

Application for “At-Large Structure” (ALS) Designation

Applications should be submitted electronically to staff@atlarge.icann.org. Please address any questions about the applications process to this address.

The form can be downloaded from:

<http://www.atlarge.icann.org/files/atlarge/als-application-form-en.doc>

Organization Contact Information

1. Organization’s name:

*ASOCIACIÓN DE ESCRIBANOS DEL URUGUAY [ASSOCIATION OF NOTARY
PUBLIC PROFESSIONALS OF URUGUAY]*

2. Organization’s e-mail address: secretaria@aeu.org.uy

3. Organization’s phone number (include country/city codes):

(598) 24006400

4. Organization’s address (location and postal address, if different):

*Avda. 18 de Julio 1730 Pisos 11 y 12 Edificio Notariado CP 11200, Montevideo,
República Oriental del Uruguay*

5. Organization’s website (URL) (if available): www.aeu.org.uy

Primary and Secondary Contact for Organization

If accredited, the primary contact will be assumed to be that person who will cast any votes required, with the secondary person being the alternate – though your Organization may at any time change its voting and alternate representatives.

6. Primary contact:

a. Name: Aída Noblia

b. E-mail address: aidanoblia@aeu.org.uy

c. Telephone: (598)29023380 - (598)98456389

7. Secondary contact:

a. Name: Elisabeth Bouvier

b. E-mail address: escbouvier@gmail.com

c. Telephone: (598)27115479

Description

1. Structure and Governance

a. Is your organization constituted so that individual Internet users who are citizens or residents of countries within the Geographic Region in which your Organization is based control your Organization?

YES

b. Please explain the answer above in sufficient detail so that a person not familiar with your Organization would be able to understand the reasons for your answer, and attach or reference the URLs where any statutes or operating principles or other supporting information related to this question can be found.

The Organization is controlled by Notary Public Professionals elected by fellow members during their General Assembly. Uruguayan Notary Public Professionals are Uruguayan citizens or residents, graduated from Uruguayan universities after completing their undergraduate studies, passing their exams and taking their mandatory professional oath before the Supreme Court, committing themselves to appropriate professional practice. Further, in order to qualify for professional practice, Notary Public Professionals graduating abroad must validate their degrees in Uruguay after taking the corresponding examinations and training in legal subjects pertaining to Uruguayan law. Many AEU constituents are members of the IT and Technology Law Commission, which works on a permanent basis at the AEU on research and outreach regarding IT issues with legal implications, with a specific focus on Notary Public Professionals. The Commission's outreach initiatives include nationwide presentations, workshops and e-learning programs. Also, a large proportion of our membership is specialized in IT and technical subjects, in some cases earning a degree as IT engineers or technicians. Other members of our organization serve as public officials at government agencies in charge of Applied Legal Technology, for instance, in their capacity as Notary Public Professionals at the Public Registry Office. The latter comprises, among others, the Public Registry of Commerce, the Public Registry of Real Estate, the Public Registry of Personal Property and the Public Registry of Personal Acts on a national level. They post online updates of the status of document registration proceedings and of their data bases (e.g. status of liens and encumbrances, real estate and personal property ownership status, information on partnerships and corporations, etc). The data bases are operative on a permanent basis, and are maintained and upgraded –both in terms of content and management – by an interdisciplinary technical team of AEU members and IT technicians. The technical team was also in charge of setting up the data bases.

Any Notary Public Professional can become a voting member, and is eligible for the Notary Public Professionals Association of Uruguay. The AEU gathers more than 95% of Uruguay's Notary Public Professionals, which total 6,000.

