

# 2007 highlights

## *Policies*

Policies are very important documents. IP addresses and AS numbers are shared resources, available for use by anyone who needs them, and policies ensure that these resources are distributed fairly and consistently across the AfriNIC service region. The policies that AfriNIC uses to manage the allocation and assignment of Internet number resources under our custodianship are developed by the membership and the broader Internet community at large through a bottom-up process of consultation and consensus. This process is available on the policy page of the AfriNIC website.

### **In 2007, the following policies reached consensus:**

DATE	PROPOSED BY:	PROPOSAL
20070707	Vincent Ngundi	Policy Development Process
20070820	Axel Pawlik	IANA Policy for Allocations of ASN Blocks to RIRs
20070130	Vincent Ngundi, Alain Aina	IPv6 Provider Independent (PI) Assignment for End-Sites
20070331	Adiel A. Akplogan	Change to the IPv6 HD ratio from 0.8 to 0.94
20061122	Adiel A. Akplogan	Proposals to change the allocation and assignment period to 12 months

### ***Policies Recently Withdrawn***

DATE	PROPOSED BY:	PROPOSAL
20070707	R.Gagliano , F. Obispo, H. EL Nakhal, D. A. Kla	Global Policy for the Allocation of the Remaining IPv4 Address Space
20070829	JPNIC	End Policy for IANA IPv4 allocations to RIRs

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Currently, there are several proposals under discussion that will be presented at AfriNIC-8 in Rabat, Morocco for discussions and possible consensus from the Community:

DATE	PROPOSED BY:	PROPOSAL
20060704	Jordi Palet Martinez	Modification to IPv6 Allocation and Assignment Policy
20070401	Jordi Palet Martinez	Policy for IPv6 ULA-central
20071030	Tony Hain	Cooperative distribution of the end of the IPv4 free pool
20080216	R.Gagliano , F. Obispo, H. EL Nakhal, D. A. Kla and JPNIC IPv4 countdown policy team	Global Policy for the Allocation of the Remaining IPv4 Address Space



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## MyAfriNIC: access to Internet Resources at a click

MyAfriNIC is a web-based portal launched in 2007 that allows AfriNIC members to efficiently manage their resources and communicate with the Registry.

This service enables each member to keep track of all the history related to his membership, namely the following:

- Update their organisation's contact details
- Keep their personal profile up-to-date
- View their billing history
- View or download invoices
- Pay their bills online
- Manage AS Numbers
- Manage IPv4 resources
- Manage IPv6 resources
- Create, modify or delete reverse delegations
- Track the status of support tickets

MyAfriNIC was developed by the Software and Database Engineering team at AfriNIC.

This first version was tested by members from a range of volunteer countries in the AfriNIC service region which conducted an initial trial of the portal in a live environment ending in March 2007. These members were eNetworks (South Africa), Ghana Telecoms (Ghana), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (Egypt), Ponto de Intercambio Internet Angola (Angola), Skannet (Nigeria), Sonatel (Senegal) and Sudatel (Sudan). The suggestions and comments received from these members have been incorporated.

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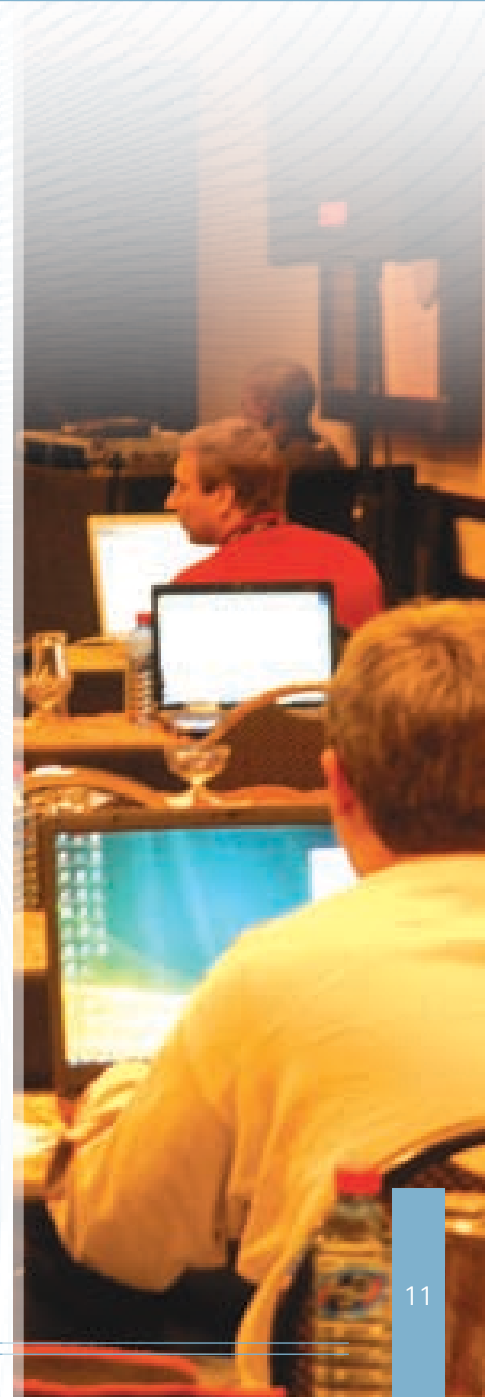
Already, several additional features and services are being developed and will be incorporated in a future release. Hence, the new version might also include online payment and new member registration amongst its unique features.

