

Open Participation Principle

Remote Registration Fees

Mirja Kühlewind (Ericsson)
Jon Reed, Rich Salz (Akamai)

Why?

- Remote “attendance” was always free prior to IETF 108
 - Definition of “attendance” evolved; “observation” vs “attendance”
- Remote attendance allowed participation by people who could not travel
 - Assumption is that in most cases, there is a financial barrier to traveling
- Registration fee may pose a barrier for newcomers
- Fee waiver was not initially well publicized, unclear who can apply for it

What?

Principle of open participation:

There must always be an option for free remote participation in any IETF meeting, whether or not that meeting has a physical presence.

This principle aims to support the openness principle of the IETF as defined in [RFC3935].

Further:

- Any free registration option must offer the same degree of interactivity and functionality available to paid remote attendees.
- The free option must be clearly and prominently listed on the meeting website and registration page.
- If the free option requires additional registration steps, such as applying for a fee waiver, those requirements should be clearly documented.

Feedback on -00 version

- Applicability to in-person meetings? Should there always be a “free”/”waiver” option
- Definition of participation
 - Meetecho
 - audio stream + jabber “mic:”
 - Youtube videos + mailing lists
- If there’s a free option, won’t everyone just use that?
 - How do we track abuse?
 - Are people whose employers pay attending as individuals or company reps?
- Transparency
 - Who is using the free option? Can we make them say why?

-01 version

- Additional considerations on use/misuse of free option
 - Deliberately not specifying firm guidelines as to whether a given use is “acceptable” or not
- Ability to perform some analysis and impact future directions
 - Recommendation to publish count of registrations and breakdown of free/paid to identify trends

Next steps

- Call for adoption

Q&A