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Management of the Sahana Project

On November 27th 2006 the Board of the Lanka Software Foundation decided to organize the Sahana project according to the following structure. The structure has been inspired by the operational and management model used by the Apache Software Foundation (ASF) [1].

1. Sahana FOSS Project

1. The Sahana FOSS project is hosted at SourceForge and the community operates via the various mailing lists.
2. This is a normal open source project working under normal meritocracy rules for earning credit and committership.
3. Committership is granted for those who have made significant and sustained contributions to Sahana over a considerable amount of time. These contributions may be in the form of code, documentation, design discussions or domain knowledge. Nominations to new committer posts must come from a current PMC member (see below) and the nomination must be discussed and voted upon in the PMC list. Voting must occur according to the rules established by the ASF [2].
4. Once granted, committership is perpetual and cannot be revoked unless the person has demonstrated anti-community behavior and the PMC has agreed with at least 2/3^{rds} majority for such action. In particular, committership is granted for individuals, and not for roles they play as employees etc., and does not get revoked upon change of employment.
5. The Sahana community must make an increased effort to expand the developer community participating in Sahana by ensuring that the project is run in a fully open and transparent manner.
6. All technical decisions must be made via consensus (or if necessary, voting) on the development mailing list. