# Policy Committee

   

**Application ­ NCSG Policy Committee/ Pascal**

4 messages

**Pascal Bekono** <pbekono@gmail.com> To: Farzaneh Badiei <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>

**Name**: Pascal BEKONO **Country**: Cameroon, Africa **Function**: Computer Engineer, working with Government **Contact**: +237­695650194 **Email**: pbekono@gmail.com

**Experience**:

**farzaneh badii <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>**

Tue, Dec 20, 2016 at 9:07 AM

   

I am participating on ICT and IG related issues since 2005 through WSIS as the national youth coordinator of the WSIS. Graduate in Computer sciences and Telecommunications. ICANN Fellow, DiploFoundation Fellow, Euro­SSIG fellow, Commonwealth IGF Fellow,

1. Your general activities at NCUC and NCSG

I am a member of the NCUC since 2012, I have participated on general discussions though the mailinglist (NCUC­ DISCUSS), conference call, and physically during ICANN meetings.

2. Your experience with policy making at NCUC and NCSG

I am actually participating in two Working groups through NCUC. ­ GNSO Review Working Group, where we finalize the implementation plan few weeks ago, and ­ New gtld working group ­ CCWG, etc.

3. Two things you want to do to improve the work of policy committee.

I believe that we will analyses past activities of the committee and plan new strategies. But I am certain that it will be important to ameliorate communication with different groups and define a roadmap.

**Possible Appointment: NCSG Policy Committee | Candidate: Ayden Férdeline**

2 messages

**Ayden Férdeline** <icann@ferdeline.com> Wed, Dec 14, 2016 at 6:35 AM Reply­To: Ayden Férdeline <icann@ferdeline.com> To: farzaneh badii <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>

Dear Farzi,

I am posing my candidature to represent the NCUC on the NCSG Policy Committee. I am primarily motivated by a desire to deepen my engagement with the NCUC.

Since I joined the NCUC community last year, I have made efforts to become more and more involved in the work of the NCUC and the NCSG. I have drafted three public comments: one on ICANN’s geographic regions framework, one on a review of the Fellowship programme [submitted in my personal capacity], and another on the Lao script root zone label generation rules [possible ratification pending].

I am currently participating actively in the Next Generation Registration Directory Service Policy Development Process working group, and observe the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures working group along with the Cross­Community Working Group on Internet Governance.

I have a willingness to learn, the capacity to reason objectively, and a readiness to contribute more to the NCUC and NCSG. If I was to join the Policy Committee, I would consider it a priority to better understand how the community envisions the multistakeholder process so that the drafting of our consultation responses is truly bottom­up and reflects the positions of our membership, rather than just the lead pen hand. In addition, I would seek a stricter adherence to internal deadlines and endeavour to respond to all requests for comment.

       

Thank you to the Executive Committee for considering my application.

Best wishes,

Ayden Férdeline

linkedin.com/in/ferdeline

**Matt, PC**

**matthew shears** <mshears@cdt.org> Mon, Dec 19, 2016 at 6:17 PM To: farzaneh badii <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>

Hi Farzi

I would like to continue in the PC in the VC role. I have played this role over the past two years with some success. The PC needs more leadership and more engagement by the PC overall for the function to be more successful and to realize its purpose. In this sense I would provide continuity but the leadership, should Marilia not continue, should come from someone new, with experience and with the time and energy to dedicate to this important role.

As to experience I participated in the CCWGs IANA and Accountability, and in WS2 groups, particularly Human Rights. I have contributed to many public comments submitted on behalf of NCSG and organized PC engagement in processes, such as the recent selection the Auctions community member. I will be engaged in supporting the member in that work going forward as well as continuing my role on the Bylaws DT and the GNSO futures (or what will become review) discussion and the future of the CCWG­IG. I am a regular moderator/panelist on a range of IG issues.

My CV is attached. Matthew [Quoted text hidden]

# NCSG Executive Committee

**Aarti Bhavana** <aarti.lists@gmail.com> To: farzaneh.badii@gmail.com

Hi Farzaneh,

**farzaneh badii <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>**

Tue, Dec 20, 2016 at 12:52 PM

   

I'd like to apply for the NCSG EC position. Below, I have filled out answers to the questions provided. Do let me know if you need any other information.

Best, Aarti

**1. Your experience and activities at NCUC and NCSG**

I have been actively involved in NCUC and NCSG for almost a year and a half now, ever since I began working in this field. In this time, I have become familiar with the work being done here, as well as the people involved.

