

LACNIC Policy Development Process

Rationale

The Policy Development Process is an essential part of Regional Internet Registry services. It is through this process that the creation or modification of the policies that the RIR will apply within its region is validated.

At LACNIC there is also an Expedited Policy Approval Process, which is only used in exceptional cases, according to which it is not necessary to present the policy proposal before the Public Forum.

LACNIC Policy Development Process

The Policy Development Process may go through the following instances:

1. Public Policy List
2. Public Forum Moderators
3. Working Groups
4. Public Forum
5. LACNIC Board of Directors
6. Member Assembly

Public Policy List

1. Only an individual **subscribed to the list** may submit a proposal.
2. Completely open list.
3. Formal starting point and ending point for policy discussions.
4. Policy proposals may be received at any time.
5. Proposals must be sent to "**propuesta@lacnic.net.net**" using the **#TEMPLATE#**. They will be reviewed and promptly sent to the discussion list.
6. Working Groups may only be summoned through this list.
7. Every summons for the creation of a working group must be supported by at least 5 members of the Public Policy List.
8. Elections for appointing Public Forum Moderators shall be summoned through this List alternately every two years.
9. **Only those issues and subject discussed at this List 4 weeks in advance of the Public Forum shall be presented at said Forum for their discussion and call for consensus.**

Public Forum Moderators

LACNIC's Public Forum will have two moderators, both of which shall have the same functions.

De las funciones de los Moderadores del Foro Público

1. To conduct and prepare Public Forum discussions. Discussions shall be conducted by one of the two moderators, who may alternate in this function during the course of the event.
2. To conduct the Public Policy List and the Policy Development Process in general.
3. To evaluate and suggest minor changes to the texts proposed during the Public Forum before the corresponding call for consensus.
4. To evaluate and suggest consensus in policy discussions.
5. To suggest the finalization of the discussions on a specific issue on the Public Policy List.
6. To decide to abandon a policy.
7. To summon the creation of Working Groups on the Public Policy List.
8. To receive comments from LACNIC's Staff in relation to different aspects of a policy proposal. These comments may include, among others, comments on the edition of the texts that are used, on the cost of implementing a proposal, on legal aspects, and on the location of a proposal within LACNIC's policy document.

About Public Forum Moderators

1. Public Forum Moderators shall not be members of of LACNIC's staff.
2. These positions shall be honorary.
3. They will be elected during the Public Forum. Candidacies shall be presented through the Public Policy List.
4. They must be members of LACNIC or be supported by a member of LACNIC.
5. These positions shall be held alternately for 2 years, with the possibility of unlimited reelection.

Working Groups

1. Working Groups shall be optional. Their goal will be to facilitate the discussion of specific issues.
2. Unlimited number of participants.
3. Created at the summons of **one of the Public Forum Moderators**, LACNIC's Board of Directors, or the Member Assembly.
4. Working Group results must be published at the Public Policy List **4 weeks** before the Public Forum is held. These results shall be considered as recommendations for the Public Policy List.

Public Forum

1. Open to any person interested in the subject matter.
2. Analysis of the discussions considered at the Public Policy List.
3. **May introduce minor modifications to proposed texts (modifications that do not alter the meaning of a proposal) before the corresponding call for consensus.**
4. **Decisions made based on consensus. Moderated by the Public Forum Moderators.**

5. Following the Public Forum, the Public Forum Moderators may take three different actions in relation to each policy proposal presented at said Forum:
 - a. If consensus is attained, the policy shall be published on the Public Policy List for the reception of public comments during a period of 45 days.
 - b. If consensus is not attained, the policy may be returned to the Public Policy List for further discussion.
 - c. If consensus is not attained, the policy may be abandoned and removed from the list of policies under discussion by the LACNIC community.
6. A policy that is returned to the Public Policy List for further discussion and that is not reviewed nor presented at the following Public Forum will automatically be abandoned after said Public Forum.
7. Opportunities will be offered for presenting issues of interest to the Public Forum.

LACNIC Board of Directors

During its first meeting after the 45-day period established for the reception of public comments, LACNIC's Board of Directors may:

1. Accept the proposal. Analyze its implementation jointly with the staff and make the corresponding announcement.
2. Reject the proposal and, through the Public Forum Moderators, request that the Public Policy List continue their analysis and present a new proposal at the following Public Forum.

In addition

1. The Board of Directors may summon the creation of Working Groups on the Public Policy List.
2. The Board of Directors will be responsible for the election process for appointing the Public Forum Moderators.

Member Assembly

1. The Assembly may suspend the application of a policy. In this case, through its Board of Directors, the Assembly shall notify LACNIC's Public Policy List.
2. It may also summon the creation of Working Groups on the Public Policy List.

Expedited Policy Approval Process

In exceptional cases, a policy proposal may follow an expedited process according to which it is not necessary to present the policy proposal before LACNIC's Public Forum.

In order for a policy proposal to qualify for this expedited process it must be analyzed by both Public Forum Moderators, who must agree that said proposal justifies the expedited

process.

After completing this instance, the policy will be presented in the Public Policy List.

At least 60 days after being presented on the list, the Public Forum Moderators will evaluate whether the discussion that is generated warrants a call for consensus or abandoning the expedited process.

If both Moderators agree that the policy proposal warrants a call for consensus on the Public Policy List, said call will be published at least 14 days in advance in order to receive opinions.

Once the period for receiving opinions is closed, the Public Forum Moderators shall communicate whether or not consensus was attained. If it was, they shall submit the proposal to LACNIC's Board of Directors. If it was not, they may choose between abandoning the expedited process and continuing the discussion on the Public Policy List or abandoning the proposal completely.

After attaining consensus on the Public Policy List, LACNIC's Board of Directors may:

1. Accept the proposal. Analyze its implementation jointly with the staff and make the corresponding announcement.
2. Reject the consensus and, through the Public Forum Moderators, request that the Public Policy List continue their analysis and present a new proposal at the following Public Forum.

All policy proposals approved through the expedited process must be presented at the following Public Forum in order to inform the community of its implementation.