As stated by Mr. Adiel Akplogan, Chief Executive Officer, during the official launch at the AfriNIC-7 meeting in Durban, South Africa, MyAfriNIC comes in line with AfriNIC's ongoing mission to provide the community with the highest level of service. It is highly hoped that this portal will meet and exceed members' expectations.

Since the launch date of 27<sup>th</sup> September 2007, over 164 individual contacts from over 120 member organizations have been activated to use MyAfriNIC.

MyAfriNIC can be accessed via <http://myafriNIC.net>

Members who wish to register for MyAfriNIC are kindly requested to send an email to [myafriNIC@afriNIC.net](mailto:myafriNIC@afriNIC.net) to obtain their login credentials.





*Adiel A. Akplogan (left) , Chief Executive Officer of AfriNIC, and Michuki Mwangi, President of AfTLD, signing the MoU on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2007 in Abuja, Nigeria, during the AfriNIC-6 meeting.*

- **AfriNIC / AfTLD : Signature of a Memorandum of Understanding**

AfriNIC and the African Top Level Domains (AfTLD) signed an agreement of collaboration and mutual support to further strengthen their partnership in working for the African community's participation within the domain name system.

Following an initial two-year period, the agreement will be reviewed and evaluated as per the common goals established.

- **AfriNIC encourages its members to get ready for IPv6**

With the IANA pool of available IPv4 address space running out, AfriNIC embarked on an awareness campaign to inform its community about this situation. AfriNIC sent an informative letter to all its members in July 2007, urging them to start looking into the issue as soon as possible.

A press conference was held on 9th August 2007 by Adiel A. Akplogan the CEO of AfriNIC regarding the same issue in Mauritius.

While the time is not for panic, it is rather important that action be taken as soon as possible by Network Operators to avoid emergency situations.

The third AfriIPv6 event took place this year in Durban back-to-back with the AfriNIC-7 meeting with the participation of more than 150 persons from Africa and all over the world. It was the occasion for participants to review the state of IPv6 adoption in the region and look at the experiences from other parts of the world.

Since 2005, AfriNIC has initiated an awareness campaign on the exhaustion of IPv4 pool and introduced IPv6 to Operators and Policy Makers around the continent. Training sessions have been organized in more than 12 countries with more than 500 people trained and informed about IPv6.



- **Cooperation with Academia ( AfriNIC / AAU ) : discounted fees for Research & Education Institutions**

Pursuing its commitment to support the academic and research community in Africa, AfriNIC's Board has approved a proposal to provide a special pricing to the Association of African Universities (AAU) members.

As from July 1st, 2007, research and education institutions in all African and Indian Ocean Countries are entitled to a 50% discount on set-up, membership and assignment fees for IP number resources, which AfriNIC assigns/allocates to them.

This collaboration between AfriNIC and the AAU Universities aims at enhancing Internet access and capacity development for AAU members and other education and research institutions. It will undoubtedly bring about a better involvement of the Academic community to the development of Internet in the Africa region.

- **New fee structure for AfriNIC membership adopted for 2008-2009**

To support its operations, AfriNIC charges its members fees that may be deemed to change from year to year according to operational costs, financial health of the organization, and upon validation by the Board of Directors.

The new fee structure for 2008-2009 has been reviewed for a more equitable repartition and will cater for newly introduced categories of members. Also, in order to encourage and promote usage of IPv6 in the region, special measures have been adopted to extend the waiver of allocation fees for already existing members and apply a special pricing for new IPv6-Only members.

- **AfriNIC awards prize for Best Open Source**

AfriNIC awarded a special prize to Mr. Nouhoun Yedidya Diarra, as the programmer of the best open source software in the context of the Best Open Source Project contest, which took place during the 'Rencontres Africaines du Logiciel Libre's 2007 event (RALL 2007 - one of the largest African meetings for open source applications), at the Golden Tulip Farah Hotel in Rabat, Morocco.

AfriNIC will provide for Mr Diarra a fellowship amounting to US\$ 2500, covering his participation in the IETF-72 meeting which will take place from 27th July to 1st August 2008, in Dublin, Ireland.

This award aims at supporting and better exposing engineers from Africa to the International Internet Technical Forum. The IETF meeting will provide a good exposure to Mr. Diarra to the latest development in the Internet field.