

Secure Hosting Solutions Framework for Establishment of an IXP Questions

Consultation question 1: Context for the Consultation Do you agree with URCA's justification for publishing this consultation on the establishment of local IXPs in The Bahamas? Please detail your response in full.

Yes, I do agree URCA for the need to publish this document. Having a local IXP is somewhat over done within The Bahamas. I have heard of personal accounts of individuals attempting to setup an IXP however without any intervention it was all to no avail.

Consultation question 2: Demand for Broadband Connectivity in The Bahamas Do you agree with URCA that there is high penetration of broadband access in The Bahamas? Please detail your response in full.

Yes, I feel there is a high penetration of broadband access within The Bahamas significantly with the second mobile carrier operating LTE data services this allows many more Bahamians access to the Internet.

Consultation question 3: Consumer preferences for online content and services Do you agree URCA that there is increasing local preferences for web content that have high demand for bandwidth and high sensitivity to latency? Please detail your response in full. In support of your position, respondents are invited to provide relevant survey results and industry or specific company reports on the use of online content and services in The Bahamas.

Yes, as new technology has emerged the need for additional bandwidth has increased along with the need for low latency connections. Whether it is video streaming, video conferencing, gaming applications, or ecommerce services, the majority of the broadband activities are used up with these services.

Consultation question 4: Bandwidth Costs and Internet Traffic Do you agree that the practice of routing local Internet traffic outside The Bahamas adds costs to the operations of local ISPs? Please detail your response in full.

Yes, definitely. The majority of the costs associated with Internet cost and bandwidth costs in The Bahamas seems to be addons specifically to the use of submarine fiber to have bandwidth routed outside of the country. Reducing the transmission of local Internet traffic outside of the country would greatly reduce the cost as well as it would reduce costs for large business to route traffic outside the country.

Consultation Question 5: IXP Enabling Measures Do you agree with the supporting measures URCA proposes to adopt to stimulate entry of IXPs in The Bahamas? Please detail your response in full.

Simply put without URCA's assistance with the imposing measures to stimulate the adoption of the local IXP it would be it will not be done at a reasonable pace or as needed for the advancement of ICT in The Bahamas.

Consultation Question 6: Principles for Regulation and Other Measures Do you agree with URCA's assessment of the enabling measures discussed? Please detail your response in full.

As we have seen in the past with emerging markets there needs to be measures put in place to allow for the transparent and fair service.

Consultation question 7: Objectives for Establishing IXPs in The Bahamas Do you agree with URCA's objectives for the entry of IXPs in The Bahamas? Please detail your response in full.

The most important reasons for establishing an IXP is for the end consumer. This will also benefit the ISPs to save on bandwidth costs as well as provide better security for ISP and end user.

Consultation question 8: Expected Benefits for IXPs in The Bahamas Do you agree with the benefits URCA has identified for IXPs in The Bahamas? Please detail your response in full.

Yes, I agree all of those benefits of the IXP are correct, the only concern is that we will need these same benefits do end up with the end-user so that they can benefit further from the introduction of an IXP.

Consultation question 9: IXP Policy Document What is URCA's role, if any, in the formation and/or approval of an IXP Policy document? Please detail your response in full.

I feel as though URCA should be responsible for the creation and approval of the IXP Policy to ensure that the policy is made fair and is non-discriminatory to anyone.

Consultation question 10: IXP Location, Decision-making, Business Model and Funding Do you agree with URCA's recommendations regarding IXP location, governance and decision-making, participation, business model and funding? Please detail your response in full.

For Location Neutrality I feel as though it is un reasonable for a new site to be constructed explicitly for an IXP or to expect neutrality and access within a government location or educational organization. With an independent IXP leasing space to a location would be the best option. The best way to ensure Neutrality within a Bahamian IXP would be through the use of an independent 3rd party management and operation with oversight from URCA at a high level to oversee fairness.

Consultation question 11: Assessment of Implementation Options for Local IXPs Do you agree with URCA's preferred IXP model for The Bahamas? Please detail your response in full.

Due the current climates within The Bahamas I do not believe that Option 2 a Multi-stakeholder is a viable solution especially without any URCA or government intervention. A better option would be a 3rd party Independent IXP provider within Option 6 that could provide a better service to providers and provide a non-discriminatory service to everyone. Also, with the imposition of fees for further funding additional services could be offered to outside entities such as CDN networks to further reduce bandwidth usage outside of the country.