In terms of substantive engagement, I am an active member of the CCWP­HR, and have contributed extensive research to the planned upcoming report. I have also contributed several posts to the NCUC blog, writing about CCWG­ Accountability, to help with capacity building and making the process more accessible to those not following it as closely.

In terms of organising and administrative­related activities, I worked closely with NCSG to organise a workshop on civil society experiences from the IANA Transition for IGF2016. I was also involved in planning and organising the NCUC outreach event at ICANN57 in Hyderabad.

**2. If you have any experience carrying out the tasks indicated in section 2.4 of NCSG bylaws. (Does not have to be within NCSG or NCUC, experiences that are related to the tasks of NCSG EC but in other fields also can be taken into account.)**

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with NCSG and NCUC, and found it to be a very welcoming community. I want to increase my involvement here, and while I have been doing that gradually, I think that NCSG EC is an appropriate next step. I can confirm that I can manage the time commitment required for this position.

As a lawyer, much of my training and previous work experience has involved drafting and compliance checks with applicable law. This experience would help with making sure that membership, elections, etc. are taking place in accordance with the set rules and procedure. I am also detail­oriented, which would assist with reviewing procedures and methods. I have a little experience with drafting procedural rules for committees, though on a smaller scale.

I have worked well with the NCSG and NCUC Chairs, as well as NCUC & NPOC members in the past.

I am very interested in the constituency review that is scheduled for 2017. Institutional reviews and related questions of accountability and transparency are of great interest to me, and have been the subject of my past work.

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ui=2&ik=e9e2bbaaa2&view=pt&q=committee&qs=true&search=query&th=1591d5d15d741f97&siml=1591d5d15d741f97&s... 1/2

12/23/2016 Gmail - Application: NCSG Executive Committee

**3. Two things you want to do to improve our representation on NCSG EC. (for example, reporting to NCUC members about what decisions have been made, coming up with initiatives to improve the work of NCSG EC etc.)**

­ I would have to agree with the example provided here, as there is a need to keep NCUC members updated about the activities of the NCSG EC. If selected to be an NCUC representative to the NCSG EC, I would provide regular updates on what the EC has been working on, and the decisions made. Depending on the frequency of the work, this would be monthly/quarterly.

­ Apart from keeping members informed about the activities and decisions of the NCSG­EC, I think it is also important to get input prior to decision­making, when appropriate. This would also create an element of answerability, which is necessary for representatives.

**Robin, Application for Re­Appointment to the NCSG Executive Committee as NCUC Representative**

2 messages

**Robin Gross** <robin@ipjustice.org> Fri, Dec 16, 2016 at 5:28 PM To: farzaneh badii <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>

Dear Farzi,

I would like to apply for re­appointment to NCSG’s Executive Committee as a NCUC representative. Below is my application with responses to the 3 questions posed. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

It has been, and would continue to be, an honor to serve NCUC in this capacity.

Thank you, Robin Gross

 ——————————————————————————————————

1. I have experience with NCUC and NCSG in a number of different ways for more than 10 years. Presently I represent NCUC on the NCSG Executive Committee. Previously, I served as chair of both NCSG and NCUC, and before that, as NCUC’s representative to the GNSO Council. Currently I also represent NCSG on ICANN's Cross Community Working Group ­ Accountability.

2. I have several years of experience carrying out the tasks assigned to the NCSG EC in the bylaws including supervising and monitoring the NCSG elections, approving NCSG membership applications, drafting NCSG operating procedures, reviewing new constituency applications, maintaining NCSG membership records and other procedural and administrative tasks on behalf of NCSG.

3. I would like to improve NCUC’s representation on the NCSG EC by ensuring the EC as a whole operates fairly and without prejudice to NCUC, especially when pressure is placed on the EC to engage in constituency favoritism. I do not believe that pitting constituencies against one another is the best way to achieve a harmonious stakeholder group that is focused on policy development. Nor do I believe in rewarding the whiniest among us by constantly acceding to unjustified, but persistent, demands for resources and opportunities at the expense of the greater good. So I will try to guard against those pressures on the NCSG EC and make decisions that consider the interests of ALL the members and that are based on demonstrated ability and demonstrated commitment to NCSG's policy goals. I additionally would like to more fully document NCSG’s operating procedures, including filling in some gaps in the charter, address the issue of duplicate memberships, and document administrative procedures so new administrations can more easily transition.

