ARIN and Ongoing Developments in the Global Internet Number Registry System

John Curran, ARIN President & CEO
The RIR System

- **ARIN** (American Registry for Internet Numbers)
  - Established in 1997

- **RIPE NCC** (RIPE Network Coordination Centre)
  - Established in 1992

- **APNIC** (Asia Pacific Network Information Centre)
  - Established in 1993

- **lacnic** (Latin America and Caribbean Internet Addresses Confederation)
  - Established in 2002

- **AFRINIC** (The African Internet Registry)
  - Established in 2005
Background

ARIN does not normally comment on disputes or related litigation occurring at another RIR

Provide insight into the nature of the dispute, to highlight some aspects of the ongoing litigation
Timeline of Legal Developments
2020

AFRINIC completed a Registry Audit

A determination that resources were not being utilized for the purposes for which they were issued and would be revoked (after a suitable time to allow customer migration of those resources)

More information was required from Cloud Innovation

Mr. Lu and his businesses disputed AFRINIC’s authority to enforce this provision of its customer agreement
Timeline of Legal Developments

Mr. Lu engaged in several legal actions in the courts in Mauritius to prevent having to return the address blocks to AFRINIC

One motion currently freezes AFRINIC’s accounts and thus has the potential to hamper AFRINIC’s operations

After approx. 2.5 months, AFRINIC successfully has freezing order removed

Injunction entered in Court preventing AFRINIC from holding its annual elections

Filing by registered member of AFRINIC seeking the appointment of Directors to the Board to constitute quorum (list of proposed candidates was provided by African Telecommunications Union)
Litigation
Litigation

AFRINIC subject to over 40 claims

Majority of cases involve Cloud Innovation

Freezing financial accounts for 2 ½ months

Interference in the operations of AFRINIC
Governance, Elections, and Board Lawsuits
Governance, Elections, and Board Lawsuits

Seeking court relief to appoint directors to reach Quorum

Injunction Prevents Elections

No Quorum

Injunction

Seeking court relief to appoint directors to reach Quorum
Current public relations campaign against AFRINIC by the Number Resource Society (NRS)

The NRS is in no way affiliated or connected with the NRO
Governance, Elections, and Board Lawsuits

Public relations campaign by the NRS against
• AFRINIC's CEO
• Other individuals that have expressed support for AFRINIC

It is of utmost importance to ensure fair, transparent, and trustworthy elections in AFRINIC
NRO Public Response
12 July 2022

NRO Letter to Mauritius Government

“For the last 12 months, AFRINIC has been inappropriately disrupted in its ability to perform its critical functions. Over 25 lawsuits have been filed against it by an entity known as Cloud Innovation Ltd, with registered address in Seychelles, and which is owned and controlled by a Mr. Lu Heng, a resident of Hong Kong.”
ARIN’s Communication to the Community
ARIN’s Communication to the Community

Blog Posts
January 2021
August 2021

RIRs Message
21 June 2022
Thank You