
Date: Tuesday, November 23, 2010

Applicant Organisation: Forum des Cadres Scientifique pour le Développement (FORCAS)

Region: Africa

Form Completed by: Matthias Langenegger, At-Large Staff

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1) COMMITMENTS

a. Does the applicant commit to supporting individual Internet users' informed participation in ICANN?

YES: NO:

b. Does the applicant agree to assist the RALO in performing its function?

YES: NO:

2) GOVERNANCE

c. Which geographical area(s) are the applicants membership drawn from?

Most members are from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

d. Is the applicant constituted so that participation by individual Internet users who are citizens or residents of countries within the geographic region in which the ALS is based control the organisation?

YES: NO:

Please explain the answer and the source material, with URLs, for the response:

According to the organizational chart under <http://forcas.net/>, its supreme organ, the General Assembly, is constituted by delegates from local community and development associations. Also, anybody seems to be able to join FORCAS by filling in and submitting the online application form under <http://forcas.net/index.php?id=1>.

e. Does the applicant really have individual members?

YES: NO:

Provide any references used to answer the question here:

As pointed out above, joining FORCAS seems to be quite simple. Anybody can join FORCAS by filling in and submitting the online application form under <http://forcas.net/index.php?id=1>.

If YES on (c) above, are these members active, or do they mostly just sign up and delegate to their leaders?

ACTIVE: DELEGATE:

f. Does the applicant have organizations as members?

YES: NO:

IF YES: Provide details about the nature, type, and number of such members:

IF YES: Provide information about the control they exert over the organisation, whether or not the organizational members are themselves predominantly organised for the benefit of individual internet users.

g. Does the applicant have governmental bodies or quasi-governmental bodies as members?

YES: NO:

IF YES: Provide details about the nature, type, and number of such members. In particular, describe whether or not the nature of these members is congruent with the *Guidelines for Evaluating ALS Applications* as regards the Second Criterion, and how you arrived at your judgment in this regard.:

h. Does the applicant permit additional participation by others that is compatible with the interests of the individual Internet users within the region?

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YES: NO: All members participate in their individual capacity

Please explain the answer and the source material, with URLs, for the response:

i. Is the applicant self-supporting? (i.e. will not rely on ICANN for funding).

YES: NO: (applicant confirmed by email that they will not rely on ICANN funding)

How is the organization funded and what source material or information did you rely on to make your judgment?

Membership fees, subsidies, grants. Judgment is based on application form.

j. Does the applicant post on the Internet current information about their goals, structure, description of constituent group(s)/membership, working mechanisms, leadership, and contact(s)?

YES: NO:

If YES, please provide the URLs where you found the information (preferably specific to the question, not simply the homepage URL):

<http://forcas.net/>

k. Do the membership, leadership and internal mechanisms described in the application correspond to those exposed on the website?

YES: NO:

If 'YES', how and where are the references?

See <http://forcas.net/>

The organization is constituted by a General Assembly meeting once per year and an Executive committee which manages daily business.

l. How does the applicant appear to be funded?

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Outline funding sources:

- Membership fees ;
- Subsidies ;
- Sponsorship.

Where / what sources did you use to find the answers to this question?

Application form

m. Does the funding mechanism show dependence on other interest groups (i.e. industry, government)?

YES: NO:

If YES, please provide some further information on what sources you can identify:

If 'YES', please clarify if possible whether the sources are likely to influence the governance of the organization (for example, a grant from a charity or foundation may well be free of 'strings' of this kind, where corporate donations in some cases might not be):

n. Are the leaders of the applicant organization involved in other organizations or entities?

YES: NO: NA (Google search did nor suggest that leaders are involved in other entities)

If 'YES', please reference the sources for this answer:

If YES were they already involved in Internet governance issues in the past, and in which role?

YES: NO:

If YES, role(s):

In 2009, the FORCAS leadership participated in the Sharm El Sheik IGF in

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collaboration with Centre Africain d'Echange Culturel (CAFEC). CAFEC is a registered AFRALO members organization.

o. Is the mission / policy statement actually related to ICANN / Internet governance issues / advocating users'/consumers interests?

YES: NO:

If YES, include mission/policy statement, and reference the source:

<http://forcas.net/>

MISSION (French)

La mission de FORCAS est d'œuvrer pour le bien être des communautés de base et Sociétés Civiles Congolaises à travers les projets de développement que les Associations mènent avec et pour la population.

MISSION (English)

ICANN Staff translation: "FORCAS' mission is to work for the well-being of Congolese Christian base communities and civil society organizations trough development projects which are implemented by the Associations in conjunction with and for the population."

In particular, one of the goals of FORCAS is to promote development through Internet and ITC services.

3) INTERNET PRESENCE

a. Is the contact information for the organization and its contact person complete and reasonable?

YES: NO:

Does the listed URL work?

YES: NO:

Does the website seem to be regularly updated?

YES: NO: (parts of the website are still under construction)

Does the website have online discussion forums?

YES: NO:

If archives are publicly available, do these forums show signs of recent activity (in the last few months)?

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YES: NO:

If public, are they kept up to date?

YES: NO:

4) ADDITIONAL DUE DILIGENCE

a. How active and well known is the applicant organization?

Number of results for a Google search of organisation in quotes: 6190

Additional information if any:

b. Were you familiar with this applicant before the applicant applied to become an ALS?

YES: NO:

If ‘YES’ please provide some detail of your previous knowledge:

c. What kind of issues does it focus on mostly?

Outline focus issues:

Promote economic development, prevent AIDS and other pandemics, promote social, political and gender equality, help promote the usage of new ITC services.

- Has the applicant set up any event, meeting, or real-life activity pertaining to Internet governance issues, or other issues related to the interests of individual users?

YES: NO: (not according to an Internet search)

Additional information if any:

- Has the applicant been active in international, regional or national Internet governance issues?

ACTIVE: INACTIVE:

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If Active, please provide details of activities or reference URLs for the same:

In 2009, the FORCAS leadership participated in the Sharm El Sheik IGF in collaboration with Centre Africain d'Echange Culturel (CAFEC