**Monika**

Dear Chair and the members of the NCUC EC,

I am writing to apply for the position in the NCSG Executive Committee, where I have been representing NCUC for the past year.

1. **My experience and activities at NCUC and NCSG**

I have been involved in the NCUC and NCSG since the 2014, both in policy, administrative and outreach work and activities:

1. *On policy level,* my work mainly has been focusing on the human rights issues related to ICANN’s policies and procedures, with some special focus on data protection and privacy & WHOIS and RAA and freedom of expression and new gTLDs. This work has started with the writing of the report on ICANN & Human Rights[[1]](#footnote-1) commissioned by the Council of Europe, then working with NCUC member organization Article 19 in producing another 2 reports on ICANN and Human Rights,[[2]](#footnote-2) which in turn have provided a platform for the creation of the Cross-Community Working Party on ICANN’s Corporate and Social Responsibility to Respect Human Rights.

In addition to this work, I have also been working on data protection, RAA & WHOIS issues externally outside ICANN – in trying to attract attention and involvement of privacy watchdogs in ICANN’s policy making processes. E.g., together with NCUC colleague Stephanie Perrin we have attended a meeting of the *International Working Group on Data Protection in Telecommunications* in Seoul, South Korea 2015, where we have discussed data protection and privacy issues with the Data Protection Commissioners. This line of work seeking to involve Data Protection Commissioners in ICANN’s privacy and data protection issues have been gradually gaining a momentum, with a big ‘Privacy Day’ planned for ICANN 58 in Copenhagen by members of the NCUC and Council of Europe (with Data Protection Commissioners in attendance). At the same time, I am actively working to secure the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (its Data Protection Unit, Head Mario Oetheimer) to facilitate a report on impact of the new Data Protection Regulation on ICANN (and the concept note is under review by the EU Commission), thus such report is forthcoming at some point in 2017 or early 2018, when the Regulation enters into force in 2018).

In addition to data protection and privacy, currently I am also working on the report on the UDRP procedures and due process & freedom of expression issues for the upcoming review of the UDRP in the part 2 of the RPM PDP. This draft will soon be ready for NCUC colleagues to comment and discuss best strategy how to use it in the PDP in a way most beneficial to the NCUC interests.

1. ***On administrative level,*** I have been serving on the NCSG EC for the last year, and with our colleagues from NPOC have been regularly overseeing the new membership applications, overseeing the NCSG elections and nominating alternates for the GNSO councillors. We have also started drafting document on the NCSG member removal procedures, as well as election reform work.
2. ***On outreach and awareness raising level,*** I have been actively promoting and raising awareness about the NCUC and our activities at various academic and multistakeholder conferences related to Internet policy and digital rights, such as, e.g., the CPDP in Brussels in January 2016, and the APrIGF in Taipei in July 2016. At such conferences and fora, not only I have been actively networking and spreading the information about NCUC generally, but have also convened and moderated specific panels on NCUC focus areas of work, such as, e.g., data protection and privacy and WHOIS and RAA, free speech and new gTLDs; inviting NCUC members to speak at those events and connect with broader Internet/privacy communities. E.g, in the CPDP conference in January in Brussels in 2016, there were 4 other NCUC members on the ‘Internet Infrastructure & Human Rights’ panel: Stefania Milan, Stephanie Perrin, Niels ten Oever and Corrine Cath. Together with Farzaneh Baddi and Rafik Dammak we also convened a special outreach session at ICANN’s office at that occasion.

In addition to organizing several such panels well as various discussions and roundtables, a special issue on ‘Internet Architecture and Human Rights’ of the journal 'Policy & Internet,' published by Oxford Internet Institute, is in the workings and will be published in in print in 2018 (earlier in 2017 online): co-edited by me and NCUC member and GNSO Councillor, Dr. Stefania Milan, and which will include contributions from our NCUC members Stephanie Perrin, Niels ten Oever, Corrine Cath, and potentially Dr. Tatiana Tropina.

As next year, the APrIGF wil be held in Melbourne, I am planning some special events with NCUC EC member David Cake and other colleagues in Australia. In addition to actively participating and convening panels at the main APrIGF event, we are planning the academic pre-conference ( and the University of Melbourne has agreed to provide a free venue), the focus of which will be academic input to the Internet policy and the NCUC work. Hopefully, the pre-conference will allow to attract more academics from the Asia-Pacific region to join NCUC and our work.

