being a woefully inadequate filtering mechanism, there is a very real possibility of massive amounts of IPv4 space hijacking if people can't get it legitimately
- Even if the filters were adequate, based on current policy there are many ways to get your hands on African IP space as a foreign entity
- Policing where space is and isn't being used is impractical, and should someone be "breaking the rules", there is little that can actually be done about it
- History has shown that when it comes to valuable resources – money comes first, and companies will do what they have to in order to ensure their survival – even if that means pillaging a continent of resources at the cost of their reputations.

Why you should pass this policy

- For to long Africa has had it's resources stolen from under it with no real compensation – if we can be compensated for what is going to happen anyway, well and good.

- IPv6 promotion is desperately needed – and it costs money, the money generated by foreign penalty fees could be utilized in this manner

- Lets abandon idealism in the face of reality – we cannot stop the world coming after our resources, so at least make them pay for them

- What is proposed is *NOT* the sale of IP address space – we are charging a penalty fee for providing a service to foreign entities – in the same way foreign entities inflate their prices in Africa within their African companies – look at our Telco costs.

Some Final Thoughts

- Like this policy or hate it, let your voice be heard – the African community needs to take a stand on issues and for to long we have been apathetic

- Even if you disagree with the policy, let the spirit of the policy and my reasons behind it stimulate your thinking, how long will let the world take our resources without compensation because we insist on idealism, or because we are to apathetic, or because we are afraid to actually stand up and do something about it?

Thank you!

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