



**RIPE** Réseaux IP  
Européens

# Report from the BOF Building a Stable Future for RIPE NCC

Remco van Mook | RIPE 88 | 23 May 2024



# THE ORIGIN

WHAT STARTED THIS



# The Story until now

- A RIPE Labs Article:
  - <https://labs.ripe.net/author/remco-van-mook/building-a-stable-future-for-the-ripe-ncc/>
  - Introduction:

“What we need to consider now is the bigger picture about how to move the RIPE NCC forward. The past several years have shown us that we have far outgrown the current structure of our organisation and governance. New pressures in the RIR system and new stakeholders we are accountable to have changed the landscape we operate in. On top of this, the current funding model of the NCC is not sustainable. We now have to sit down and do the hard work of completely reinventing how we manage our membership and our funding, while taking into account how we can mitigate current risks and future-proof the RIPE NCC.”



# THE DECK

WHAT WAS PRESENTED

# The RIPE Compact

- A collaboration between the RIPE Community, RIPE NCC, the RIPE NCC membership, Community leadership and the RIPE NCC executive board
- Collaborative compacts focus on four areas of agreement:
  - How we work together
  - How we think together
  - How we work with conflicts
  - How we manage our own behaviour

# Our Objective

Not just RIPE NCC, but the whole collaboration!

Enable our Community to Operate One, Secure, Stable, Resilient, Global Internet

This requires:

- A Trusted, Efficient, Accurate, Resilient Registry
- An Open, Inclusive and Engaged RIPE Community
- Insightful, Reliable and Timely data about the Internet and its operations

For which we need:

- A Stable Organisation with Robust Governance and Diverse and Competent Staff

# The Current Structure

The highlights from RIPE-161 - 1997

- Good service, neutral, impartial.
- Non-exclusive, not-for-profit.
- An Executive committee which represents the various interests of the contributors.
- Resistent to hostile takeover or control by any single party.
- Subject to as little taxation as possible.
- Support the credible function as a industry self-regulation organisation.
- Employees should maintain their contractual and tax rights.

# The Current Structure

## Issues and Caveats

- The current legal structure is based on criteria that were relevant in 1997
  - low cost and limited tax exposure - RIPE-161
- Community policy enforces engagement structures that are outdated
  - Constraints: RFC7020 and ICP-2
- The focus has shifted from resource distribution to registry accuracy & compliance
- The current membership structure no longer allows room for growth
  - For the first time the number of paying members is decreasing



What Criteria should a  
restructured RIPE NCC meet?



# **NEXT STEPS**

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NOW?



# Action Items

- A RIPE Labs article with a summary of the BOF
- A RIPE Labs article with an updated proposed objective for the “RIPE Compact”
- A task force or working group to describe what we should keep and what things we should look into changing - it needs broad input from all areas and stakeholders!



# TASK FORCE? WORKING GROUP?

YAY OR NAY?