

Registries Stakeholder Group Statement



Second Draft of the RIR Governance Document

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(this is a copy of the comment submitted via the ICANN public comment platform)

Reference url:

<https://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/proceeding/second-draft-of-the-rir-governance-document-28-08-2025>

Background¹

The proposed “Governance Document for the Recognition, Operation, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)” (“the RIR Governance Document”) sets forth a proposal on the: Rules and criteria for recognizing new RIRs, the Operating obligations and requirements of RIRs, and the Rules and criteria for derecognizing RIRs. If adopted by ICANN and the RIRs, the RIR Governance Document would supersede and replace the Internet Coordination Policy 2 (ICP-2).

Documents

- [Governance Document for the Recognition, Operation, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries - Version 2 Draft \(pdf, 173.3 KB\)](#)

Related RySG comments

- [RySG comment on the Governance Document for the Recognition, Maintenance, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries](#) (27 May 2025)
- [RySG comment on the Proposed Internet Coordination Policy 2 \(ICP-2\) Version 2 Principles](#) (6 December 2024)

Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) comment

The Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) endorses the second revised draft of the Governance Document for the Recognition, Operation, and Derecognition of Regional Internet Registries. We commend the responsive improvements made to the draft based on our continued feedback and engagement.

As representatives of gTLD Registry Operators, the RySG recognizes that stable and predictable Regional Internet Registry (RIR) operations are crucial for our members and all gTLD registries. The latest revision makes significant improvements by incorporating

¹ Background: intended to give a brief context for the comment and to highlight what is most relevant for RO's in the subject document – it is not a summary of the subject document.

emergency continuity protocols, expanding ICANN's audit capabilities, enhancing the recognition and derecognition process, and reinforcing the RIRs' financial and operational independence. These modifications advance the objectives of enhanced transparency, stability, and predictability within the RIR system. We anticipate continued collaborative efforts between ICANN and the RIR community as the RIRs work to implement the new governance requirements.

During that implementation, we encourage the RIRs to consider the following **refinements to Article 5:**

- 5.1: Consider defining the criteria for a qualified Emergency Operator.
- 5.1(c): Consider providing additional detail regarding the process for handover back to the affected RIR following the end of an Emergency Continuity period.
- 5.1(d): Consider clarifying the renewal process, including any limitations on the number of times an Emergency Continuity period may be renewed.