

**APNIC 35**  
CONFERENCE

SINGAPORE  
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# Informational: The Role of the APNIC Secretariat in the PDP

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# Historical Situation

- At one point it was not unusual to have members of the APNIC secretariat propose policies under the APNIC PDP
  - The documentation prefix,
  - 4 byte AS numbers,
  - the original IPv4 transfer policy.

# Present Situation

- It is not clear if it is acceptable for members of the APNIC secretariat to bring policy proposals to the wider APNIC membership for discussion under the existing PDP.

# Advantages

- APNIC host-masters and other secretariat members are in a unique position of dealing with the implementation of the APNIC policies on a day by day basis.
- They will be among the first to notice any problematic activity caused by current policy
- Enabling them to engage with the PDP is a positive way to bring these problems and associated solutions to the members.

# Disadvantages

- It could be argued that a level in separation be maintained between the APNIC secretariat and the PDP.
- I believe however that as the PDP is such a robust member driven process there are no concerns with proposals being initiated by APNIC staff.
- All proposals would still require a consensus from the APNIC membership before they are implemented.
- Eg. NZ Public Servants can propose changes to Government policy. They do not however play a role in the decision making process around the adoption of that proposal

# Opportunity for clarification/ discussion

- Questions for the community
  1. Is it acceptable for members of the APNIC Secretariat to author and/or propose policies under the current PDP rules?
  2. If yes, does this actually require any policy change?
  3. If no, lets discuss what a more appropriate way for APNIC secretariat members to highlight policy issues might be

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# Thank you

