**CANDIDATE INFORMATION FOR
SEAT THREE: INDIAN OCEAN**

The candidate information below has been limited to 1500 characters (brief motivation) and 3000 characters (professional background) respectively, as prescribed by the 2025 Nomination Form. Only the information submitted within the above character limits has been published.

Dewandranath Kissoondoyal

<u>Brief Motivation</u>

I am honored to present the candidacy of Dewandranath Kissoondoyal, also known as Dave Kissoondoyal, for the AFRINIC Board of Directors. With over 35 years of experience in ICT, Internet governance, and policy advocacy, he brings extensive leadership to this role. He holds an MBA in Business Administration (Information Systems) and a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Management from the University of Surrey, UK.

He has served as Board Member of the Bowman Group of Companies and currently serve as the 2025 ICANN NomCom Member, having also served in 2016 and 2017. The ICANN NomCom is responsible for selecting key ICANN leadership positions, including Board Members, giving him deep insight into governance standards, accountability, and leadership selection at a global level.

As founder and past President of the Internet Society of Mauritius and a member of the ICANN At-Large Advisory Committee for many years, he has contributed to shaping Internet policy in Africa and beyond. He has also served on the Public Interest Registry.ORG Advisory Council.

His multilingual ability (English, French, and Hindi), regional and international experience and unwavering commitment to inclusive and transparent Internet development make him a strong candidate to serve on the AFRINIC Board.

Professional Background

Dewandranath Kissoondoyal, also known as Dave Kissoondoyal, brings over 35 years of experience across ICT, cybersecurity, Internet governance, and organizational leadership, with a demonstrated commitment to advancing digital development in African and beyond.

His most recent position has been as Business Development Manager in Cybersecurity and Managed Services at Harel Mallac Technologies Ltd. Prior to that, he served as Business Development Manager and Country Team Lead at Hiperdist Ltd, where his core focus was cybersecurity and technology solutions for the African continent. In this capacity, he travelled extensively across several African countries, engaging with clients and stakeholders to promote propose cybersecurity solutions for ICT development readiness.

Over the years, he has held key leadership positions such as CEO of KMP Global Ltd, Director of Business Development of Kaldera Ltd, and Chief Technology Officer of the Bowman Group of Companies. He has also served in senior ICT capacities with Apollo Solutions Ltd, Teleforma & Intelenet Global, Hyvec Partners Ltd, and Leal Communications and Informatics Ltd.

Academically, he holds a Master of Business Administration with a specialization in Information Systems, a Postgraduate in Business Management from the University of Surrey, and a Certificate in Electronic Instrumentation from the University of Mauritius. He is currently pursuing an LLM in Cyberlaw. In addition, he is certified in a wide range of cybersecurity and IT technologies, including credentials from Fortinet, Checkpoint, Forcepoint, Palo Alto, Cisco, Trend Micro, Veeam, VMware, and more.

Internationally, he has been actively engaged in Internet governance for many years. He is currently a 2025 member of the ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom) – a role he previously held in 2016 and 2017. The NomCom is entrusted with selecting ICANN's key leadership roles, including Board Members. He has also served on the ICANN At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), including on its Executive Committee, and was a member of the Public Interest Registry. ORG Advisory Council.

He has had the privilege to serve as a national expert for the World Summit Award during the World Summit on the Information Society in 2003 and 2005. He has been actively involved in global initiatives through the UN ICT Task Force's African Stakeholders Network and UNESCO's Information for All Programme (IFAP). He is an associate member of the Chartered Management Institute (UK), a member of the British Computer Society, and have undergone professional training in Mauritius, South Africa, the UK, the USA, and Denmark.

His board-level experience includes serving as a Board Member of the Bowman Group of Companies. With fluency in English, French, and Hindi, and a career defined by a commitment to transparency, inclusion, and community development, I believe he is well positioned to contribute meaningfully to AFRINIC's mission and governance as a Director.

Kaleem Usmani

Brief Motivation

I am motivated to serve on the AFRINIC Board of Directors to actively contribute to the sustainable development and governance of Internet resources in Africa. With a background in ICT policy, cybersecurity, and multi-stakeholder engagement, I bring a strong regional perspective and a commitment to transparency, accountability, and technical innovation.

My experience in regional and international Internet governance forums, including involvement in UN cyber processes, African Union Expert in cybersecurity, SADC positions in ICT governance and cybersecurity as well as national digital policy formulation, positions me to effectively represent stakeholder interests and promote digital inclusion. I aim to enhance AFRINIC's role as a reliable, community-driven registry, ensuring equitable distribution of IP resources and promoting capacity building across the continent.

I believe that a strong, well-governed AFRINIC is essential for Africa's digital future, and I am committed to collaborating with all stakeholders to strengthen the organization's resilience, responsiveness, and regional relevance.

Professional Background

Dr. Kaleem Ahmed Usmani is a seasoned cybersecurity professional with extensive experience in national and international cyber defense initiatives including for the Internet registries.

I am leading the Computer Emergency Response Team of Mauritius (CERT-MU), a national CERT of Mauritius which is a department operating under the Ministry of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation, Republic of Mauritius. In this role, i oversee national cybersecurity strategies, incident response coordination, and cyber policy implementation.

As part of the cybersecurity agenda and under my leadership, Mauritius has adopted a series of measures in terms of infrastructure, legislation, policy strategies for capacity building, data management system and preventive strategies to make Mauritius a digital

gateway for Africa and other countries including the elaboration of cybersecurity initiatives in collaboration with local, regional and international agencies.

In 2021, I spearheaded the technical drafting of the Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Act 2021 in alignment with the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime as well as the Malabo Convention. The new law aims at developing a more robust framework for the protection of the Mauritian cyberspace, by providing new criminal offences related to cybersecurity and cybercrime, reinforced provisions for protection of critical information infrastructure and implementation of a policy in that regard, improved investigation techniques and international cooperation as well as mutual legal assistance in cybercrime matters and setting up of a National Cybersecurity Committee. The new law has been enforced.

Currently, I am driving ITU Academy Training Global Centre in the area of cybersecurity which was setup in 2020. The Centre is helping Mauritius as well as the other regions of the world to build capacity. The center is used as a resource point for all countries to strengthen capacity to address cybercrime through training, education and professional development of law enforcement, criminal justice community, parliamentarians, regulators, operators and technical staff; facilitate the development of cybercrime policies; the development of a national law and procedures with regards to Mutual Legal Assistance and the establishment of international cooperation.

I am representing Mauritius in various international cybersecurity forums. Notably, I have served as the country's representative to the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Cyber, contributing to global discussions on cyber norms and policies. Currently I am also contributing the UN's Open

Ended Working Group as the African Union Expert. As part of the international collaboration, I have been supporting the affiliation of African CERT Teams with FIRST. Zambia, Ghana, Rwanda, Malawi are some of the examples.

The other projects which I am leading right now includes the implementation of the National Cyber Crisis Management Plan, the development of the Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Policy, the implementation of national cybersecurity strategy, coordination of Government SOC activities and the national honeypot project.

I am committed to enhance cyber resilience and foster collaborative approaches to cyber threat management both at the national and international level.