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# Application: Special Interest Group

15 FEBRUARY 2019

Any Global Member in good standing may complete an application. When it is completed the application should be submitted by email to [chapter-application@isoc.org](mailto:chapter-application@isoc.org).

Please note that SIG applications are valid for 6 months. The Chapter formation process, including receipt for all documents mentioned above, needs to be completed within this timeframe, after which the application will expire.

If you have any questions please contact the Chapter Support staff.

# SIG application requirements

## A. Proposed name of the SIG

Internet Society Accessibility Special Interest Group (ISOC Accessibility SIG / ISOC A11y SIG)

## B. Community of Interest the SIG will serve

The Accessibility SIG is intended to serve persons with disabilities and special needs to make the internet and digital domain accessible and inclusive for everyone.

## C. Purpose and scope of SIG

Purpose:

The Accessibility Special Interest Group would be dedicated to addressing the needs of people with disabilities or special needs that are related to the Internet and its attendant technologies.

To recall, over one billion people worldwide - about 15% of the world's population - experience some form of disability, reported by WHO in 2011.<sup>1</sup> An analysis<sup>2</sup> shows the figure reaches 1.3 billion in 2018. In this context, The accessibility SIG is aimed at providing the interested participants a platform to discuss the internet related accessibility issues faced by the people with disabilities and try to find the solutions to those issues.

The accessibility SIG also represents a journey for all of us who are members and who are dedicated to creating equal access to the Internet regardless of disability.<sup>3</sup> The Internet is for Everyone!

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.who.int/disabilities/world\\_report/2011/report/en/](http://www.who.int/disabilities/world_report/2011/report/en/)

<sup>2</sup> Global Economics of Disability report from 5th Quadrant Analytics at: <http://returnondisability.com/disability-market/>

<sup>3</sup> This initiative is intended to rejuvenate the Internet Society's longstanding Disability & Special Needs Chapter.

## Scope:

The scope of the SIG is broad and wide in terms of its global participation and outreach, yet, narrow as it is intended to make the internet accessible for persons with disabilities and special needs.

### **D. Outline of key priorities for the first year of the SIG**

The overarching objective of the SIG is to make the Internet and its attendant technologies accessible to the largest audience possible regardless of disabilities. For the first year, the Accessibility SIG aims to achieve the following:

1. develop website for the accessibility sig to bring the persons with disabilities and other interested ISOC members together and disseminate information regarding accessibility in technological domain.
2. organize Webinar to raise awareness about digital accessibility.
3. Individual projects will have individual goals that have to be accomplished.

### **E. Founding members of the SIG**

1. Arnoud van Wijk, Seattle, USA
2. Damian Sian, Princeton, USA
3. Fred Kwadwo Aazore, Ghana
4. Joly MacFie, New York, USA
5. Judith Hellerstein, Washington, USA
6. Lokesh Guijarappa, India
7. Marcello Mancuso
8. Muhammad Shabbir Awan, Islamabad, Pakistan
9. Riyadh Uddin
10. Renata Aquino Ribeiro, Brazil
11. Yuri Kargapolov, Kiev, Ukraine
12. Shadi Abou-Zahra, Vienna, Austria
13. Sara A Tabor, New York, USA
14. Gunela Astbrink, Australia
15. Vashkar Bhattacharjee, Bangladesh
16. Cheryl Langdon Orr, Australia
17. Daniel Sohn, Korea
18. Dennis Deacon, Chicago, USA
19. Wilson Macharia, Kenya
20. Wangari Kabiru, Kenya
21. Kellyroy Gatobu, Kenya
22. Alfredo Calderon, San Juan, Puerto Rico
23. Andrea Romaoli Garcia, Sao Paolo, Brazil
24. Nazar Nicholas, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania
25. Ken Hansen, Washington, USA
26. Greg Shatan, New York, USA

### **F. List of supporters and partner organizations**

ISOC Pakistan Islamabad Chapter: Waqas Hassan President; [redacted]

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## G. Membership

Please outline how you propose to communicate, engage, and interact with the members of the proposed SIG. A steady stream of new members and volunteers serves a SIG with a regular pool of energy and talent as well as new leadership.

To communicate with the membership, a mailing list has been created (<http://lists.a11ysig.org/listinfo.cgi/a11ysig-a11ysig.org> ). all the members would be the part of this list and the messages will be communicated through this list. For broader audience and communication, a website would be developed. Moreover, other communication methods such as social media and communication tools as zoom would be used.

## H. Additional information

Please indicate here any additional information you believe would be helpful to our initial review.

## I. Your contact information

Please provide complete contact information for yourself, including affiliation, postal address, phone numbers, and email address.

Name: Muhammad Shabbir

Email: [redacted]

Mobile: [redacted]

Postal Address: [redacted]

### Internet Society

Galerie Jean-Malbuisson, 15 CH-1204 Geneva Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 807 1444

Fax: +41 22 807 1445 [www.internetsociety.org](http://www.internetsociety.org)

1775 Wiehle Ave.

Suite 201

Reston, VA 20190 USA

Tel: +1 703 439 2120 Fax: +1 703 326 9881 Email: [info@isoc.org](mailto:info@isoc.org)



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