The purpose of this survey was get to know more about our APRALO At-Large Structures (ALSes) and the members within it who are the main contributors to the work of the APRALO within the ALAC and ICANN. The APRALO Leadership team recognises that there is a lot of untapped potential among our ALS members and we want to ensure that the skills, competencies and interests of our members are being employed appropriately within groups and activities that can add value to ICANN’s work. Also, at a time when ICANN is focused on its accountability as a multistakeholder organisation with responsibility to the global community, we want to ensure that APRALO ALSes are appropriately assisting ICANN to fulfil this role.

According to the minimum criteria established for At Large Structures by ICANN in its application form and in the APRALO Rules of Procedure, ALSes are expected to actively participate in monthly APRALO meetings and in APRALO, ALAC or cross community working groups as a team leader, pen holder or participant. Measuring and metrics are becoming the norm and our ALSes must be seen to be playing their part within the system in order to retain their membership.

We would like APRALO to continue to demonstrate the high level of participation that our region engages in as its contribution to the decision-making and policy making activities within ICANN. In this way we are helping to keep the Internet secure, stable and interoperable.

The results which are presented below include the names of those who participated in the survey as an acknowledgement of your commitment to the purpose of APRALO. We would ask that you encourage more voices from your parts of our Asian, Australasian and Pacific Islands region to participate in our meetings and working groups. Thank you for taking the time to undertake this survey. Your responses provide us with valuable feedback about our constituency and its make-up, and has been much appreciated.

This report does not offer any formal analysis of the information provided by the survey results, but includes personal commentaries based on the responses and results which are the opinions of the writer of this report rather than those of the APRALO Leadership Team.

SURVEY RESULTS AND A BRIEF ANALYSIS

ABOUT YOU

(Q A.1) Thank you to the following (32) ALS members who completed the APRALO survey form: Ali AlMeshal, Amal Al-saqqaf, Amir Qayyum, Anupam Agrawal, Aris Ignacio, Bikram Shrestha, Chaitanya Ramachandran, Chaoran Xue, Ellen Strickland, Fouad Bajwa, Gunela Astbrink, Holly Raiche, Hong Xue, Karaitiana Taiuru, Lianna Galstyan, Mahmoud Lattouf, Maureen Hilyard, Md Jahangir Houssain, Mohammed Al-Dhaifi, Muhammad Yousaf, Narine Khachatryan, Per Darnell, Pua Hunter, Saleh Mansour, Satish Babu, Siranush Vardanyan, Suhaidi Hassan, Tomohiro Fujisaki, Winthrop Yu, Yannis Li, Yashar Hajiyev and Yasiuchi Kitamura.

Some respondents did not verify their membership of APRALO through an associated ALS. They were omitted from the results of this survey. Two respondents also did not indicate an ALS but, they are known within the system already and I have included their responses.
Question A.2 – Your Professional Background

The ALS members who responded come mainly from Academic (34%), Technical (28%) and Managerial (26%) sectors, with a few lawyers (8%) and finance managers (4%). Government and Public Policy were other areas.

It is important that we look to the backgrounds of our ALSes when we need specialist support for the contributions that APRALO can make to ALAC activities and decision-makers. For this reason we must try to involve as many APRALO members as possible into ICANN working groups relevant to these backgrounds and individual interests. Many thanks to those of you who are already engaged.

Question A.3 – ALS interests/expertise

There was very strong (90%) interest by the group in Internet Governance. A contributing factor could be the high number of ALSes which are also ISOC Chapters (50%). This indicates a strength for APRALO to contribute to ALAC’s governance and policy development roles. These are complemented by a general interest in other areas including the GAC, IPV6, Accessibility, Universal Access, Education, Numbering resources, Youth Engagement and International Collaboration.
(Q.A.4&5) Of the respondents, only 10 of the 32 respondents spoke English as their first language. This represents only 30% of the survey responses. Other languages included: Arabic (6), Armenian (3), Azerbaijani, Bangla, Cantonese, Chinese (2), Hindi, Japanese (2), Malaysian, Nepali, Urdu (2) and Swedish (2). Chinese is the only language for which ICANN provides interpretation at their online and face to face meetings. Although there is a high number of Arabic speakers among our RALO, it may not justify a request to ICANN for further interpreters of other languages than those they currently offer.

