How Accountable is RIPE?

Athina Fragkouli | October 2016 | RIPE 73

Accountability discussions

- First reference 2 years ago RIPE 69 in London

What is "Accountability" for us?

- Compliance with what the community wants
  - Open, inclusive, transparent, bottom up Policy Development Process
  - Constant communication with the community
- Operational accountability
  - Membership-based organisation
  - Elected Board - responsive to what membership wants
  - Governance documents for transparency and reference
- Continuing evolving framework
- Similar for all RIRs

Athina Fragkouli - RIPE 69 Cooperation WG - 6 November 2014

RIPE NCC

Accountability discussions

- First reference 2 years ago RIPE 69 in London

What is "Accountability" for us?

RIPE NCC

- Compliance with what the community wants
  - Open, inclusive, transparent, bottom up Policy Development Process
  - Constant communication with the community
- Operational accountability
  - Membership-based organisation
  - Elected Board - responsive to what membership wants
  - Governance documents for transparency and reference
- Continuing evolving framework
- Similar for all RIRs

Athina Fragkouli - RIPE 69 Cooperation WG - 6 November 2014

RIPE NCC

Accountability discussions

- First reference 2 years ago RIPE 69 in London

- Beginning of IANA transition discussions

- ICANN under scrutiny

  - CCWG ICANN accountability

- Other Internet organisations would be next

  - Including the RIPE NCC and other RIRs

RIPE NCC Accountability

- **Solid framework**

  - A high priority since 2010

    https://www.ripe.net/about-us/legal/corporate-governance-documents

  - All processes clearly documented and explained

  - Regular reporting to members and community

- **Continuing evolving framework**

  - Responding to emerging needs

RIRs Accountability

- **RIR Governance Matrix**

  - A matrix of governance processes and documents for all of the RIRs:

    https://www.nro.net/about-the-nro/rir-governance-matrix

- **RIR Governance FAQs**

  - FAQs:

    https://www.nro.net/about-the-nro/rir-accountability

Now what?

- IANA transition completed

- CCWG on ICANN accountability still ongoing

  - Work Stream 2 —> Focus on accountability of SO/ACs (accountability of community representatives)

  - Limited scope: ASO = numbers community representatives in ICANN related activities

  - Respect for communities' self-governance

- But the focus is shifting from legal entities (RIPE NCC) to communities (RIPE)

RIPE accountability

from RIPE community's side

- Our community is confident

  - Bottom up

  - Transparent

  - Open

  - Inclusive

- Details in various RIPE documents

RIPE accountability

from the "other" side

- Questions by various parties (Govs, LEAs, etc)

  - Origins of authority to make policies

  - Guidelines set in place

  - Scope of RIPE

  - Participants

  - Decision making process

  - Implementation/enforcement

- We have answers

  - But not in a comprehensive for them way

A matter of translation

- Explain our procedures in their language

- Respond to their questions in a comprehensive (to them) manner

- Take their concerns into consideration

- Improve our documentation

- Defend the RIPE community

- "Own" the discussion on RIPE accountability

A Way Forward

- A job for the community

  - RIPE NCC can facilitate

- Does the community want to address this?

Questions

athina.fragkouli@ripe.net