In a country with a total population of 3 million inhabitants, citizen representation is well guaranteed, at a ratio of one Notary Public Professional to 500 inhabitants. In addition to using the Internet on a personal basis – which, in itself, is highly representative on a national level - Notary Public Professionals use the Internet very frequently as part of their practice, since most of the proceedings they are engaged in are online, on account of time and cost reductions. By way of example, these proceedings include requesting and obtaining information from the Public Registry of Real Estate and the Public Registry of Personal Property, requesting and obtaining social security charges clearance certificates, construction works certificates, etc. from the Social Security Bank [Banco de Previsión Social]; requesting and obtaining real estate values from the Land Registry Office via the Internet for the purposes of tax and cost estimations for real estate transactions; obtaining information from banks and public agencies; obtaining information on, and certificates of, liens and encumbrances from Municipal Councils and other public agencies; as well as informing clients and interested parties of results, forms and projects on which Notary Public Professionals are working. Further, e-mail is widely used to communicate with clients, even in relation to international contracts, in order to exchange information, forms, data, etc.

The Association of Notary Public Professionals of Uruguay (AEU) keeps a fluent online information exchange with its members, by means of its Internet website and an online newsletter with the latest developments of professional interest. Information focuses on activities held at the AEU and at other venues, not only in relation to topics of specific interest to Notary Public Professionals, but also in terms of the AEU's wide range of outreach activities (face-to-face and e-learning workshops, national and international academic conferences).

Our members (95% of the country's Notary Public Professionals) visit the AEU's internet website to access the AEU's library data base. Members thus obtain information on more than 49,000 entries in our library (accurate catalogue references, number of copies available, etc.) and can use library computers to access "La Justicia Uruguay", a data base of case law precedents, and the online publication "El Derecho Digital".

In addition, members can have online access to articles on legal doctrine, comments on court sentences, case studies submitted to the AEU by peers, courts, individuals, attorneys, etc. as presented in our Association's hard copy magazine. These real-life case studies are resolved by honorary commissions specializing in different branches of the law, whose members are Notary Public Professionals that appear before the Steering Committee to volunteer their participation.

Furthermore, the AEU maintains online contact with the International Association of Notary Public Professionals and the remaining Associations of Notary Public Professionals from other countries, for the purposes of exchanging information, research and knowledge; promoting national and international event; sharing legal issues and conclusions for the purposes of unifying international professional criteria regarding diverse legal issues in connection with notarial aspects.

- c. Is your organization formally incorporated or organized under a national legal jurisdiction?

YES

IF YES: Please describe what legal recognition it has and indicate the place of legal incorporation or registration.

The Association of Notary Public Professionals of Uruguay (AEU) was organized as a non-profit civil society organization more than 70 years ago. The AEU's by-laws were last amended at the AEU's General Special Meeting, on December 10th, [year not specified]. The AEU was authorized by the Ministry of Education and Culture on December 9th, 2006; and registered with the Legal Entities Board of Uruguay, under the Civil Society Organizations and Foundations Section (Book 3, page 22, registration number 1338).

- d. Describe your organization's structure (e.g. governing and decision-making bodies)

The Association of Notary Public Professionals of Uruguay is led by a National Steering Committee made up of 9 members. Committee members are elected every five years by the Association's members. The Association is jointly represented by the Committee's Chair and Secretary. In turn, the AEU's chapters have their own Steering Committees, in charge of the AEU's chapters located in the 18 Departments that make of the Republic of Uruguay. The AEU's sovereign body is the Members General Assembly, which holds a General Assembly Meeting on a yearly basis to discuss the Annual Report and Balance Sheet and any other business on their agenda. Members are notified of the General Assembly Meeting date, time, venue and agenda in advance. Special Meetings may be held at any other time if requested by members in accordance with the by-laws.

- e. Does your organization have written by-laws or other constitutional elements?

YES

- f. IF YES: Please provide a copy along with your application (in English, if available). Explain the eligibility requirements (if any) of your Organization constituents/membership (if you provide a written application for admission as a member, you may attach a copy): YES

It is necessary to be a Notary Public or a college trainee. A written application form is provided.

- g. In what language does your Organization conduct its business?

Spanish

2. About your Members

a. Do you have individual members with the ability to vote in or otherwise control the management of the organization?

Yes.

