**African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO)**

**OPERATING PRINCIPLES**

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**October 2021**

**PART 1: GENERAL**

The name of this organization shall be the African Regional At-Large Organization (hereinafter referred to as “AFRALO”)

**2. Definitions:**

In these Operating Principles the following definitions shall apply:

ALAC………………………… At-Large Advisory Committee

ALS…………………………… At –Large Structure

AFRALO……………………… African Regional At-Large Organization.

ICANN ……………………… Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

RALO………………………… Regional At-Large Organization

Member……………………… A full member of the AFRALO

Region………………………... Geographic Region as defined by ICANN

Provisional Member………… The status of an organization which has applied for ALS status

and is awaiting the accreditation decision. No ALS applicant shall be considered a Provisional Member where AFRALO has not provided favorable regional advice on the application to the ALAC.

Individual Member………...… Unaffiliated member out of any ALS, who has been certified

according to the procedures set out in this document.

AFRALO Leadership……….. The officers of the RALO which are; Chair, Vice Chair and

Secretary

AFRALO Extended Leadership…….. This consists of AFRALO Leadership, ALAC Members

from the region, the ALAC NomCom Delegate representing the African Region and any other AFRALO member who chairs a specific working group, role or advisory capacity as agreed to by AFRALO from time to time.

**3. Relationship with ICANN**

The reference for the relationship between AFRALO and ICANN will be the MOU signed between the 2 parties in 2007.

**PART II: MEMBERSHIP**

**5. Membership**

5.1. All organizations are considered ALSes if they are accredited by ALAC.

5.2. All ALSes in the AFRICAN region shall be Members of the AFRALO.

5.3 Any Internet end user within the AFRALO region may become an AFRALO individual member but must not be a Representative or a Leader of an ALS to any RALO.

5.4. There shall be no limit as to the number of Members of the AFRALO.

5.5. All Members and any participant interested in getting involved with AFRALO shall be entitled to attend and participate at all meetings and be entitled to access information via a publicly accessed World Wide Web site maintained by AFRALO.

5.6. All Members shall be entitled to participate in AFRALO mailing lists.  
  
5.7. The AFRALO individual member must submit an affirmation to At-Large Staff indicating that they meet the following criteria:

* Being a resident or citizen of one of the African countries/territories
* Accepting the AFRALO Operating Principles and the ALAC RoP
* Must not be a Representative or a Leader of an ALS in AFRALO
* Be willing to be subscribed to the AFRI-Discuss mailing list
* An understanding of, and interest in, supporting and advocating for the needs of non-technical and non-industry individual Internet users as they relate to ICANN’s mandate.

5.8 AFRALO Individual Member must agree to follow all the AFRALO rules:

* An AFRALO Individual Member must submit a Statement of Interest (SoI). Please see <https://community.icann.org/display/atlarge/At-Large+New+SOIs+Workspace> for reference
* An AFRALO Individual Member must affirm his/her interest in learning about and/or participating in ICANN’s policy processes and/or other related/relevant activities

Ceasing to meet any of the aforementioned section 5 requirements affects the processing of the application. .

5.9. The AFRALO Individual members are encouraged to collaborate closely with AFRALO ALSes in their country of residence, where there is an ALS present.

5.10. The Individual members participate in all the AFRALO activities including but not limited to:

5.10a Attending the AFRALO face-to-face and virtual meetings

5.10b Participating in and/or initiating debates

5.10c Proposing views, activities, or projects

5.10d AFRALO individual members shall have the right to vote when required and the following rules shall apply:

* Votes of individual members shall be conducted independently from ALS votes
* Individual members shall select a representative yearly before the ICANN Public Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the purpose of casting their representative vote in AFRALO election processes .
* The term of the selected individual members representative shall commence at the end of the ICANN AGM
* The term of the current individual members representative shall end by the end of the ICANN AGM
* ICANN Staff shall facilitate the voting exercise including call for nominations in coordination with AFRALO leadership.
* Each individual member shall be entitled to cast one vote
* The total Individual members’ vote shall be equivalent to a single ALS
* The representative of the individual members shall then cast the single vote, in a given AFRALO election process, based on the outcome of the individual members internal voting.

5.11 An AFRALO Individual Member may have her/his membership withdrawn at her/his own request or by a decision of AFRALO Leadership.

5.11 a If an AFRALO Individual Member voluntarily gives up her/his membership status, this should be duly documented and AFRALO Leadership informed. It is the responsibility of the AFRALO Chair to ensure that proper procedures have been followed and to ratify that the AFRALO Individual Member no longer has membership status.

5.11b A request for AFRALO to withdraw of the individual membership - may be raised by:

* AFRALO Leadership;
* One or more ALS Representatives or RALO Individual Members through a request to the AFRALO officers;
* At-Large Staff by notification of the ALAC Chair. Staff notification will generally come when Staff becomes aware of an AFRALO Individual Member who is no longer willing or able to meet her/his obligations.

5.11c If the withdrawal request is caused by an AFRALO Individual Member moving to a different geographic region, the member must be informed of the possibility to apply for At-Large membership in the new region.

5.12d Any request to withdraw membership status not voluntarily requested by the AFRALO Individual Member shall be accompanied by a rationale for such request.

The AFRALO Individual Member should be notified of the request and given an adequate opportunity of at least 6 months to answer the request and to remedy the situation. This will be done by the AFRALO Secretariat in collaboration with ICANN At-Large Staff.

* A record of all communications, attempted communications and reminders must be maintained. The record will also document the rationale for the request to withdraw membership status.

5.11e At-Large records should maintain the history of AFRALO Individual Members who have had their membership withdrawn.

5.11f Besides permanent withdrawal, the AFRALO Individual Membership status can be put on hold following circumstances of a temporary nature like the member becoming an ALS representative or a member of an ALS Leadership.

**5.12 Privacy**

AFRALO Individual Members may exercise their right to privacy by withholding their consent to being listed in AFRALO’s Individual Membership web page in accordance with ICANN’s personal data protection procedures

**Next Date of review**

5.13. The AFRALO individual membership section issue may be reviewed by or before 4 years of its formal adoption and implementation by AFRALO.