**2. Experience carrying out the tasks indicated in section 2.4 of NCSG bylaws**

I have been serving on the NCSG EC for the past year and have been carrying the tasks indicated in the section 2.4 of NCSG bylaws. In addition to experience of carrying out routine tasks, such as membership applications, this past year has also provided opportunity for some rarer experience of dealing with internal disagreements/different interpretations of rules regarding the NCSG elections (in particular, NOTA rules), and some subsequent appeals and processes to solve such appeals. On top of the routine task and supervision of the election, I have also been involved in drafting of the document for the NCSG member removal procedures, election reform work, as well as the creation of the new NCSG member database.

1. **Two things I want to do to improve our representation on NCSG EC.**

During my term on the NCSG EC, in order to improve representation of the NCUC members on the NCSG EC, I am determined to:

1. Improve communication, transparency and accountability of the NCSG EC towards:
2. *NCUC members:* I will prepare and release general informational summary reports of the NCSG EC teleconferences held monthly to the NCUC members listing the agenda of issues discussed and decisions that have been made; this should allow for increased transparency and accountability of the NCSG EC towards our members.
3. *NCUC EC:* Improve communication between NCSG EC (NCUC's reps there) and NCUC EC and Chair: draft regular e-mail to the NCUC EC on important issues discussed in the NCSG EC (discussing more strategic issues/decision to be made in the future for the NCUC than in the informational summaries to all the members) and potentially propose an online meetings/calls between NCUC members on the NCSG EC and NCUC EC when needed.
4. Work on creating and documenting the processes that have been often dealt with in an *ad hoc* manner within NCSG, such as NCSG members removal procedures and elections.

I hope that my determined involvement in NCUC and NCSG work, both in policy, administrative work and outreach activities, places me in a good position to represent NCUC on NCSG EC.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr. Monika Zalnieriute.

**Nadira, Apply to the role of NCSG Executive Committee**

2 messages

**Nadira Alaraj** <nadira.araj@gmail.com> To: farzaneh badii <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>

Dear Farzaneh,

In this email I'm expressing my interest of the role of ­ NCSG Executive Committee,

Below I'm writing why I would like to NCUC on NCSG EC.

**1. Your experience and activities at NCUC and NCSG,**

Mon, Dec 19, 2016 at 6:11 PM

   

My actual interaction with NCUC started after my acceptance to its membership in August 2016. Since then I’ve been following the discussions over the mailing lists for both NCUC and NCSG and I attended 3 online meeting on policy discussions. I’m trying to have a closer understanding of the group dynamic and its work.

However my general learning about ICANN SO/ACs started on my first ICANN 53 fellowship. On ICANN 55 & 57 I was a coaching fellow, where I focused in my coaching on getting better understanding of the GNSO and how NCUC and NPOC contribute to the policy development process of domain names with focus on the public interest. Through my coaching I managed to recruit one of my mentees to be NCUC member after ICANN 57. Adding my attendance of several NCUC sessions during the mentioned meetings.

**2. If you have any experience carrying out the tasks indicated in section 2.4 of NCSG bylaws. ( does not have to be within NCSG or NCUC, experiences that are related to the tasks of NCSG EC but in other fields also can be taken into account.)**

For the current NCSG committee roles, I was trying to match my competences and experiences to the roles of the three NCSG committees and I found that my best fit is NCSG Executive Committee. However this is strategic move because through the NCSG EC I can contribute to the community and at the same time keep observing the NCSG Policy Committee to ready myself of getting engaged into the PDP.

As for my experience:

­ My earlier long life academic career gives me the experience of a practiced critical eye. I have MSc degree in Information Resource Management from Syracuse University. During my teaching career, one of the courses I used to teach is Operations Management were the emphasis of managing quality processes to have a high quality production.

­ I’m the vice chair to ISOC Palestine, and I initiated and organized with MENA Chapter leaders the Workshop 165 for the IGF2016, were I gave my intervention remotely.

­ I was an Arab MAG member for the Arab IGF 2015 and also the workshop coordinator.