IF NO: Describe what roles individuals have in the management and work of the organization.

Individual members control the organization's management by means of meetings held in accordance with the by-laws. Meetings are held nationally and locally, thus ensuring active member involvement. The organization is decentralized according to the by-laws, with Departmental chapters (matching Uruguay's political territorial division). The Department of Canelones, given its demographic density, hosts three chapters – located in three different cities - in addition to the main chapter – located in the capital city. There is a Steering Committee, with its own Chair and Secretary, in every Department. The National Steering Committee is based in Montevideo and, pursuant to the by-laws, the National Steering Committee Chair and Secretary lead the Montevideo chapter.

Members also engage in technical and working commissions at will. Technical commissions are organized according to the Rules of Procedure for Commissions (currently undergoing reform) by which Commissions focus on different branches of the law (Civil, Commercial, International, Procedural, Notarial, IT Law, etc.) and are led by a General Coordinator and his/her Alternate. AEU members can join the Technical Commissions upon request, subject to the Steering Committee's approval. Technical Commissions provide free advice to AEU members and to the Uruguayan Judiciary, whose judges, courts and actuaries have resorted to the Commissions for many years in order to support their sentences, resolutions and technical reports drafted by actuaries (Notary Public professionals acting as technical advisors to judges).

b. Do you have organizations as all or part of your membership?

NO

c. Do you have governmental bodies, or quasi-governmental bodies, as members of your organization?

NO. The AEU is in contact, and even holds agreements, with several public, private and governmental entities, among others. However, its members are individuals, some of whom, in turn, are members of other entities.

d. Describe the general membership - are they predominantly of one (or more) professional background or interest group? (e.g. journalists, online rights activists, consumer organizations, individual consumers, etc.):

AEU members are Notary Publics, or Notarial College students. In our country, becoming a Notary Public entails earning a university degree and taking an oath before the Supreme Court of Justice. Professional practice is possible only after completing a five-to-six-year course at public or private universities. Notary Public Professionals perform a public officer's role within the sphere of private practice. A notary public's professional duties comprise formally attesting individuals' identities and personal documents, providing advice to the parties involved in legal acts and businesses among private individuals and commercial partnerships/corporations. Many Notary Public Professionals are also graduate lawyers, sworn translators and technical translators, or else have completed shorter training courses related to the profession. They also engage in many of our activities, with approximately 400 Notary Public Professionals doing honorary work for the Research and Working Commissions. Research Commissions focus on the branches of the law, with one commission dedicated to a specific legal branch (Civil Law, Commercial Law, International Law, Procedural Law).

One of the Commissions is the IT and Technology Law Commission, with 30 active members that provide training courses on their area of expertise to colleagues and students at our headquarters and also countrywide. Academic events, featuring local and foreign speakers, are held to cater for public and private entities. Judges, lawyers, other professionals and the general public find answers to professional queries, and also present papers and dissertations. Among the Commission's latest proposals is the implementation of a Digitalization Program for the Notary Public Profession in Uruguay [Programa de Informatización del Notariado Uruguayo (PINU)].

Further, special commissions are set up to focus on specific issues. At present, one of our special commissions is analyzing the implementation of The Hague Apostille Convention, in accordance with a bill that recently passed the Senate. Pursuant to the bill, the AEU will be in charge of certifying notarial documents, as per an Agreement with the Foreign Ministry. A draft agreement has been lodged with the Foreign Ministry and the Supreme Court for the purposes of supplementing the roster of Notary Public Professionals who qualify for professional practice, given that, in addition to earning their university degree, notary public professionals must be sworn in by the Supreme Court to that effect.

AEU's existing digital network will be used for the above purpose. The network covers our national territory and connects all our branches. The network has been in operation for several years and is a crucial communication tool for Notary Public Professionals countrywide. Maintenance and control of this notarial intranet are the responsibility of an AEU-based IT Team. It will provide the needed technical elements to securely convey updated information to our chapters regarding active Notary Public Professionals that have been sworn in by the Supreme Court.

