

Expression of Interest – GNSO Nominated Mentor for the ICANN Fellowship Program

Overview:

This call seeks members of the GNSO community interested in serving as a volunteer mentor for the ICANN Fellowship Program.

Please complete, save and submit this form by email to gnso-secs@icann.org. **The deadline is 12 January 2023 at 23:59 UTC.**

How to complete your application:

1. First, read the Acknowledgement and Consent text below. Check the appropriate box and enter the date on page 2.
2. Beginning on page 3, this application includes fields for you to fill in personal details, as well as 7 additional questions.
3. You need to fill in all sections of the form. If a given criteria (e.g. expertise) does not apply to you, leave the field empty.
4. Once you have completed the form, save it on your computer/tablet/smartphone.
5. Create a new email message addressed to gnso-secs@icann.org, attach the form which you previously saved and submit the application.

You must submit your application by **12 January 2023 at 23:59 UTC.**

Fellowship Program Mentor – GNSO Expression of Interest Acknowledgment and Consent Form

Please read this Acknowledgement and Consent carefully as it contains important details about how your personal information is collected, processed, and published when you submit your application for the Fellowship Program Mentor Position (“Position”).

By completing the Fellowship Program Application Form (“Application Form”), you authorize and consent to Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (“ICANN”, “we”, “us”, “our”) collecting and processing your personal information in accordance with this Consent Form. ICANN is the data controller of your personal information when you submit the Application Form and is responsible for complying with applicable data protection laws.

What We Collect From You

When submitting the Application Form, you understand that you may provide personal information, including your name, contact information, qualifications and professional background, and any other information you voluntarily provide.

You understand provision of personal information with your application is entirely voluntary. You determine the extent to which you provide information as part of your application. However, if you decide not to provide information, you understand that it may affect your candidacy.

It is your responsibility to obtain consent from any individual for whom you provide his or her personal information of as a part of your application.

What We Collect From Other Sources

We may collect information from other sources, including other individuals you identify. We may also collect information from publicly available sources including your personal web pages.

Why We Collect

We only process your personal information when we have a legal basis to do so under applicable law. With your consent, we process the personal information you provide in order to assess your qualifications and candidacy for the Fellowship Program Mentor Position.

Disclosures and Publication of Your Personal Information

Your completed application and all supporting documentation will be published on the GNSO Standing Selection Committee community wiki page at <https://community.icann.org/display/GSSC> for transparency purposes. Please be cognizant of your answers as these will be published.

International Transfers

Based on your consent and for the purposes set forth above, the personal information that you provide will be processed in the United States. ICANN employs adequate safeguards to protect your personal information; however, the United States may not provide you the same high level of protection of your personal information as the laws applicable in your country of residence.

Your Rights and Choices

You freely confirm your consent to all of the above. You understand that you may withdraw your consent to future processing at any time or for any reason by emailing privacy@icann.org. If you withdraw your consent, ICANN will stop processing and delete your information without undue delay, unless there are other legal grounds for processing. Your revocation, however, will not affect any personal information that we have already processed and transferred with your consent.

Subject to applicable law, you are entitled to certain rights with respect to your personal information. You can request to access, rectify, erase or restrict, or object to, the processing of your personal information or make use of the right to data portability by contacting privacy@icann.org. You also can lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority in your country of residence at any time.

CONSENT LANGUAGE

I agree to the above provisions and consent to the processing of my Fellowship Program Mentor Position Application Form to ICANN, as set forth above, and for my Application Form to be published at <https://community.icann.org/display/GSSC> in connection with ICANN's consideration for my candidacy.

I understand the above provisions and do not consent to the processing of my Fellowship Program Mentor Position Application Form to ICANN, as set forth above, or for my Application Form to be published at <https://community.icann.org/display/GSSC> in connection with ICANN's consideration for my candidacy.

Date:

Applicant Information

First Name: Benjamin

Last Name: Akinmoyeje

Gender: Male

Country of Residence: Namibia

Stakeholder Group/Constituency Affiliation: Non Commercial Users Constituency

Questions

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

I am a PhD research student of Informatics at the Namibia University of Science and Technology, focusing on social media and cultural hegemony. I conduct qualitative research and organize seminars to share my findings. I attend conferences and technical workshops to learn more about topic areas. I tutor and lecture undergraduates on courses such as Ethics of Computing. I also do literature reviews and regular technical presentations of my academic findings.