­ Through my role on the first Steering Committee of the first Chapters Advisory Council for the Internet Society ­soon to end­ we established the rules and procedures for the council and worked to improve the support of the chapters and developed a recommendation to the board how to engage chapters in a bottom­up in policy recommendations of ISOC

3. Two things you want to do to improve our representation on NCSG EC. ( for example, reporting to NCUC members about what decisions have been made, coming up with initiatives to improve the work of NCSG EC etc.)

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12/23/2016 Gmail - Apply to the role of NCSG Executive Committee

Currently, I’m on the ICANN NomCom2 Review Working Party and while reviewing the RFP for the independent examiner, there was a discussion to include in the RFP an item to review the nomination criteria from the SO/ACs of its member to the NomCom. This is one area I need to look into with details of the different discussions on the NCUC mailing list to work on with the EC to see if their is a need to enhance its representation to the board.

I also observed a need for logistic mailing lists improvements between the NCSG and NCUC. As a new members I found myself engaged in the wrong discussion because I didn’t notice from which group the discussion was initiated.

I’m sure once I’m on board I can be of a better position understand and contribute through the hand­on experience with my expertise and available voluntary time.

Thank you for your consideration, Nadira ALAraj Freelance consultancy

**Candidate Statement for NCSG Executive Committee**

Name: Haziq Jeelani

Region: Asia Pacific

Place: Jammu and Kashmir, India

Gender: Male

Employment: PhD Student in Computer Science, UN Volunteer, Consulting Scholar in ICT

Conflict of Interest: No

**Why do I want to serve on Executive Committee?**

I believe that Executive Committee is the principal group that overlooks the functioning of NCSG and ensures that the mission and principles of NCSG are met.

I joined the NCUC because i see NCUC most closely representing my Interests and the Interests that I represent. I joined the NCUC with a firm belief that it is a platform which consists of a mission and principles which will allow me to represent a region which was unrepresented before me and hoped that i will be able to contribute in outlining the regional concerns which have not made it to the discussions yet or which have been less discussed.

Now that i have been part of NCUC for some time and getting fairly acquainted with the functioning of the NCUC and NCSG, I have a strong reason to apply to the Executive Committee, because the things that i have learnt till now and experienced in NCUC which i believe need some positive rework, can be achieved  by being in the Executive Committee. Also i believe i have the requisite skills, experience and potential to engage in coordination among NCSG Constituencies, and resolution of disputes to make the functioning of NCSG ever more smooth and also make the new coming as easiest as possible.

I also believe that i will be able to strengthen the outreach and information dissemination in my region.

**Provide a brief biography of recent experience, associations, and affiliations relevant to serving on the Executive Committee. Describe the relevance of your personal and professional experience to serve on the NCSG Executive Committee, and identify any conflicts of interests you might have.**

I am an Independent Consultant in ICT, E governance and Internet Governance Domains. I have studied masters in Computer Science Engineering with my masters focus on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, but since then my focus has revolved around E-governance, E-governments, ICT’s and Internet Governance and i want to carry forward my research in any of these themes in my PhD Course. I have founded a non-profit with the name of the Gihon Foundation which works in Sustainable Development, ICT in Education and Open Governance. Recently I have worked in the following events and workgroups and capacities related to EC bylaws 2.4 :

• Ambassador Youth IGF India

• Part of three ISOC working groups, HOMENET, DNSSD, Int Area.

• Part of ICANN At Large Public Interest WG, IRTF Global Access to Internet Access to All

• IGF Gender Access, IGF Dynamic Coaliations. UN CSD

• Resource Person on Cyber Security and Cybercrime at United Nations IGF

•

• Been part of the  ALAC at ICANN Hyderabad 57

• Member of UN IGF Working Groups (Access to Information, Community Outreach)

• Been part of Cyber Crime Conference at IIC Delhi on 17-18 Nov as speaker on cyber bullying

• Member of ISOC India and also working to form ISOC JK Chapter

• Member of IEEE Internet Initiative, ETAP, Cloud Computing, Computer Society, IEEE Young Computing and IEEE Insight

• Member of Computer Society of India which is ALAC

• Member Diplo Foundation

• Member ICANN APRALO

• Member GEC

• Member UNWoman( Empower Women Champion, Empowerment of Women through ICT)

• Member and Contributor Open Government Partnership

• Member ODI

• Member Governance Research Data.

• Open Knowledge International

I have also been on the International Program Committee of over 150 Conferences and Events Sponsored Directly by IEEE, United Nations, World Bank, INTERPOL. I have also been on several Executive Committee’s, Advisory Committees and Working groups in the domains pertaining to ICT

I believe that my professional affiliations, works and experiences make me suitable for serving on the executive committee and contribute to it in a positive way. Please find more about me here: https://sites.google.com/site/haziqjeelani/home

**3. Two things you want to do to improve our representation on NCSG EC. ( for example, reporting to NCUC members about what decisions have been made, coming up with initiatives  to improve the work of NCSG EC etc.)**

**I feel very passionate about making NCUC**

Communication is definitely a critical because it allows us to be in a position to share our activities with the other members and also learn from their experiences. My first and foremost Communication will be utilizing the channels created by returning members who have put their efforts and experiences in creating a structure which has allowed me to know about the NCUC and many like me. Beyond that i would look forward to meet the EC Members in person in different meetings and events which i attend and also online via the contacts i have with the existing members to communicate to them about the EC-related activities or issues where i would need their help or guidance. I particularly believe that the current EC Members like Mr. Tapani, Mr. Sam, Mr. Milton, Ms Renata, Ms. Robin, Ms. Farzaneh, Ms Wafa, Ms. Ines  have been extremely helpful and inspiring. I would also like to strengthen the current communication structure.

**How do you foresee NCUC’s function, scale, or role changing in the future? What areas of ICANN policy, if any, need more attention and why? Incumbent candidates should answer in a manner that is both backward and forward looking, i.e. taking note of their contributions and work in the previous year.**

I see NCUC’s  role getting more stabilized, powerful and regulatory when it comes to protecting civil liberties and protecting freedom of speech, freedom of accessibility, right to privacy, right to security, and other intellectual property rights. NCUC should become the primary voice of the civil society to secure its internet rights and hold a transparent, open, diverse, inclusive and sovereign character which ceases to bend at any moral or authoritative disruption. I see NCUC scale multifold in the coming ten years, with more members from more diverse regions with more representation of  people who have less or marginal international representation like my region Kashmir to become inclusive in action. I also see NCUC to scale to take role of regulatory authority which will be the protector of civil rights on internet and let the internet be as we know it. Also make the voices of those who have no voice due to different ethno-politico societal complexities, heard to the decision makers and be committed in doing so.

I believe ICANN should give attention to proper information dissemination and present itself as of the people at large. Also attention should be given to cultural and ethical balance in action. I am sure i will be able to introduce ICANN to people from multiple cultures and thus contribute significantly to the outreach and representing their voices.

# Application FC

2 messages

**Florian Daniel** <floriandaniel1995@gmail.com> To: farzaneh badii <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>

Dear Farzaneh,

**farzaneh badii <farzaneh.badii@gmail.com>**

Sun, Dec 18, 2016 at 3:57 AM

   

I would like to apply for the finance committee. I do not think that I would fit for FC Chair, however I believe that the committee work would fit perfectly. I am studying management and law in Austria, where we deal intensivily with finance topics. This will help me to understand and learn faster what our goals for the future should and can be.

At the moment I do not have a lot of practical expierence with fundraising or similar activities, however I was always interested in the financial side of all the projects I was dealing with.

Doing a quick check on the finance committee mailing list, shows me the most important thing: Communication and activity needs to be improved and revitalised to insure a working and reliable finance committee.

It is out of question, that I need to learn a lot, but I am ready to take on the challenge and hopefully the community thinks the same!

Best,

Florian DANIEL

Sonnenweg 6 4280 Königswiesen floriandaniel1995@gmail.com +43660 36 80 504

**Edward/ FC**

APPLICATION FOR THE POSITION OF THE NCUC APPOINTEE TO THE NCSG FINANCE

COMMITTEE

Name: Edward Morris

ICANN Region: Europe (residence: Italy / United Kingdom; Irish citizen)

1. In response to the questions in NCUC Chair Faraneh Badii’s call for application of 12

December 2016:

a. Past experience in finance management, fundraising and other finance related

activities:

1. Corporate Secretary and Board Member, T and J Imports Limited (company number

05145954), Isleworth, England, United KIngdom

Raised capital, filed all financial reports with Companies House and HM Revenue and

Customs.

2. Fundraiser for several political campaigns, most recently Giffords for US Congress and

Kerry for US President.

3. As co-founder of Transparency International’s Finland chapter, raised initial funding to

establish NGO.

