

Based on: BC, NCUC, ccNSO, GAC, SSAC contributions

1. The designated community in SO/ACs and if they go beyond the ICANN bylaws

As well as the definition of the bylaws, the ASO designated community is the overall Numbers community .

BC and NCUC's designated community is specified both in ICANN Bylaws and in BC Bylaws. GNSO designated community is the same as the ICANN bylaws indicate.

For CCNSO, the designated community that is said in ICANN is not inclusive and precise and they have considered a broader definition of designated community (i.e. IDNs) as their designated community. SSAC does not go beyond the ICANN bylaws designated community. GAC's designated community is mentioned in ICANN bylaws as well as its operating principles.

2. Rulemaking mechanisms in SO/ACs (bylaws, operation documents, customary mechanisms)

The ASO has 5 regional RIRs, with their own rules and procedures and have regional policymaking. The NRO Number Council (NRO NC) performs the function of the ASO AC and has its own procedures. BC has its own bylaws, and also complies with GNSO and CSG procedural rules. NCUC also has its own bylaws. The accountability processes are also entrusted in an executive committee. GNSO Council has its operational procedural. CCNSO has bylaws and is developing new practices and methods through its Guideline Review Committee. NCUC has its own bylaws.

GAC also have operational procedures. It advises the Board through Communiques and uses consensus.

3. Unique accountability mechanisms (what is only specific to some SO/ACs?)

Openness: In some of the SO/AC (for example ASO and GNSO) anyone can participate in their policymaking process without having to be a member).

Interpretation: GAC has interpretation for its meetings. This might be the case in other groups as well but have seen during the data capture.

Transparency: ASO provides glossary for acronyms, takes minutes of NRO meetings and has a FAQ page which it uses as a mechanism for a transparent and understandable process.

A procedural tool: CCNSO has a working group which is reviewing current practices and related documentation of the ccNSO. If considered necessary by the GRC, updates of the documentation and/or new guidelines are suggested.

Outreach: some group have outreach mechanisms such as Newsletter, and an outreach committee that carries out outreach plan before meetings. They also collaborate with their respective ICANN global engagement group.

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4. Convergence of mechanisms and answers

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5. Divergence in response and mechanisms if any

sometimes there are no formal appeal mechanisms for decision and elections. Due to the nature of some Acs, they have closed meetings.

While reviews take place in almost all SO/Acs, some do the reviews annually while others do so less frequently.