
Date: **09 September 2019**
Applicant Organization: **Internet Society Rural Development Special Interest Group**
Region: **APRALO**
Form Completed by: **Evin Ashley Erdoğan**
Email Address: **evin.erdogdu@icann.org**

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

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: NO:

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

As per application:

“Are members of your organization residents of this specific region you seek to represent?”

Yes

Are the officers of your organization residents of this specific region?

Yes

Please explain the answer above in sufficient detail so that a person not familiar with your Organization would be able to understand the reasons for your answer, and reference the URLs where any statutes or operating principles or other supporting information related to this question can be found:

ADARSH B U

Chair, ISOC-Rural-Development-SIG

Yes, I reside in India and also most of the officers are from India.”

“Individuals can vote for the election of officers and then can be volunteers to organize any of the events related to the Internet.”

As per website URL:

“Welcome to the new ISOC Rural Development SIG, which can be joined through the below steps:

Login to your ISOC portal dashboard at the following URL: <https://admin.internetsociety.org/622619/User/Login> .

If you are not a member of ISOC, you need to join as well through the URL: <https://www.internetsociety.org/become-a-member/>

Once logged in, click on the join a chapter/SIG

Find the Rural Development SIG by writing ‘Rural Development’ in the Chapter/SIG Name field and click Search

You should then see a link saying “Join Chapter/SIG”, which you can click on and then confirm your request

Thereafter, your application will be reviewed by ISOC-Rural-Development-SIG and you can check the status of this application within your profile.”

c) Does the applicant really have individual members?

YES: NO:

Provide any references used to answer the question here:

As per application:

**“Do you have individual members with the ability to vote in or otherwise control the management of the organization?
Yes”**

“The members can be any kind of background.”

“At present we have nearly 200 members.”

“Members need to involve active in Internet standardisation.”

As per website URL:

“Welcome to the new ISOC Rural Development SIG, which can be joined through the below steps:

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Thereafter, your application will be reviewed by ISOC-Rural-Development-SIG and you can check the status of this application within your profile.”

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

ACTIVE: DELEGATE:

c) Does the applicant have organizations as members?

YES: NO:

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

As per application:

**“Do you have organizations as all or part of your membership?
Yes**

“It consists of completely non-profit making”

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.

Members are nonprofits or individuals coming from the local Internet Society ecosystem, who participate regularly in the grassroots activities of this SIG.

c) 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:

As per application:

“Do you have governmental bodies, or quasi-governmental bodies, as members of your organization?

Yes

Governmental bodies like educational institutes are involved to work in collaboration for the Internet infrastructure.”

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

YES: NO:

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

As per application:

“We have social media (Whatsapp, Facebook and Twitter) and a mailing list.”

“The mission of the SIG will be governed by the basic principles of promoting participation seeking the social and digital inclusion of rural areas by promoting their development.”

“(One of the goals is) Bringing wider awareness of cyber threats, digital transformation, enhancing gender rights, human rights, culture and online safety.”

“Has your organization 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; Meetups and multiple events in universities.”

“ Has your organization been active in international, regional or national Internet governance issues?

Yes; This is a global SIG and active to work in global level.”

As per website – See ‘Chapterthon 2019’:

<https://ruralisocsig.org/chapterthon-2019>

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

YES: NO:

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

As per application:

**“What is the primary source, or sources, of funding for your Organization? (if unfunded/entirely voluntary simply indicate “N/A”):
Internet Society”**

c) 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:

***Applicant accidentally answered “No” on the application, but corrected: the organization does indeed post regularly on their website and social media, Whatsapp and mailing list(s).**

c) 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 above reply.

Adarsh Bu, the Chair of the ISOC Rural Development SIG, as well as the secondary contact and leadership team, are noted on the website.

c) How does the applicant appear to be funded?

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

As per application:

**“What is the primary source, or sources, of funding for your Organization? (if unfunded/entirely voluntary simply indicate “N/A”):
Internet Society”**

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

YES: NO:

Only relies upon ISOC Global support.

c) Are the leaders of the applicant organization involved in other organizations or entities?

YES: NO:

If ‘YES’, please reference the sources for this answer:

As per application:

“ICANN, IETF, ISOC, inSIG, YIGF, IEEE and many more.

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

YES: NO:

If YES, role(s):

As per application:

d. Has your organization been active in international, regional or national Internet governance issues?

Yes

If yes, please provide examples:

This is a global SIG and active to work in global level.

The applicant organization has also demonstrated involvement with the ISOC and ICANN communities.

c) 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:

As per application:

“The purpose of the SIG is to ensure broadband deployment in rural areas where it is not yet economically viable for private sector providers to deliver service, and service providers often lack the economic incentive to build out their networks in rural communities and those located in mountainous and other geographically challenging regions.

The mission of the SIG will be governed by the basic principles of promoting participation seeking the social and digital inclusion of rural areas by promoting their development.

Connecting hospitals and schools in rural areas where there is limited or no broadband service available through commercial operators. Taking care of bringing up remote classes for the actual Specifications students via webinars and also digital education system with a lot of opportunities to learn new technologies.

Making availability of existing service to support precision agriculture needs in farm fields. Discuss and make regulatory and political incidence to promote the growth of community networks in a sustainable and legal environment, reducing the bureaucracies and economic barriers.

Bringing wider awareness of cyber threats, digital transformation, enhancing gender rights, human rights, culture and online safety.”

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:

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)?

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: 2

Additional information if any:

Organization's official website URL
<https://ruralisocsig.org/>

Put RALO VP email response:

APRALO Regional VP, Head of India – Samiran Gupta:

“I had the opportunity to engage with the ISOC Rural Special Interest Group (SIG) a couple of times this year. I have met several of their founding members in Hyderabad and was invited to speak at their inaugural webinar few months ago. In particular Adarsh BU in very active community member in the Internet Governance space in India. Hyderabad is a very well-known destination for information technology companies. Having an ALS in Hyderabad will help ICANN engage better, particularly with the technical community there.”

APRALO Regional VP, India – Champika Wijayatunga:

“I find Adarsh Bu is a quite active and enthusiastic community member in Hyderabad, India.”

“He has exposure to various Internet forums and has a lot of potential to contribute to the development of Internet.”

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:

The applicant organization has demonstrated involvement with the ISOC and ICANN communities.

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

“DNS training and many more”

- 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:

Additional information if any:

“Meetups and multiple events in universities.”

As per website – See ‘Chapterthon 2019’:

<https://ruralisocsig.org/chapterthon-2019>

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

ACTIVE: INACTIVE: