SIG Guidelines Review: Draft Recommendations for APNIC 63

Introduction

The SIG Guidelines Review Working Group (WG) continues its principles-first approach. The table below lists the issues raised at APNIC 62 and on the mailing lists, and the principles the WG proposes to address them. It is not final SIG Guidelines text.

The issues come from the list of feedback from APNIC 62. Where the table says "WG requests feedback", the WG would like community views before it settles its position.

Draft recommendations

#	Issue	Issue Description	Recommended Principles
1	Term Limits	The draft sets four terms in total across all SIGs, with a cooling off of at least one year after two terms in a row. There was general support. One suggestion was to stagger exits, so a SIG does not lose all its leaders at once.	Keep four terms in total, and the cooling off after two terms in a row. State clearly when the cooling off starts and ends, so it is not longer than intended. WG requests feedback on whether exits should be staggered, so a SIG does not lose both leaders at once.

#	Issue	Issue Description	Recommended Principles
2	Chair and Co-Chair Removal	The draft keeps the EC's power to remove a Chair or Co-Chair. It adds notice, 90 days to respond, written reasons and a report to the community. Views differ on who should decide. One suggestion was a vote of the other SIG Chairs and Co-Chairs.	Move the decision to remove a Chair or Co-Chair from the APNIC EC to the Chairs and Co-Chairs of all SIGs, by a majority of those eligible to vote. The person concerned does not vote. All other Chairs and Co-Chairs may vote. A tied vote means no removal. Keep the fair process: notice, 90 days to respond, written reasons and a report to the community. WG requests feedback on this approach.
3	Appeals Process	The draft gives a Chair or Co-Chair a chance to respond before a decision.	Name the 90-day notice and response step as the appeal step. No further review is proposed.
4	Holding More Than One Elected Position	The draft lets the EC remove a person from other elected positions if they do not resign within 30 days. APNIC's General Counsel advised that the Guidelines cannot allow the EC to act against the APNIC By-laws.	Removal from a SIG position follows the same process as item 2.
5	Standing for Election	Nominees must attend the conference in person. Travel, visa and cost make this hard for some community members. Elected Chairs may attend later meetings online.	Allow nominees to stand for election even if they do not attend the conference in person. The other eligibility rules stay the same.

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6	Voting in SIG Elections	Some members asked whether every conference attendee, and APNIC Members, should vote in SIG elections.	No change proposed. Keep the current voting rules.
7	SIG Dissolution	There was general support for a written notice and 90 days before a SIG is dissolved. The draft does not say which SIG holds the consensus call, or what happens when a SIG is no longer active.	Keep the notice and the 90-day period. Hold the consensus call at a Joint SIGs session, so the process works even when the SIG itself is inactive. The outcome then goes to the AGM/AMM for confirmation, as now. WG requests feedback on this.
8	SIG Charter	There was general agreement that the SIG Charter should be the main document for each SIG, reviewed at least every two years.	Keep. No further change proposed.
9	Eligibility and Nominations	There was general agreement on clear eligibility rules in one place. Nominations open six weeks and close two weeks before the conference.	Keep. Align the rules for Acting Chairs (see item 11).
10	Second Co-Chair	The text reads as if the Chair can appoint a second Co-Chair. It does not say when a second Co-Chair is elected. A fixed number of Co-Chairs was also requested.	All Co-Chairs are elected, not appointed. Each SIG Charter sets the number of Co-Chairs for that SIG. Where a SIG has more than one Co-Chair, their elections are held in alternate years. Use a one-year Partial Term once, to start the alternate cycle.

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11	Acting Chair	The nominee rules do not fit well when an Acting Chair is appointed between conferences.	Set clear, simple rules for who can serve as Acting Chair between conferences. Where the Co-Chairs cannot agree, or there is no Co-Chair, the Chairs of all SIGs appoint the Acting Chair by majority.
12	Definition of "SIG Member"	The draft refers to "SIG members" (Section 3.6), but the term is not defined.	Define the term, or use wording that does not need a list of members.
13	Code of Conduct	The draft does not name which Code of Conduct applies.	Name the APNIC Community Code of Conduct.
14	Drafting Corrections	Typos and other drafting corrections were raised on the mailing list and by the Secretariat.	Fix these in the Consensus Call Draft.