Applicant Organization: Armenian Internet Traffic Exchange Foundation (ARMIX)
Region: **APRALO**
Form Completed by: Evin Ashley Erdoğdu
Email Address: **evin.erdogdu@icann.org**

1) **COMMITMENTS**

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

   YES: X ☐   NO: ☐

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

   YES: X ☐ NO: ☐

2) **GOVERNANCE**

   a. **Which geographical area(s) are the applicants' memberships drawn from?**
      APRALO

   b. **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 organization?**

   YES: X ☐   NO: ☐

   Please explain the answer and the source material, with URLs, for the response:
   ARMIX website: www.armix.am > Members:

   All members are Armenian companies with domain name .am and/or based in Armenia, providing services to the Armenian market:

   VivaCell-MTS http://www.mts.am/
   GNC Alfa http://www.gnc.am/
   Ucom LLC http://new.ucom.am/hy/home.html
   CROSSNET http://www.armix.am/eng/www.cross.am
   WEB LLC http://www.web.am/
   Arminco LLC http://www.arminco.com/
   Arpinet http://www.arpinet.am/
   AS-NET http://www.armix.am/eng/www.asnet.am

    c.   Does the applicant really have individual members?

YES: ☐   **NO: X**☐

Provide any references used to answer the question here:
As per application:

"a. Do you have individual members with the ability to vote in or otherwise control the management of the organization?
No"

    d.   Does the applicant have organizations as members?

YES: X☐   NO: ☐

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

"The (members) are internet providers or the companies that have AS numbers"; "2 BSO and 14 commercial companies", "Each company that would like to use ARMIX services should have an ASN".

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

As per application:
"The representatives of internet provider companies are mainly at Executive level and they make their decisions in the board of ARMIX"**;** "It is a non-formal membership as formally they are customers. However, they are involved in the Board and they decide the policy, price and all other conditions that ARMIX provides its services to its members."

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

YES: ☐   **NO: X**☐

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

YES: X☐   NO: ☐

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

As per application:

"It is a non-formal membership as formally they are customers. However, they are involved in

the Board and they decide the policy, price and all other conditions that ARMIX provides its services to its members.”

The general membership are **“internet providers or the companies that have AS numbers”.**

ARMIX keeps its constituents/membership informed about, and enables them to participate in, decisions regarding issues of interest via **“Dissemination of news, meetings, events, trainings, etc.”**

ARMIX’s mission and purpose is to **“Promote local content development, internet traffic exchange, telecommunication infrastructure development.”**

The following ICANN-related issues currently are of interest to ARMIX’s constituents/membership: **“Multistakeholder model of government, Internet Governance, access to internet, usage of internet and innovation in the other fields of economy, IoT”.**

ARMIX has set up the following events, meetings, and/or real-life activities pertaining to Internet governance issues, or other issues related to the interests of individual users: **“IXP training, RIPE NCC Regional Meeting in Yerevan, ENOG 12, participation of Armenian delegations to different ICT events-GITI in Georgia, Cebit in Germany, ICT in Agriculture meeting in Macedonia, ENOG in Moscow, MENOG in Istanbul, etc”**

ARMIX has been active in international, regional or national Internet governance issues, such as the following: **“We have led Armenian delegations to different event as mentioned above. The last one as in Austria, at OSCE Chairmanship Business Conference, where we took place as a panelist at ICT section and covered IoT and second digital revolution issues. The event took place in January, 2017”**

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

YES: X ☐   NO: ☐

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

As per application:

ARMIX is funded through “payment for services, grants”; “Commercial companies that would like to connect to IXP. Besides the payment for services they also support the activities of the organization, like hosting ENOG, RIPE NCC Regional meetings, trainings, etc.”

As per email with applicant, 27 March 2017:

“ARMIX is funded through following sources:

a. Payment for services

b. Grants

c. In-kind donations from local and international partners. Donations can be in the form of equipment (AMSIX, ECIX, ISOC, Vivacel-MTS, etc) or services provided (WEB, GNC ALFA, UCOM, etc). Also members can provide their resources and support ARMIX in the event management, like ARPINET (co-host of RIPE NCC meeting in Armenia and Gold Sponsor of ENOG, Yerevan), UCOM (Platinum Sponsor of ENOG, Yerevan), ISOC ARMENIA (Bronze sponsor of ENOG, Yerevan), UITE (Supporting Sponsor of ENOG, Yerevan)"

h. 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: X ☐   NO: ☐

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

YES: X ☐   NO: ☐

If 'YES', how and where are the references? See above reply.

As per CEO's Linked In profile: https://www.linkedin.com/in/vhovsepyan/
"Director" of "Armenian Internet Exchange – ARMIX" since "April 2010 – Present"

As per ISOC Armenia's website news page: https://www.isoc.am
"March 10, 2017. Yerevan, Armenia. ISOC AM hosted the ARMIX general meeting. Chair of the Board Albert Toneyan and Director of ARMIX Vahan Hovsepyan made a presentation on ARMIX activity in 2016."

j. How does the applicant appear to be funded?

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

As per application:

ARMIX is funded through "payment for services, grants"; "Commercial companies that would like to connect to IXP. Besides the payment for services they also support the activities of the organization, like hosting ENOG, RIPE NCC Regional meetings, trainings, etc."

As per open source media: https://news.am/eng/news/41528.html

"The Armix Internet traffic exchange fund has been established (this year) by the Union of Information Technologies Enterprises (UITE) and Internet Community NGO."

