

**STATEMENT OF INTEREST (SOI)
IGFSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER**



October 11, 2020

My name is Wisdom Donkor, i live in Ghana and have specialization in E-government Network Infrastructure and E-application, Internet Governance, Open Data policies platforms & Community Development, Cyber Security, Domain Name Systems, Event Planning Management and fund raising. Many of you know me but many IGFSA members may not, so I want to explain my background, involvement in Internet Governance and in the IGF and NRIS network.

I have a lengthy history of involvement, including active attendance and participation in IGF and IG overall. I have co developed Workshop proposals over multiple years, served 3 years as an active MAG member, I have organized Day Zero events to bring in new aspects of IG and geospatial data open data, electricity, organization of global conference on this topic launched in 2019, and reoccurring in 2030. I hold leadership roles in Ghana NRI, West Africa IGF, Africa IGF and supporting role to Ghana and many other Africa countries youth and SIG Initiatives.

I am active in the NRI network working calls and have been an IGFSA MEMBER for 5 years now. I am also active in ICANN Fellowship programs, NCUC and NCSG, At-Large and currently a member of the **ICANN GNSO Council**. I regularly participate in the NRI network events originally organized at ICANN and now sponsored by the IGFSA executive committee. These events helped to build cross NRI relationships and I hope we can resume as face to face meetings resume.

I strongly support the dual mission of the IGFSA of promoting and supporting the global IGF as well as the national and regional IGF initiatives and the overall objectives to which IGF was formed.

I am committed to strengthening the engagement of the IGFSA, including promoting interaction of the **IGFSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** and members in the NRIS annual meetings, expanding membership, reaching more sponsors, and resuming the past briefings by the Executive Committee for the MAG and engagement in the WSIS FORUM, to enhance visibility of the mission and purpose of the IGFSA.

Updated communications materials and highlighting the activities of the NRIS could be highlighted on the IGFS website. I would like to see more openness for allowing members to listen into Executive committee calls, as is now commonplace with the IGF MAG, and can help to motivate members of IGFS to become more active as members.

Recruitment of more members from all NRIS, not just developed countries deserves more civility, as well as development of more sponsors so the work and activities can contribute more to the IGF. I am interested in exploring how the Executive Committee and its secretariat can collaborate even more toward achieving its mission.

I believe that all seats should be filled, although I see some statements that is an option. The more committed and engaged the Executive Committee members are, and the more each does to encourage membership engagement, and awareness of the mission of the IGFS, the better.

The grants are essential support to the developing country NRIS, and ultimately I would like to work toward such grants also for Youth Initiatives that fulfill criteria. As required with the NRIS themselves.

Gathering in person as we were able to do in earlier days will continue to be a challenge into 2021, but the hybrid approach we took at Ghana NRI, and also other NRIS May suggest some opportunities for continued engagement across NRI. In the meantime, I believe that we should, as IGFS, recognize the need for funding for enhanced virtual participation, often a real barrier due to communications costs in many countries.

I see myself as a global champion, based in Africa but bringing experience and interest for all NRIS into the IGFS executive committee if elected.

I have the time and strong commitment to continued growth and visibility of IG which I believe can contribute to the IGFS.

I welcome questions from members regarding my candidacy, and ideas you may have for activities or ways to communicate with the members regarding priorities.