

Individual and organizational members representation at NCSG

Definitions

- ❖ **Large and small organizations** according to the NCSG Charter, Section 2.2.3
 - a. Organizations that have more than 50 employees, or are membership organizations with more than 500 individual members, shall be classified as “large organizations”.
 - b. Organizations that are composed of 10 or more organizational members that qualify as “large” under criterion (a.) above shall be classified as “large organizations”.
 - c. Organizations that do not qualify as large organizations shall be classified as “small organizations”.
- ❖ These procedures divide the small organizations into two groups: small organizations that have up to 10 members or employees, small organizations that have between 10 to 50 employees or members.
- ❖ **Individual membership:** Members that have joined NCSG in their own individual capacity and do not represent an organization.
- ❖ **Official Representative:** The individual who has been officially nominated by an organization to represent their interests.
- ❖ **Additional Representative:** The representatives of the organizational member other than the official representative. The additional representative can represent the organization at NCSG and ICANN but cannot participate in elections. (NCSG charter, section 2.2.4.2)¹

Conditions under which individual membership can be retained in large organizations

1. Where an individual member of the NCSG also belongs to a large NCSG member organization, the individual member may retain the individual membership under the following circumstances:
 - a. The individual is a noncommercial domain name registrant. (NCSG Charter, 2.2.5)²;
 - b. Where no more than 10 NCSG members who are members of NCSG in individual capacity are also members or employees of the same organization;³

¹ “The NCSG--EC shall, at its discretion, determine limits to the total number of Additional Representatives any member may appoint (provided the limit shall apply to all NCSG Organizational Members of the same category, i.e. large or small, equally).”

² “An individual who is a member of or employee of a noncommercial organization, which is itself a member of the NCSG, may apply for, or retain membership, in the NCSG only under the first criteria for individual noncommercial registrant. Such membership is subject to Executive Committee review.”

³ NCSG charter allows the executive committee to set the limit for individual membership: 2.2.5 (3) An Individual who is employed by or a member of a non--member noncommercial organization (universities, colleges, large NGOs) can join NCSG in his or her individual capacity if their organization has not already

- c. the individual member is not the official NCSG representative of the organization;
 - d. the organization has not appointed the member as an additional representative of the organization at NCSG;
 - e. the organization has appointed additional representatives to the maximum limit as set by NCSG EC, and;
 - f. the membership of the organization will not hamper the independence of the individual member.
2. Establishing the individual member's independence from her/his organization (applicable to large organizations only):

As was stated in section 1(e) an individual whose organization is a member of NCSG can be an NCSG individual member if his/her independence from the organization is not hampered. To establish the independence of the individual member, the NCSG EC should consider the following criteria.

- a. The organization does not consult with its members at large about the NCSG elections;
- b. The member has a track record of activities at NCSG advancing the individual non-commercial interests;
- c. The member owns a non-commercial domain name for at least six months.

Conditions under which individual membership can be retained in small organizations

3. Members and employees of small organizations that have between 10 to 49 members can only retain their individual NCSG membership if:
- a. Member is not the official representative of the organization
 - b. If their organization has no more than three employees or members (including themselves) who are individual members of NCSG, and
 - c. They have registered a domain name for non-commercial use which is more than six months old.
4. Individual members who are employees/ members of organizations that have ten employees and members or less can only become individual members or remain as such under EC review. The EC will consider the following criteria. The member should:
- a. Not be the official representative of the organization at NCSG
 - b. Be a registrant of a non-commercial domain name for over 6 months,

joined the NCSG. The Executive Committee shall, at its discretion, determine limits to the total number of Individual members who can join from any single organization (provided the limit shall apply to all Organizations, of the same size category, equally).

- c. Be able to prove individual interest in NCSG membership and provide clarification as to why there is a need to be an individual member and what set of different interests can be represented through them that cannot be advanced through their organization;
- d. The organization cannot or is not willing to appoint the member as the additional representative;
- e. No more than one employee/member of the organization is already an NCSG individual member.

Number of additional representatives

5. Large organizations cannot have more than ten additional representatives
6. Small organizations between 10 to 50 employees or members cannot have more than five additional representatives
7. Small organizations up to 10 employees or members cannot have more than two additional representatives

Recategorization of Membership

To be added to the below document, considering paragraph C and B of operating procedures:

<https://community.icann.org/display/gnsononcomstake/Operating+Procedures#OperatingProcedures-169034239>

1. If an individual member becomes the official representative of his/her organization at NCSG, s/he should move to the category of organizational members altogether and inform the EC about the recategorization by sending an email to the chair of NCSG. The individual membership status will not be valid after receipt of such letter.
2. Each year the NCSG chair should make sure that an individual member represents no organization by checking the “check-in” form.
3. In case of dual membership, the NCSG chair after informing the NCSG EC will notify the member of the conflict and requests the member to retain one membership, either as the official representative of the organization or as an individual member.

4. If the chair or EC finds out that a member is an individual member of a member organization, they can start reviewing the individual membership of the member in accordance to these procedures as well as the recategorization procedures.