4. Completed three courses (Fundamentals, Financial and Managerial Accounting,

Communication Strategy in Accounting and Applied Business Statistics) in accounting during

undergraduate degree at the University of Southern California. Received highest possible

grade in all three courses.

b. Two things you want to do to improve the work of finance committee:

It would not be hard to improve upon the work of the NCSG Finance Committee as it

recently has done nothing of consequence. Indeed, the principle reason for my application

for this position is that to the extent any substantive work has been done in this area by the

NCSG it has been done by or has involved me and has not involved any appointed member

of the Finance Committee. This appointment would allow me to continue to do the work I

have been doing in a more regularized manner as well as expand my role so that the things

that need to be done get done.

The NCSG Charter tasks the finance committee with: 1) deploying and developing a fund-

raising plan for the NCSG, 2) working with ICANN staff to determine levels of support

available to the NCSG, 3) working with ICANN finance officers to ensure the NCSG receives

fair support from ICANN, 4) preparing financial reports, including one mandatory report that

has – despite the Charter requirement – not been filed in the four years I have been a NCSG

member.

In his post to the NCUC Discuss list of December 12th NCSG Chair Tapani Tarvainen also

noted that one additional task of the finance committee is preparing comments for and

participating in the ICANN budget process.

There are far more than two things, per Chair Badii’s question, that need to be done to

improve upon the currently virtually nonexistent work of the NCSG Finance Committee. I

shall list my top two priorities, and then will add a few other things that I’d like to do so that

the NCSG actually has a functioning and forward looking Finance Committee:

1. Improved participation in the ICANN budget process.

I have been very discouraged by the lack of work done by the NCSG Finance Committee in

this area. With the new powers over the budget given to the ICANN community by the

accountability reforms (see, particularly, ICANN Bylaws §6.2(iii) ) it is essential that the NCSG

participate fully in all ICANN budget processes.

During the past year the NCUC and NPOC appointees to the Finance Committee did not

attend a call that had been arranged to prepare a comment to ICANN on the FY17 ICANN

budget. The call, arranged by the NCSG Chair, was attended by the Chair, PC Chair Marilia

Maciel, PC Vice Chair Matthew Shears and myself. In the absence of any FC participation no

NCSG public comment was filed on the ICANN FY17 budget.

(https://forum.icann.org/lists/comments-op-budget-fy17-five-year-05mar16/)

Recently the same lack of participation and output was about to happen with the PTI FY17

budget. Activity on the Finance Committee mailing list indicated that the Finance

Committee intended to meet it’s obligation in this regard (see, for example,

http://mailman.ipjustice.org/pipermail/fc-ncsg/2016-November/000028.html ). I waited.

And waited. Finally, when it became apparent that no such comment was forthcoming,

Stefania Milan and I gave up most of a Saturday to prepare a comment that we submitted at

deadline (https://forum.icann.org/lists/comments-fy18-pti-24oct16/pdfp1oeBV2BV9.pdf).

Since joining the NCSG, I have been the principle author of three NCSG/NCUC public

comments on ICANN’s budget and/or operating plan. Last year, I was the pen holder and

principle GNSO Councilor involved with creating the GNSO budget comment submitted on

behalf of the GNSO by GNSO Council Chair James Bladel

(https://forum.icann.org/lists/comments-op-budget-fy17-five-year-

05mar16/pdf5hWWfxekBz.pdf).

If selected to be the representative to the NCSG Finance Committee I will work with all

members of the NCSG and will guarantee the NCSG will submit timely public comments on

all comments concerning ICANN’s budget and operating plan. That’s just the minimum. We

need to do more.

Early and consistent participation in the NCSG budget process is essential if the NCSG is to

be treated fairly in resource allocation. ALAC’s Finance Committee has regular meetings and

briefings with ICANN Chief Financial Officer Xavier Calvez. If selected to serve the NCUC on

the NCSG Finance Committee I will propose doing the same for the NCSG, including

Constituency and Stakeholder Group leadership in any and all discussions with Mr. Calvez

and his staff.

2. Establishment of a NCSG bank account.

Finance, beyond policy making, in the Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group has de facto

been a delegated competence of the Constituencies. I would recommend no change to this

practice.

Opportunities do arise, however, where the NCSG can or needs to be in receipt of funds. We

need a bank account and if selected to the Finance Committee I’ll propose that we get one.

