

THE INTERNET NUMBERS REGISTRY FOR AFRICA

AfriNIC Mission Statement

"To provide a fair and efficient distribution of Internet number resources to the African Internet community, to support Internet technology usage and development across the continent and to strengthen self Internet governance in Africa by encouraging a participative policy development"

AfriNIC is a non-governmental, not-for-profit, open membership based organization registered in Mauritius. Its policy development process is open to anybody without any specific requirement.

AfriNIC Service Region

AfriNIC serves the entire African region plus the Indian Ocean.

Countries covered by AfriNIC are:

Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Benin, Ghana, Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Rep, Chad, Comoros, Dem. Rep. of Congo, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mayottes, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Rwanda, Reunion, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sudan, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Un. Rep. of Western Sahara, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Who are our members?

Membership is open to all individuals and organisations. AfriNIC's members include Internet Service Providers (ISPs), telecommunications companies and private network operators, throughout the African region.



African Network Information Centre

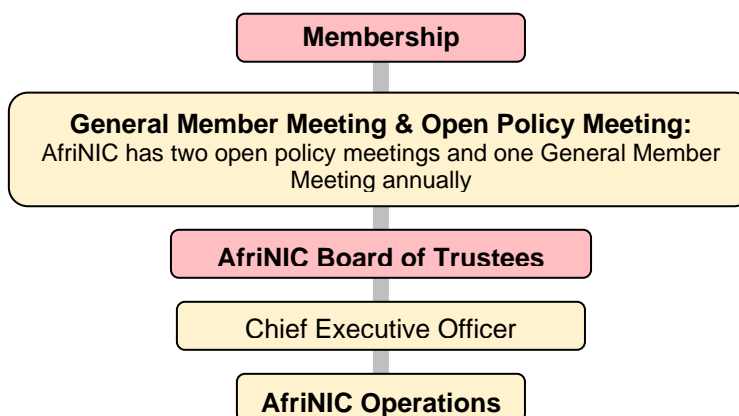
AfriNIC is one of the five Regional Internet Registries in the world

What is our role?

As a Regional Internet Registry, AfriNIC is responsible for ensuring the fair distribution and responsible management of IP addresses and the related numeric resources that are required for a stable and reliable operation of the Internet globally.

AfriNIC structure:

AfriNIC structure is designed to provide openness and transparency in all decision-making processes. The organizational structure is as follows:



Membership: Members are the high level entities. They vote on issues related to AfriNIC operations and elect the Board of Trustees.

Open Policy Meeting: It is where the community at large is invited to participate in knowledge sharing, social networking and policy discussions.

Board of Trustees: A board of trustees is elected by members to represent them in a decision-making capacity between member meetings.

AfriNIC Operations: AfriNIC staff works under the global oversight of the CEO, its responsibility is to fulfill the AfriNIC's mission by applying the policies through efficient procedures and processes.

Afrinic Membership in April 2005

Initially, Afrinic has inherited members from the established RIRs. Our Membership is split as follows as at our startup date:

Extra Small	22
Small	77
Medium	13
Large	3
Extra Large	0
ASN	79
End Users	8
Member Only	4

Afrinic membership is open to anybody. To find out how to become a member, please contact us at <new-member@afrinic.net>.

Global partnership

Afrinic works closely with various local and International partners.

International Partners: As part of the global Internet resource management system, Afrinic has a strong partnership with the four other Regional Internet Registries: APNIC (Asia and Pacific – www.apnic.net), ARIN (North America – www.arin.net), LACNIC (Latin America and the Caribbean – www.lacnic.net) and RIPE NCC (Europe, the Middle East and parts of Central Asia – www.ripe.net).



Additionally, Afrinic has a partnership with other leading Internet organisations such as the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA), the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and the Internet Society (ISOC).

Local Partners: In addition to a close relationship with its members organisation, Afrinic has other African organisations such as **AfNOG** (www.afnog.org), **AFTLD** (www.aftld.org), and **AfriSPA** (www.afrispa.org) as partners.

This document is current as at 15 April 2005.

Brief Story of Afrinic

• 1997

First proposal submitted to the community during the INET workshop in Kuala Lumpur.

• 1998

First consultation meeting is organised in Cotonou (Benin) during the African Internet Group meeting. A steering committee is set up.

• 2000

During the first African Network Operators Group (AfNOG) meeting in Cape Town (South Africa), the community endorses the report of the steering committee to move ahead with the Afrinic project. Afrinic appoints its first observers to the ASO AC.

• 2001

Afrinic's bylaws are adopted. The community appoints the first Board of Trustees on a subregional representation basis. (Accra, Ghana)

• 2002

An agreement is signed with the established RIRs to support the Afrinic incubation period. First activity report is presented to the community. (Lomé, Togo)

• 2003

Selection of the hosting countries, appointment of a project manager and the first Hostmasters. (Kampala, Uganda)

• 2004

Afrinic is incorporated in Mauritius and starts a transition process with the established RIRs. The Application for Recognition is sent to ICANN. Afrinic holds its first public policy meeting in Dakar (Senegal).

• 2005

Afrinic completes the transition plan. ICANN gives Afrinic final accreditation as the fifth Regional Internet Registry.

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