Commissions are organized as per their Rules of Procedure. Pursuant to the Rules of Procedure, two Alternate Coordinators are in charge of leading and representing the commissions. The coordinators are members of the Institute of Notarial Research and Techniques [*Instituto de Investigación y Técnicas Notariales*]. The institute holds meetings every fifteen days to discuss issues arising at commission meetings and is a liaison between the AEU Commissions and the Steering Committee. Activities are organized by means of Research and Working Commissions. Social and cultural activities are also organized by commissions.

e. Describe how your organization keeps its constituents/membership informed about, and enables them to participate in, decisions regarding issues of interest:

The AEU keeps its membership informed about all its activities by means of its web site, a digital newsletter sent to members upon request, the Notary Publics Association Magazine (RAEU) – print publication founded in 1904 as the AEU’s house organ in relation to juridical, doctrine and case law precedent issues - a hard copy newsletter addressing a wide range of professional issues; social functions held by Working, Culture and Sports Commissions; and legislative and judiciary updated briefings. It is worth noting that all publications are free of charge for our members, who can access them as part of the services included in exchange for a modest membership fee.

In addition, year-round face-to-face workshops are hosted by the Technical Commissions - such as the IT and Technology Law Commission - at the AEU venue in Montevideo, as well as Regional Technical Meetings countrywide. Workshops hosted in Montevideo are live-streamed to the rest of the country and their video and audio recordings are posted on our website so that members can access them for future reference. These activities are promoted on the AEU’s Internet web site.

The AEU also plays an important role in social integration; to this end, it uses the Internet for both national and international communications. Technical events include a variety of social activities for members and the persons attending the events with them – be they family members or otherwise. They can attend entertainment shows, such as annual presentations held by the AEU’s literature, art and drama groups as part of our year-round cultural agenda.

f. Approximately how many members of each type of membership class, if you have more than one, do you have?

Notary Public Professionals: 5000. Students: 700. A significant number of Notary Publics are also librarians, archivists, translators or IT professionals. These professions are linked to the notarial practice and directly linked to the Internet in terms of e-documents, as well as online information and documentation transmission.

3. Is your organization self-supporting? *YES*

4. What is the primary source of funding for your Organization? (If unfunded/entirely voluntary, simply indicate "N/A"):

AEU's funding comes from membership fees and a Union Fund. The AEU does not receive donations.

5. Do you receive any *funding* from government agencies or for-profit entities? *NO*

6. Does your organization commit to supporting its individual constituents'/membership's informed participation in ICANN?

YES

6. Does your Organization post on the Internet publicly-accessible, current information about your Organization's goals, structure, description of constituent group(s)/membership, working mechanisms, leadership and contact(s) (if this information is currently available, provide URLs)?

YES: www.aeu.org.uy. Also, there is newsletter which members receive upon request.

7. Provide information on your Organization's leadership (leaders' names, positions, e-mails):

Sara Ethel Castro Esteves, Notary Public

*Chair of the Steering Committee, Association of Notary Public
Professionals of Uruguay (AEU)*

Nelson Eduardo Ghiorsi Linkus

*Secretary of the Steering Committee, Association of Notary Public
Professionals of Uruguay (AEU)*

They jointly represent the AEU.

E-mail address for both organization's leaders: secretaria@aeu.org.uy

Objectives

1. Please describe your Organization's mission and purpose (please attach any mission or policy statement for your Organization, if in writing, or provide a URL, if posted):

Pursuant to Section 2 of the AEU's bylaws, the AEU's purpose is "the moral, intellectual and professional enhancement of Notary Public Professionals, encouraging its membership to develop and exercise the principle of solidarity". To this end, the AEU is fully aware that it is crucial for its membership to use new IT and communication technologies, especially the Internet. For this reason, the AEU is interested in all matters related to new ICTs as a tool to accomplish the goals of the association and its membership, as well as to carry out the "development and exercise of the principle of solidarity", i.e. the association's goal for its membership and the civil society at large. As per Section 2 of its bylaws, the AEU needs to "manage the promotion, advocacy and advancement of its notarial role and the role of notary public professionals". Further, the AEU relies on the Internet and new IT and communication technologies to accomplish its goal. i.e. "the permanent technical-scientific update of its components. Collaborate with the three branches of government and the civil society at large in order to consolidate legal certainty as supreme good for individuals and the community".