As per email with applicant, 27 March 2017:

"ARMIX is funded through following sources:

a. Payment for services

b. Grants

c. In-kind donations from local and international partners. Donations can be in the form of equipment (AMSIX, ECIX, ISOC, Vivacel-MTS, etc) or services provided (WEB, GNC ALFA, UCOM, etc). Also members can provide their resources and support ARMIX in the event management, like ARPINET (co-host of RIPE NCC meeting in Armenia and Gold Sponsor of ENOG, Yerevan), UCOM (Platinum Sponsor of ENOG, Yerevan), ISOC ARMENIA (Bronze sponsor of ENOG, Yerevan), UITE (Supporting Sponsor of ENOG, Yerevan)"

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

YES: X☐   NO: ☐

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

As per application:

ARMIX is largely funded by the private sector union in Armenia.

"Commercial companies that would like to connect to IXP. Besides the payment for services they also support the activities of the organization, like hosting ENOG, RIPE NCC Regional meetings, trainings, etc."

As per applicant email, 27 March 2017:

"The Union of Information Technology Enterprises (UITE) and ISOC Armenia are the founding mambers and members of the Board of ARMIX. Also, as it has been decided at ARMIX Annual Congress, all parties, connected to ARMIX, if not over the number of 25, will take their seats in the Board. Individual internet users directly benefit from the ARMIX services as the IXP is providing not only internet traffic exchange opportunities for connected parties, but also Google Global Cache and AKAMAI Cluster content, that makes the internet work much better."

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):

As per application:

"It (ARMIX) has been initiated by a number of internet operators and founded by the Union of Information Technology Enterprises and ISOC Armenia. They have two seats in a Board of ARMIX and 6 other seats are elected by the internet providers, who are the the customers of ARMIX."

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

YES: X ☐   NO: ☐

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

As per application:

"Albert Toneyan is a Vice President of ISOC Armenia, Vahan Hovsepyan is also a CEO of Armenian Union of Operators and Board Member of ISOC Armenia."

As per email from applicant, 31 March 2017:

"Two of board members are appointed by the Union of Information Technology Enterprises and ISOC Armenia. Also, all clients, if not accessing the number of 25 ave their seats at ARMIX Board. Board is also appointing Director and the Chairman of the Board."

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

YES: X ☐   NO: ☐

If YES, role(s): **According to Hovsepyan's Linked In profile: https://www.linkedin.com/in/vhovsepyan/**

Hovsepyan holds a certificate in e-Government from Maastricht School of Management, and worked for two organizations involved in internet governance prior to his affiliation with ARMIX.

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

YES: X ☐   NO: ☐

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

As per website: http://www.armix.am/eng/index.php

"Welcome to Armix.

ARMIX has been established in 2010 and currently provides IT services to UCOM, VIVACELL-MTS, WEB, ARMINCO, UITE, ISOC AM, GNC ALFA (ROSTELECOM), KARABAKH TELECOM, Hypernet, Arpinet, ABC Domain, AS-NET, ADC, Infotech, Crossnet and Armentel, providing them 100Mbit to 10Gbit fast traffic exchange connections to each other."

As per application "Objectives":

"a. Please describe your Organization's mission and purpose (please post in the text box below or provide a URL, if posted):
Promote local content development, internet traffic exchange, telecommunication infrastructure development"

"b. What ICANN-related issues currently are of interest to your Organization's constituents/membership:
Multistakeholder model of government, Internet Governance, access to internet, usage of internet and innovation in the other fields of economy, IoT"

3) INTERNET PRESENCE

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

   YES: X☐ NO: ☐

   Does the listed URL work?

   YES: X☐ NO: ☐

   Does the website seem to be regularly updated?

   YES: X☐ NO:☐ *It is updated with most recent structural information, but most recent "news" is from 2014.*

   Does the website have online discussion forums?

   YES: X☐ NO: ☐ *Users are able to comment and contact the admins via online form.*

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

   YES: X☐ NO: ☐

   If public, are they kept up to date? *Relatively – they are kept up to date, but updates are not within the past few months.*

   YES: X☐ 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: **591**

Additional information if any:

APRALO VP Response via email, 31 March 2017 :
"Dear Colleagues,
I do support ARMIX application.
Kind regards,
Michael"
Michael Yakushev michael.yakushev@icann.org, VP Stakeholder Engagement, Eastern Europe And Central Asia

As per APRALO list email, 1 March 2017 :
"Great News! Let me know when the DD is ready and I can send it out to APRALO to move it on to the next vote ASAP. Thanks so much!
Pavan Budhrani"

As per APRALO

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

YES: ☐   **NO: X** ☐

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

*ARMIX is an internet service provider based in Armenia, which offers events to their members and communicates via the "***Dissemination of news, meetings, events, trainings, etc.***"*

As per application "Objectives":

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"b. What ICANN-related issues currently are of interest to your Organization's constituents/membership:
Multistakeholder model of government, Internet Governance, access to internet, usage of internet and innovation in the other fields of economy, IoT"

- 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: X ☐   NO: ☐

Additional information if any:

As per application:

"IXP training, RIPE NCC Regional Meeting in Yerevan, ENOG 12, participation of Armenian delegations to different ICT events-GITI in Georgia, Cebit in Germany, ICT in Agriculture meeting in Macedonia, ENOG in Moscow, MENOG in Istanbul, etc."

"We have led Armenian delegations to different event as mentioned above. The last one as in Austria, at OSCE Chairmanship Business Conference, where we took place as a panelist at ICT section and covered IoT and second digital revolution issues. The event took place in January, 2017."

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

    ACTIVE: X☐   INACTIVE: ☐