Two events in the past year illustrate the need for such an account:

1. At the Morocco meeting a representative of the Hewlett Foundation met with several

community leaders, including the NCSG Chair, searching for funding opportunities. Although

he did not select the NCSG to receive funding, what if he had? Where would we put the

money?

Although fundraising and matters of finance are traditionally a matter for Constituencies at

times opportunities for funding do come to the NCSG. We need to be prepared to accept

and administer the funds.

2. ICANN recently agreed to fund an upgrade of the NCSG database. Money was to be given

to the NCSG for distribution to a third party. The NCSG had no way of receiving the funds so

my understanding is that the NCSG utilized a work around by where the NCUC bank account

was used to pay the vendor and then the NCUC was directly reimbursed by ICANN. That’s

bad form – for both the NCUC and NCSG.

I will further propose that the bank account be based outside of the United States (the

NCUC account is currently based in Atlanta, Georgia), for reasons of diversity andsecurity,

and in a currency other than the United States dollar. Estonian e-residency, including

banking facilities, is a concept we may wish to consider for the NCSG.

3. Submit NCSG budget requests.

I will pledge to keep the NCSG EC informed of any and all ICANN budget and financing

opportunities, such as the Supplemental budgeting request period now open.

Should the NCSG EC decide to apply for funding I would, if selected as a member of the

Finance Committee, take the lead, in conjunction with other FC members, in drafting these

requests.

4. Meet Charter requirement: produce an annual financial report.

§2.6 of the NCSG Charter requires production of an annual financial report. No such report

has been produced in recent years by the Finance Committee. If selected to represent the

NCUC on the Finance Committee I will ensure that such a report is produced.

5. Work with the NCSG EC in updating Charter provisions concerning the Finance

Committee.

The NCSG Charter does not reflect the reality of non-commercial finance within ICANN. I

understand that Charter reform may be attempted this year by the NCSG. If so, I will work

with the NCSG EC and all involved parties to ensure that the Charter is updated to reflect

both best practices and the reality of the NCSG finance system.

Please note that I was largely responsible for 1) section VIII of the new NCUC bylaws, and 2)

the content of § 22.7, 22.8 and suggested the exact text that is now §4.3(y) of the new

ICANN bylaws. I have experience in this area and would like to use it for the benefit of the

NCSG.

6. Hold Finance Committee meetings a minimum of 3 times per year. Per §2.6.1 of the

NCSG Charter I will invite all interested members of the NCUC and NPOC Executive

Committees to participate in these meetings.

7. I would reach out to the other SG’s within ICANN to coordinate, where possible,

activities concerning ICANN’s budget and operating procedure.

We share many common concerns regarding ICANN’s operations and budget with the other

Stakeholder Groups within the GNSO. I would very much like to work with them within the

ICANN community to collectively achieve our objectives. A session on the budget has been

proposed for the forthcoming NCPH intersessional meeting in Reykjavik. I think this would

be a good start to start doing just that.

2. In response to the questions in NCSG Chair Tapani Tarvainen’s email of 12 December:

2016:

q. Indicate if you would be willing to become FC Chair:

Yes

This is important work and needs to be done. In a changing ICANN environment it is

imperative that the NCSG be active and prepared, both to exercise it’s role within ICANN

and to develop solid financial analysis and implementation structures internally, on the

financial front. Should you be willing to select me for this role, I’d be happy to expand upon

the work I’m already doing in this area so that it encompasses the totality of that charged

to the NCSG Finance Committee.

Thank you for considering my application. Please let me know if I can provide you with any

additional information to assist you in your deliberations.

1. Dr. Monika Zalnieriute and Thomas Schneider, ‘A Council of Europe Analysis on ICANN’s Procedures and Policies in the Light of Human Rights, Fundamental Freedoms and Democratic Values, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, DGI (2014) 12, available at http://www.coe.int/t/informationsociety/icann-and-human-rights.asp. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Dr. Monika Zalnieriute, ‘ICANN’s Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights,’ *Policy Brief for Article 19: Global Campaign for Free Expression*, February 2015, London, available at https://www.article19.org/data/files/medialibrary/37845/ICANN-P APER- WEB.pdf. Dr. Monika Zalnieriute, ‘Issue Report for the Cross Community Working Party on ICANN’s Corporate and Social Responsibility to Respect Human Rights: Practical Recommendations for ICANN, June 2015, London, available at https://www.article19.org/data/files/medialibrary/38003/ICANN\_report\_A5-for- webv2.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)