ABOUT YOUR AT-LARGE STRUCTURE (ALS)

(Q.B.1) The 26 ALSes represented in this survey were: Arab Knowledge Management Society, Armenian Assn for the Disabled, At-Large @ China, Azerbaijan Information Policy Analytical Centre, Chinese Domain Name Users, Cook Islands Internet Action Group, Computer Society of India, Internet New Zealand, Internet Research Project Pakistan, ISOC Armenia, ISOC Australia (2), ISOC Bahrain, ISOC Bangladesh Dhaka, ISOC Delhi, ISOC Japan (2), ISOC Kolkata, ISOC Malaysia, ISOC Pakistan Islamabad Chapter (2), ISOC Palestine, ISOC Philippines (2), ISOC Yemen, IUSN Foundation (Niue), Media Education Centre Armenia, NetMission.Asia, NZ Maori Internet Society, Pacific Islands Chapter of ISOC.

(Q.B.1) The positions held by these ALS volunteers included: Board member, President, Vice President, Chair, Co-Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Deputy Director, Technical Manager, Trustee, Primary Contact, Coordinator, Collaboration and Community Leader and a member of the Women’s Technology and Technical Teams. All providing valuable input directly from their communities (Q.B.3) and into our working groups and discussions.

Question B.2 – Alignment of the ALS to ICANN interests

There is strong alignment among our ALS groups with the ALAC. The interest in other sections offers well-rounded APRALO input from our region into any discussions related to ALAC issues under discussion – especially with regards to the gNSO. Other areas of alignment across ICANN included the NCSG/NCUC (Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group / Non Commercial Users Constituency), the ASO (Address Supporting Organisation) and Internet Governance.

A strong communication network within APRALO is important for when we receive statements from across the ICANN ecosystem on which we could contribute some comment. We need the views of our members to pass onto our working group leaders and penholders who are writing statements on behalf of the ALAC.
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SECTION C: YOUR ALS INVOLVEMENT IN ALAC OR APRALO WORKING GROUPS

Survey responses were returned by only 26 ALSes out of the 38 that are currently registered with APRALO. This represents a 68% response rate but we had hoped the response would be higher. If we simply go by this survey, this is an indication of low or no involvement by some ALSes in APRALO Meetings or APRALO/ALAC working groups. The ALAC is currently undertaking a review of its own processes and structures and this will include a review of ALSes. Continued registration of some ALSes is at risk if they are not participating, even in APRALO meetings. Log are currently being taken to monitor ALS attendance and participation.

(Q C.1) Respondents noted their participation in a range of working groups and some are on more than one working groups. These working groups include: Capacity Building, Metrics, Privacy Proxy Services, IDN WG, Future Challenges, Social Media, Technology Taskforce, Not for Profit Operational Concerns (NPOC), APAC Hub, as well as the CWG to Develop an IANA Stewardship Transition Proposal on Naming Related Functions and the CCWG on Enhancing ICANN Accountability.

(Q C.2) 19 out of the 32 respondents (59%) were already active participants on various working groups within the ICANN system, and of this group, APRALO provides 4 working group leaders and 4 penholders.

(Q C.3) 13 respondents (41%) indicated that they did not currently belong to a working group. Responses ranged from those who have been very much involved in the past and encourage others to participate, to one respondent who is brand-new to the system having participated in the Fellowship programme in Singapore (ICANN52). Their helpful ideas to encourage more participation by ALSes included:

- Any possibilities in Academic or Technical related WGs?
- Need more information on new or existing working groups, but interested in being involved.
- I want to contribute to the technical work of SSAC, NRO and ASO. In my region, there is very little awareness about these committee/organizations. I would also be willing to contribute towards the awareness about the working of these organizations. Recently, Fahd and Bahr visited our country that helped a lot in terms of spreading awareness and engaging with the local community. (the SSAC and more technical involvement was an interest of 4 respondents)
- I do participate when I see opportunities and have done so over the previous years.
- I am interested in Technical working groups
- Be part of the email list, especially as a newbie introduced through our fellowship programme.
- Continue to send out volunteer or nomination calls for working group spots
- More hours in the day. Domestic workload prevents engagement as fully as I’d like
- Our Board is restructuring and we will encourage more members to participate