



Review of the ICANN At-Large Community

Addendum to the draft Report for Review Working Party consideration

13 December 2016

During the first two exploratory calls with the At Large Working Party our Review team was asked to provide clarifications regarding the implementation of the proposed *Enhanced Membership Model*. (Section 11 of the Draft Report). We submit these in the form of an FAQs, preceded by a short introduction.

We shall be happy to provide further clarifications following the submission of any further comments during the agreed period ending on 22nd December.

1) Proposed changes to the membership structure of At-Large

The intention of the *Enhanced Membership Model* (EMM) is to empower end users, and to empower the At-Large Community as a whole, by allowing faster-track progression through the organisation. It is intended to give end users rapid access to information about ongoing policy-development activities within ICANN, and a real voice within these processes. It notably eliminates the need to join or create an At-Large structure as a prerequisite for participation.

The EMM has been conceived in such a way that it will be able to absorb the current global network of At-Large structures with only minor changes to their way of functioning at present. Hence, the leaders of current At-Large structures will be able to become an At-Large Member (ALM) in exactly the same way, and with exactly the same opportunities.

The main difference introduced by the EMM is that the current members of At-Large structures will be able to become an ALM. The opportunities for end user engagement are significantly opened up.

2) ALS / ALM FAQ

1) Will the EMM eliminate the current At-Large membership structure based on ALSes selected according to Board-approved criteria?

Yes and no. The main focus of the EMM is on individual membership. The current mechanism of participation in At-Large, based on ALS accreditation, will be replaced with a simpler “At-Large Membership” mechanism. This system is intended to streamline and simplify individual end-user participation. Within the EMM, members of ALSes will have the option of becoming individual ALM’s with only minor changes to the way in which they currently engage and interact within At-Large. The level of engagement will remain up to the individual. Existing ALSes may choose to elect a leader to represent them, however, in such cases the leader of a group would have the same voting rights as an individual ALM.

2) What will be the criteria for becoming an At-Large Member (ALM)?

Anyone with an interest in ICANN’s policy development remit, will be able to participate in At-Large policy advice processes as an ALM. The two channels for membership are: (1) joining an ICANN policy development WG, or (2) subscribing to a RALO mailing list.

3) Does the ALM mechanism build on the mechanisms already in place within certain RALOs to allow individual end-user participation?

Some RALO’s have introduced mechanisms to allow individual end user participation. We think this should become universal. There will no longer be complex criteria for individual membership. The EMM will introduce a simplified and uniform process for becoming an ALM.

4) In the EMM what is the difference between an individual ALM and an ALS that is made up of a group of people?

The only difference between an ALM and an ALS is that ALMs merely represent themselves as individual users whereas ALSes represent larger groups of end users. Otherwise individual ALMs and organisational ALMs (currently called ALSes) will have exactly the same rights of representation within the new At-Large.

5) What voting rights will ALMs have in RALO / ALAC elections?

ALMs that have participated in one or more ICANN WG groups for at least three months will be eligible to vote in RALO / ALAC elections and the elections for the At-Large elected member of the ICANN Board of Directors. In addition, ALMs who regularly participate in RALO conference calls will also be eligible to vote in elections.

6) What will the role of RALOs be in raising awareness about ICANN-related policy issues and channeling ALM input into At-Large policy advice processes?

As part of the EMM, RALO representatives will have two main responsibilities: (1) to act as a conduit for end-user input into ICANN policy advice and policy development processes; and (2), to facilitate the wider ICANN outreach program by channelling appropriate information about the overall system to end users, whether or not they are formally part of At Large.

We envisage a significantly more active two way street, involving much more effective collaboration with both ICANN staff manning the existing Outreach Hubs, and other ICANN constituencies . We set out these ambitions in Chapter 9 of our report and will revert to the subject in a later draft.

7) What opportunities will there be for ALMs to participate in ICANN WG activities?

Any ALM can participate as an individual in any ICANN WG. ALMs wishing to participate in the At-Large movement, and to be selected as a formal Rapporteur to the ALAC, should contact their RALO to register their interest.

8) How will the system of WG Rapporteurs work?

A WG Rapporteur is an ALM appointed to report to the ALAC on the work of his/her WG. ALMs having participated in a WG for more than three months will be eligible to volunteer for appointment as a Rapporteur to one of the list of up to 10 ICANN WG's selected by ALAC. This list will be regularly reviewed.

9) Which ALMs will be eligible to apply for travel funding to attend At-Large regional and/or global events?

Rapporteurs will be eligible for travel funding for up to three consecutive ICANN meetings. We have suggested an alternative model of annual regional ATLAS meetings. ALMs from the region involved can expect to be invited to these meetings subject to budgetary arrangements to be negotiated.

There are alternative funding mechanisms such as the CROPP programme about which we have suggested that there should be much greater transparency.

10) Will ALMs be eligible to apply for At-Large leadership roles?

Yes. Furthermore, if elected to a leadership position in their RALO they would be eligible for ALAC membership.