Terms of Reference

SIG Guidelines Review Working Group

1. Purpose

The SIG Guidelines Review Working Group is established to conduct a comprehensive, holistic review of the APNIC SIG Guidelines. The Working Group will evaluate the current SIG Guidelines' effectiveness, inclusivity, and resilience, proposing improvements to ensure they remain clear, effective, fit for purpose, and capable of serving the evolving needs of the APNIC community.

2. Scope

The Working Group is empowered to review all aspects of the SIG Guidelines, including:

- Structural and functional purpose
- Leadership and accountability
- Participation and representation
- Operational procedures and support

In doing this, the Working Group will consider the following inputs:

- Feedback from previous Joint SIG sessions
- Surveys or consultations with stakeholders (for example, current SIG chairs and SIG communities)
- Research and review of other similar community guidelines (for example, RIRs/IETF/ICANN/IGF)
- Submissions to SIG mailing lists

Broader APNIC governance, including the APNIC By-laws, is not within the scope of the Working Group.

3. Authority and Reporting

The Working Group is established by the Chairs of the Cooperation SIG, NIR SIG, Policy SIG, and Routing Security SIG (**SIG Chairs**) in accordance with Section 4 of the SIG Guidelines, following a recommendation from the Joint SIGs session at APNIC 61/APRICOT 2026. The Working Group will operate in an advisory capacity. The final draft and recommendations will be reported back to the SIG Chairs and presented to a joint session of the SIGs for a consensus call by the SIG communities.

4. Membership

The Working Group will be small and task-focused, consisting of volunteers from the APNIC community willing to contribute time and expertise.

The Working Group will be managed by a Chair and Co-Chair who will, in accordance with Section 4 of the SIG Guidelines, be appointed by the SIG Chairs or elected using the process in Section 3 of the SIG Guidelines.

5. Deliverables and timeline

The Working Group will follow a phased approach and is expected to operate to the following indicative timeline:

Phase	Deliverable Date	Deliverable
Phase 1: Review Review community feedback from APNIC 62 and mailing lists to identify issues and opportunities for improvement.	October 2026	-
Phase 2: Draft Recommendations Develop draft recommendations for consideration by the SIGs.	Mid-November 2026	Draft recommendations submitted to the SIGs for feedback
Phase 3: Community Feedback Gather community feedback on the draft recommendations through two dedicated online sessions, in addition, to the mailing list.	Early-December 2026	Organise two online Zoom sessions to gather inputs from community
Phase 4: Finalise Proposed Amendments Incorporate feedback from Phases 2 and 3, finalise the recommendations, and prepare the Consensus Call Draft.	January 2027	Consensus Call Draft
Phase 5: Community Feedback Invite community feedback on the Consensus Call Draft through all SIG mailing lists and apnic-talk, allowing at least four weeks for responses.	1 February 2027	-
Phase 6: Final Proposal Present the Consensus Call Draft at APRICOT 2027 for a consensus call in accordance with the current SIG Guidelines.	March 2027	Consensus Call

The timeline may be adjusted with the agreement of the SIG Guidelines Review Working Group, if required.

6. Operation

The Working Group will operate under the principles of transparency and openness:

- **Communication**: Working Group deliberations will be conducted on a public, archived mailing list. Meetings of the Working Group will be conducted via open virtual/hybrid meetings where possible.
- **Documentation**: Deliverables and community feedback will be maintained and publicly available.
- **Consensus:** The Working Group will work on a consensus basis where possible and will document differing views where consensus cannot be reached.

7. Duration

The Working Group is temporary and will conclude once it has delivered its final recommendations at APNIC 63, unless extended as one of the outcomes of the Joint SIGs session at APNIC 63.