

## **Applicant Information**

**First Name: Arinola**

**Last Name: Akinyemi**

**Gender: F**

**Country of Residence: Nigeria**

**Stakeholder Group/Constituency Affiliation: CSG/BC**

## **Questions**

**1. Current employer and position. Please describe the type of work you perform:**

DigiSphere Limited/CEO and DigiSphere Centre for Digital Creativity/Founder.

As the CEO/Founder, I am the Chief Strategist working with a team of professionals to ensure we deliver on our mission and vision of providing cutting edge Information and Communications Technology products and services for the improved efficiency, accountability and productivity of our clients without compromising our core values.

**2. Education:**

Bachelor of Science (Electronics) Lagos State University, Ojo, Nigeria  
Various Professional Certifications

**3. Please identify any GNSO Working Groups and/or chartered teams in which you are participating:**

Transfer Policy Review (TPR) (BC Alternate)  
Standing Selection Committee (Chair 2021/2022 & 2022/2023)

**4. Please describe any past involvement in the ICANN Fellowship Program, if applicable. For example, have you previously been a fellow or served as a program mentor?**

I am an alumni of the fellowship (ICANN58) and have continued to engage ever since.

**5. Please assess and explain how your knowledge, experience and expertise address the criteria listed below. Leave the response blank if not applicable to you.**

- **Active participant in GNSO structures and policy development processes with a track record of engagement**

Having been a member of the BC since 2015, I have participated and even led in drafting some of BC comments on various policy issues. I have also served in the BC Finance, Outreach and Credentials sub-committees.

- **Previous experience serving as a mentor, teacher, or learning facilitator is a plus**

I have benefited from both sides of the mentoring process throughout my 25+ years career and it is something I recommend for everyone undergo. Since 2016, I have been a mentor with the Centre for Strategic Enterprise Development Ltd/GTE, a not-for-profit concern that works with MSME owners from different industries/sectors as well as government regulatory Agencies to provide ease of doing business tools.

Also, as the founder of DigiSphere Center for Digital Creativity a not –for profit Concern founded in 2012 with the primary focus of making healthy digital lifestyles, mentoring students and youths in Nigeria to engage in successful IT Innovation is on an ongoing basis.

As a mentee of ICANN onboarding pilot Program amongst several others, I have received insightful information in different aspects of work and life.

Additionally, the outreach committee of the BC provided a platform for mentoring new BC Members as I engaged in walking them through the various issues of interest to the BC at ICANN meetings.

In all of these, I would say I have been able to pass my knowledge and experience while learning from others.

- **Strong written and verbal communication skills**

Having worked at various management level where I am expected to submit reports and lead several meetings and presentations, I can say that my written and communication skills in English are quite excellent.

- **Project management and coordination skills**

While serving as Chair of the BC Credentials Committee, I led the team to develop a document in accordance with the BC Charter to ease the process of new application approval. Also, as Chair of the GNSO Standing Selection Committee 2021/2022, I led the team to develop a FAQ document to help members address recurring questions pertaining to its Charter. I also led the team through a Charter review which was approved by the council.

Additionally, as an ICT specialist delivering cutting edge IT services to our clients, require a very high level of project management and coordination skills.

- **Networking skills**

With my membership of various organisations and the network I have been able to establish, I would rate this skill high

**6. Please assess and explain how your knowledge, experience & personality meet the desired attributes listed below. Leave the response blank if not applicable to you.**

- **Member of a GNSO Stakeholder Group and/or Constituency**

Yes I am a member of the CSG and BC

- **Understanding of the ICANN's mission, structure, and multistakeholder model**

Having been in the system for a couple of years now, undergoing the fellowship and Pilot onboarding program, and also carried out various outreaches in my region to bring ICANN to them, I can say my understand of the mission, structure and multistakeholder model is high.

- **Willingness to devote the necessary time a resources prior to and during the ICANN meeting**

I am willing to devote the necessary time as may be needed/required.

- **Ability to create a supportive atmosphere for mentees by being open, accessible, and approachable**

I have always been a strong advocate for openness, accessibility and approachability as I believe these are key attributes to successful mentoring, business growth and development

- **Robust network within the ICANN community and ability to leverage and share that network**

Having been in the ICANN ecosystem for over 7yrs now, I have had the opportunity to expand my network within the system by participating in the fellowship, a couple of working groups (NomComRIWG, GNSO-TPRWG), the UASG amongst others. These I would be willing to share with my Mentees

- **Ability to present information in a manner that is simple and easy to understand**

My work experience with my company and Not-for-profit concern has provided me with ample opportunity to present information without any ambiguity as we interact with people of various educational background.

- **Ability to establish weekly projects and deliverables for mentees using a clear and consistent learning approach**

As the CEO of a business that delivers ICT service and the Founder of Not-for-profit concern that delivers healthy digital lifestyle, establishing weekly projects and deliverables is on an ongoing basis

- 7. Please explain your interest in serving as a mentor and what you will bring to the Fellowship Program if selected.**

The fellowship is designed from the underserved region which I belong to and as such appreciate the needs of the mentees. Also, having benefited from both sides of the mentoring process, if selected, It is my desire to bring to the fellowship program my wealth of experience to enable mentees navigate and integrate seamlessly into the Policy Development Process of the ICANN ecosystem.