

Statement of Interest for APRALO Vice Chair – Shah Zahidur Rahman

I am Pleased to express my interest in the role of APRALO Vice Chair. I have been Involved in ICANN Structure since many years and I am an active member of **ICANN's At-Large**. Previously I was an **At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)** member from **APRALO** for two years term, AGM 2023 – AGM 2025. During my term as an ALAC, I was involved in the activities of **ICANN At-Large** policy development, supporting drafting, comments and ratification on final policy development work. I have been participating in the At-Large consolidate policy working group (**CPWG**) and the Operation, Finance and budget (**OFB-WG**) working group. However, I am also a member of ICANN's At-large, outreach and engagement committee. I have good understanding of **ICANN's policy-making** processes, particularly from the perspective of internet end-users. On the other hand, earlier I had active contribution to the **APRALO Policy forum (APF)** and has experiences leading APF as vice chair and chair. In addition, I have more than two years of track record organizing **APRALO ICANN Readout** session featuring regional leaders and experts, including APRALO, ccNSO, GNSO, GAC, and ICANN Fellows and NextGen, where the readout speakers allow focused on end-user's perspective key take aways from ICANN meeting on policy discussion and identify next steps for the participation.

IG and Other Experiences: I have been serving on the executive committee of the **Asia Pacific School on Internet Governance (APSIG)** since 2022, and my current position is **Vice Chair of APSIG**. I am also a Member of **MSG** (Multi-stakeholder Steering Group) of Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance (**APrIGF**), since 2019, have contributed towards various working group such as Program committee, Fellowship committee, and earlier had served as co-convenor for stakeholder engagement and Fellowship committee etc. I am also a **Vice President of Internet Society Bangladesh Chapter (ISOC-BD)**. Besides that, I have active participation and contribution including the **APAC DNS Forum** as well as in regional and **UN-IGF** events. my involvement in the region is crucial for ICANN, as it fosters diverse perspectives and brings a voice from developing nations, a key focus of the multi-stakeholder model.

I am an emerging technology specialist and independent consultant with expertise in internet technology's operation, policy and advocacy, as well as Internet governance. I have more than 15 years of working experience in the **Internet industry** including Domain Name System (**DNS**). Over my long career, I have collaborated with various stakeholders from the private sector, government, civil society and non-profit organizations. In my current role, I serve as the chief digital and innovation officer of a startup company based in Bangladesh. My blend of technical knowledge and policy advocacy aligns myself with ICANN's mission to ensure a secure, stable, and interoperable Internet.

I am a **fellow** alumnus of major internet organizations including **ICANN, ISOC, IETF, APAN, APSIG, NASIG and APRIGF**, highlighting my commitment to capacity building and community leadership.

What Next: Taking into account my previous experiences, If I were elected as a Vice Chair, I will be more concentrated on boosting engagement across the APRALO community.

- Supporting the Chair in organizing efficient meetings, tracking action items, and maintaining strong coordination with ALAC.
- Encouraging participation among ALSes and individual members by means of inter-RALO cooperation, publicly available updates, and shared opportunities.
- Explore potential cross-RALO cooperation options that advance our common.
- My commitment lies in building initiatives and fostering inclusive participation, particularly among underrepresented groups to enhance regional voices within the global internet governance ecosystem by promoting collaboration, transparency, accountability and knowledge sharing.

With Regard's
Shah Zahidur Rahman