2. Education: Masters in Informatics, PhD Informatics(in view)

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

CCWP HRIA
UASG Tech WG
CCWG Accountability
Inaugural ICANN Policy Development Accelerator

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?

My participation is listed below: I have been a fellow three times in the listed fellowships during ICANN49, ICANN 59, & ICANN 66.

Fellowship Alumni AfrICANN group

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

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

As the chair of the Non-commercial users' constituents and the office that is responsible for mobilizing community members to engage in the policy development processes, I ensure that I share all announcements with members and encourage them to engage in the process. To increase NCUC members' participation, I have instituted the NCUC Issue Forum.

- **Previous experience serving as a mentor, teacher, or learning facilitator is a plus**
I am a part-time lecturer at my university of study; I mentor multiple students in cyber security, data analysis, and research methods. I have been a Microsoft student ambassador since 2023 and a Tableau student ambassador since 2020. These roles enable me to mentor and guide many students in their academic and career journey. I have also been an unofficial mentor to multiple community members in our constituency.
- **Strong written and verbal communication skills**
Currently, a researcher is doing academic writing full-time and is comfortable with public speaking as a member of Toastmasters International. I am always writing 50% of my time as it is a requirement of my current endeavor.
- **Project management and coordination skills**
I have over ten years of experience as an IT manager, engaged in various Health IT and digital health projects, and also with Project Management for Development Training (PMD Pro).
- **Networking skills**
I have built strong relationships both within and outside the ICANN community. I can easily connect and relate with colleagues by creating a positive and friendly environment suitable for learning. I am pretty comfortable speaking in public as a Distinguished Toastmaster. I am a good listener with active listening skills.

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**
Non-commercial Users Constituency and Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group
Cross Community Working Party on Human Rights Impact Assessment.
GNSO Next-Gen RDS PDP WG
Draft Proposal of the New Fellowship Program Approach – commented on the NCSG draft statement.
Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in all gTLDs PDP Working Group – member – regularly on call of this WG
Defunct Next-Gen WHOIS/RDS PDP WG closely follows the EPDP process. –
Member of draft teams (DT) on Domain Sales and WHOIS Data elements.
Making comments as part of the NCSG, formed a team on the ICANN Africa Strategic Plan 2016-2020 version 3.0 – volunteered to be on the comment drafting team.
NPOC Policy Committee - volunteer
NCUC – Policy committee member
NCUC Chair

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

ICANN's mission is to ensure that the domain name system remains stable and secured and that inclusive participation of the different stakeholders in the policies guides the continuous growth and development of the unique identifier internet resource. ICANN provides a platform where a diverse population of volunteers participate in making decisions on issues that affect the future of the Internet in a safe and conducive environment.

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

I am well equipped to provide weekly projects and deliverables to mentees before and after meetings with various online and Real-time tools such as Emails, Facebook, WhatsApp, Slack, and Skype calls. I also hope to have opportunities to meet my mentor at the ICANN meetings.

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

As a community leader, I have learned empathy when dealing with others. I will ensure that I identify effective ways to build a healthy, progressive mentee-mentor. I will ensure routine mentor -mentee interactions sessions, and identify mentee preferred communication channel. I will also give highly proven effective feedback mechanisms in our engagements.

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

I have been opportune to serve my constituency as an African Executive Committee member and chair. In my different roles, I have come in contact with community leaders throughout the ICANN community. I hope to use this reach network to support my mentee in identifying suitable human resources for my mentor.

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

I am an academic researcher who has attended and presented at multiple conferences; globally, I am comfortable presenting my research findings to audience members. I am always excited to make presentations as a form of visual aid.

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

I am based in the university, my time is very flexible, and I am well-positioned to provide online meeting options. I am a trained researcher and mentor. I will ensure that I identify the strengths and weaknesses of my mentee. Thereafter,, I will list the goals my mentee is passionate about and the goals of the fellowship for that meeting. I will provide simple SMART-based goals and feedback mechanisms for our mentor-mentee relationship.

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

I am interested in serving as a mentor because it allows me to support newcomers and fellows for more active engagement. I will have the rare privilege to share all I have learned in different roles I have occupied in the past nine years, engaging actively in ICANN. It is a

means to give back to the community that has invested significantly in my own development.