

written in response to the **Competency Criteria** stated for the Chapter Development Position-Asia Pacific

- “Bachelors degree” - I finished my univeristy education in Germany on a level comparable to a master's degree – though at that time we did not use this term.
- “Minimum of 5 years of association or non-profit related experience” - I came to Cambodia in 1990 as representative of the Geneva based international Lutheran World Service development and emergency assistance organization – in Cambodia a recognized NGO – liaising with the Minisgtries of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education. - In 1994 I was invited to assist in the creation of a Cambodian NGO: the Open Forum, since 2006 the Open Institute. - My initial task was to help to establish international working relations for the Cambodian counterpart organizations, and relating it to social communication and cooperation in country. While our staff size and budget was 2 international and 2 national staff, with about US\$350,000 per year at the beginning, under my leadership we grew to about 25 international and 80 national staff and about US\$2 million by 2004, when I moved on into a newly established Cambodian NGO.

“In addition to international experience, it is critical that the individual understand the challenges in working with a large diverse international member and chapter base...” - In 1990, some of the persons in leadership with the 30 international NGOs took the initiative to create the “Cooperation Committee for Cambodia” where I was elected to serve a vice-chair for the first term.

- “Experience working in multiple Asian cultures and countries in a technology-oriented consultancy is required” - As I had established the first ISP (UUCP based) in Cambodia in 1994, created and administered the Cambodian country code .kh in 1996 (turning it over to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications in 1998), started to organize cooperation towards the codification of the Khmer script in Unicode since 1997 and the creation of Unicode based Khmer language localized Open Source software since 2003, I could not have taken this route without reaching out to others in Asia, getting advice and sharing experiences with NGOs in communication since 1995 (Korea, Philippines, Thailand), and then with the professional organizations APNG, APNIC, APRICOT and beyond: APC, Global Knowledge Partnership, ICANN. A decisive experience was my participation in INET 1996 in Monreal, a solid training experience for persons “from countries in the early stages of inter-networking.” Since then I maintained membership in ISOC. But then I was mainly involved in ICANN: 1999 joining the Non-Commercial Constituency as a member representing a Cambodian NGO, then being moved on in ICANN into the Executive Committee of the non-commercials, then sent into the ICANN Generic Names Support Organization as a councilor, and then for a terms limited period of two years into the Nominating Committee: searching and finding, evaluating, and appointing a number of Board Members of ICANN and some other senior officers.
- “Demonstrated track record of community building in a volunteer or NGO capacity” - see the reference to the Coordiantion Committee for Cambodia above, and then my work in developing the Internet environment in Cambodia.
- “Excellent interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills in English required” - Others

will have to judge this; I can only say that I am confident. In addition to English, I am fairly fluent in spoken and written Japanese. During my involvement in ICANN, members of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie contacted me and I was invited to be a member of the advisory board of “INTIF – Institut francophone des nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la formation – the Francophone Institute for new Information Technology and Education” with added a number of Francophone countries to my international experiences, in addition to the regular international involvement with ICANN. - As a member of the INTIF team I participated in the two WSIS assemblies.

- “Willingness and ability to travel frequently” - no problem.
- “Able to handle and prioritize many projects concurrently” - I had some such experience prior to coming to Cambodia working in international development related institutions entrusted with funds from German government supported foundations and church related aid agencies from 1972 to 1990, signing support grants – voted upon by committees in response to presentations I was responsible for – from about DM400,000 in 1972 to about DM20 million in 1990; then I accepted to go to Cambodia. - In different ways the task to handle many different issues and prioritize them was a constant challenge as a member of ICANN and INTIF structures.
- “Strong knowledge of IT, strong computer skills and familiarity with electronic communication applications and tools absolutely essential” - I learned and expanded my IT knowledge while creating – from scratch, with no peers around – the first ISP in Cambodia in 1994 and operating it also later, after in 1997 commercial ISPs started to operate. Later I added more and more knowledge beyond technology toward Internet governance.
- “Must have the ability to quickly gain trust of broad community and build enduring relationships across a vibrant international community” - there are a number of people in the international communications world who could judge this better than I. Peer evaluation is best for the evaluation of relationship building – so I share this with the Asia-chapters and Chapter-Delegates lists.
- “Commitment to organization’s mission, values and plans for growth” - After having reached the top of moving up in ICANN (apart from being a board member) I took up an old dream: to create a Cambodia Chapter of ISOC – the inaugural meeting was in September 2010 – my term as president comes to an end at the latest in September 2012: in order for the chapter to be legally registered in Cambodia, the leadership has to have Cambodian nationality. I had announced from the beginning that I would be available as president only for the first year, but then I had been urged to add a second one – the final one.

Writing examples:

Old:

Digital Review of Asia Pacific, 2003-2004, and 2005-2006, Cambodia Chapters

http://www.digital-review.org/uploads/files/pdf/2003-2004/130_139_Cambodia_Final_May.pdf

http://www.digital-review.org/uploads/files/pdf/2005-2006/2005_C12_kh_Cambodia_124_127.pdf

New:

International Children's Day in Cambodia – 1 June 2012

<http://www.thinking21.org/?p=980>

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