



UBUNTUNET ALLIANCE FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION NETWORKING

Peering Policy

1. Principle peering statement

The Alliance has an open peering policy, and is willing to peer with any bona fide network with its own address space and autonomous system number assigned to it by a recognized authority. The exception to this rule is when a network's prefixes are visible via the Alliance's research and education networking ("REN") transit circuits. Where prefixes are visible via the Alliance's REN transit circuits direct peering will only be considered as a backup option, where such prefix's are de-preferenced on both sides and only utilized in the event of route propagation failure of the aforementioned transit circuits.

2. General peering conditions

- i. The Alliance does not require peering contracts, however they (the Alliance) will be willing to entertain such where there is sufficient justification. It is however deemed that any organization peering with the Alliance has agreed to abide by the conditions set forth in this document.
- ii. The Alliance will only peer utilizing BGPv4 on non-private autonomous system numbers. The Alliance requires that peers announce only prefix's that they are either assigned or authorized to transit and, in turn, commits to announcing only prefix's that are either directly assigned to it or to one of its downstream customers.
- iii. The Alliance commits to never manually route traffic via a peer by means of static routes, default routes or other mechanisms without specific agreement from the peer in question. The Alliance in turn requires each of its peers to desist from manually routing traffic via any Alliance peer without prior specific agreement.
- iv. The Alliance commits to hot potato routing and requests that peers agree to the same. The Alliance will however honour the multi-exit discriminator bit where possible, and, while this is not a requirement, requests each peer to notify them (the Alliance) should it be willing to do the same.

- v. The Alliance commits to maintaining updated route objects and an up-to-date autonomous system set. These objects will be registered in either the RIPE or ALTDB registries. In turn the Alliance requests each peer to maintain similarly updated route objects and an up-to-date autonomous system set.
- vi. The Alliance has no requirements about specific traffic ratios.
- vii. In order to ensure an optimal experience for both parties and their customers, the Alliance commits to regularly review traffic levels through any of its peering ports at common exchange points to ensure that traffic sustained saturation does not occur, and requests each peer to notify the Alliance should the peer's own peering ports be running in a congested state in order to allow for temporary re-routing while such a state remains.
- viii. The Alliance requests each peer to provide 24/7/365 contact details for emergency situations, and in turn commits to doing the same.
- ix. The Alliance will attempt to respond to all non-emergency peering related requests within 48 hours of their being received and requests that peers and potential peers do likewise.

3. Peering Locations

The Alliance will peer at any recognized Internet Exchange Point (IXP) where it has presence.

While the Alliance prefers to peer at neutral Internet exchange points peering via private network interconnects will be considered where justified. Such justification could be, for example, that peering is required where there is no suitable exchange, or alternatively, where traffic levels are high enough to justify moving the traffic off an exchange in order to avoid saturation of the exchange point port.