

Changes to IPv6 initial allocation criteria

ARIN Policy Proposal 2006-7

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Summary

- New organizations need a policy that allows them to apply for IPv6 address space.
- To provide this we need to insert a new additional line item to 6.5.1.1:
 - e. OR be an organization new to providing internet services, and can justify intent to announce the requested IPv6 address space within one year, through records such as contracts, inventory and/or other applicable documentation.

Policy Text

6.5.1.1. Initial allocation criteria

To qualify for an initial allocation of IPv6 address space, an organization must:

- a. be an LIR;
- b. not be an end site;
- c. plan to provide IPv6 connectivity to organizations to which it will assign IPv6 address space, by advertising that connectivity through its single aggregated address allocation; and
- d. meet at least one of the following:
 1. be an existing, known ISP in the ARIN region.
 2. have a plan for making at least 200 /48 assignments to other organizations within five years.
 3. **be an organization new to providing internet services that can justify intent to announce the requested IPv6 address space within one year, through records such as contracts, inventory and/or other applicable documentation.**

Policy Rationale (I)

- The existing policy is fine for an existing and known ISP in the ARIN region, but is not considering the case of new ISPs, which may want to start offering IPv6 services. Is artificial to ask them for starting with IPv4 services (which typically will do, but not necessarily), wait for weeks/months (?) to be "known", and then come back for the IPv6 allocation request.
- They need to have a plan for more than 200 /48 assignments. There is room for business with one or just a few IPv6 customers, and it seems irrational not allowing this type of business to be possible, may be even it can be considered against anti-trust regulations (?).

Policy Rationale (II)

- Usage of the /48. An ISP may decide to assign a different prefix size (a cellular operator with probably will use /64).
- The "200" comes from historical reasons when this proposal was jointly developed with RIPE and APNIC, but the situation is that other regions such as LACNIC and AfriNIC already got rid of this requirement, and in both, RIPE and APNIC is under discussion. This may even bring to a possible "untrue" plan to be suggested by an ISP if he needs to get an IPv6 prefix allocated.
- One year is given as the sufficient time frame to actually implement usage of the IPv6 address space and reveal if the 'said organization' is truly using the IPv6 space granted.
- In summary, the proposal will allow new ISPs, ISPs with a reduced number of customers, or ISPs willing to offer only IPv6 services, to immediately access this resource.

Policy Rationale (III)

- ASN is not required because as long as they are statically routed to an upstream and don't want to run bgp/announce directly to the Internet, they don't need an ASN.

Staff Assessment Comments

- It is important to realize that 3 out of 4 of the staff comments are referring to issues with existing policy (not the new proposed text)
- The one which is relevant was in regards to formatting. I've already addressed it by accepting their recommendation for an alternative format
 - Which was breaking up section d into sub-sections

Staff Assessment (I)

- Regarding "How can staff verify that an organization is new to providing "Internet services"?", it doesn't matter.
- If the organization is NOT a "known ISP" as per the existing policy text, should be considered as "new".
- I think this could be read also as new to "ARIN" ?

Staff Assessment (II)

- Regarding to "What happens at the end of 1 year if the v6 block is not announced?"
- The staff should follow the same criteria they use today for the existing option d (be an existing, known ISP in the ARIN region or have a plan for making at least 200 /48 assignments to other organizations within five years).
 - What they do if the 200 /48 aren't assigned to other organizations within five years ?
- c (plan to provide IPv6 connectivity to organizations to which it will assign IPv6 address space, by advertising that connectivity through its single aggregated address allocation) is still required.

Staff Assessment (III)

- Regarding "What if the IPv6 address space is used on a "private network" and can't be seen from the public Internet?".
- The suggested proposal is not intended for private usage, and point b (not be an end site) already indicates that must not be an end site, so the organization necessarily will need to announce the allocated space as in c (plan to provide IPv6 connectivity to organizations to which it will assign IPv6 address space, by advertising that connectivity through its single aggregated address allocation).