2. What ICANN-related issues currently are of interest to your Organization's constituents/membership?

ICANN's significant role on a global scale, keeping social order and peace in relation to Internet domain names, their applications as Internet protocols, Internet addresses, and e-mails, fully coincides with the AEU's notarial goals and purposes to contribute to social peace, fairness and equality, always pursuing juridical certainty and avoiding ambiguity and risk whenever possible. The notarial role, which specifically entails the peaceful exchange of goods by observing rules that protect people's rights, among them, IP rights inclusive of all Intellectual property of domain names, increasingly depends, as any other activity, on a secure IT/online environment.

Notary Public Professionals fulfill an injunctive role, which entails avoiding litigation and reconciling the interests of the parties to legal acts and transactions by reaching peaceful consensus. On many occasions, Notary Public Professionals act as mediators in their professional practice. Insofar as the actual realm of human interaction and businesses migrate to the Internet, companies and individuals communicate through the World Wide Web; it is the AEU's understanding that the adequate organization of this Web depends upon the observance of its own goals, its own activity, and its members. In view of the foregoing, the AEU is interested in participating in all ICANN-related aspects with a global impact, such as the delegation of new domain names and IDNs, the avoidance of ambiguities, the future development of the Organization and its multiple functions, etc. The idea is to be able to cooperate at a stage that presents a great number of issues to resolve which, as we understand, is in line with our institutional goals and contributes to a better projection of so important an Organization, generating new challenges that are a must for the Organization to adapt to an increasingly complex reality, integrating more and more elements, countries, regions, social sectors, etc. to achieve the same goals, i.e. adequate management and control of Internet operations. In short, bringing our human resources together to achieve shared goals.

3. If your Organization is accredited, will it commit to participating actively in the Regional At-Large Organization for the region in which your Organization is based?

YES

4. If your Organization is accredited, does it or will it agree to adhere to the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the other ALSes in your Geographic Region and ICANN, as if it were an original signer of that document?

YES

The texts of the MoUs can be found at:

<https://community.icann.org/display/atlarge/Reference+Texts>

Signature

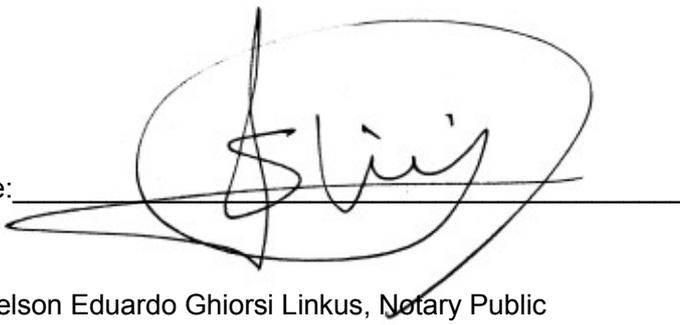
Include the name and title, if applicable, of the individual who is authorized by your Organization to sign this application and commit your Organization to comply with ALS criteria.

Signature: _____

Name: Sara Ethel Castro Esteves, Notary Public

Title: Chair of the Steering Committee, Association of Notary Public Professionals of Uruguay

Signature: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nelson Eduardo Ghiorso Linkus', written over a horizontal line. The signature is enclosed within a large, loopy, circular flourish that extends above and below the line.

Name: Nelson Eduardo Ghiorso Linkus, Notary Public

Title: Secretary of the Steering Committee, Association of Notary Public
Professionals of Uruguay

Date: December 1st, 2011