

POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Afrinic is the Regional Internet Registry responsible for the management and distribution of Internet resources in the African and part of the Indian Ocean region. Afrinic manages these resources on well-defined policies.



POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

All allocations and assignments of Internet number resources must also be consistent with the goals of the Internet Registry System: aggregation, conservation and registration. To ensure this, there are policies in place that guide the Internet community in a fair, consistent, and neutral manner for proper usage of these Internet resources.

WHY DO WE NEED POLICIES?

Internet number resources such as IP addresses and Autonomous System Numbers (ASN) are important public resources which are vital for the continued growth and stability of the Internet. These resources are not owned by address users, nor are they a commodity that can be bought, sold or traded. Therefore, it is important that they are managed and distributed in a responsible and fair manner.

WHO DEVELOPS THESE POLICIES?

Policies can be proposed by anyone from the community and you need not be an Afrinic member. The Internet community develops and agrees on all Afrinic policies. However, just as the Internet develops, policies must evolve to suit changes in the industry. A key role of Afrinic as well as the other RIRs is to provide a forum in which members of the Internet community can discuss changes in the Internet and create policies to suit these changes.

AFRINIC'S POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IS CONSENSUS BASED AS FOLLOWS:

Open

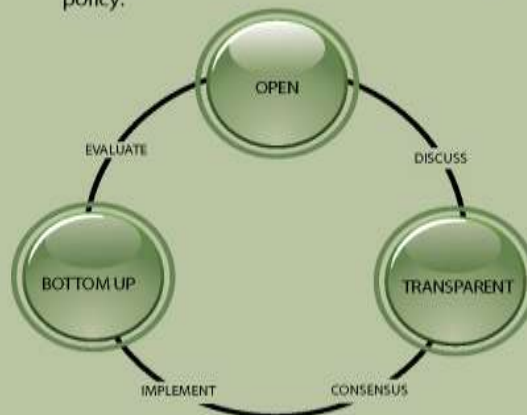
- Anyone interested can get involved, propose and discuss policies. No accreditation is needed; it is therefore all inclusive and accessible.

Transparent

- Meeting notes, presentations and discussions are publicly accessible. Everything is documented and published.

Bottom-up process

- The Internet Community drives policy development, i.e: proposes, discusses and approves policy.



WHY SHOULD I GET INVOLVED IN THE AFRINIC PDP?

The Internet needs to be managed responsibly through the bottom-up policy development approach. Therefore it is your duty also to get involved and make decisions that suit your needs; to ensure everyone, each organisation and all African regions have a chance to have their voices heard; and, learn and share experiences from others in the industry.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED IN AFRINIC PDP?

Subscribing to and participating in the policy development mailing list (rpd@afriNIC.net) discussions.

Attending the bi-annual AfriNIC public policy meetings, either in person, or through remote participation.

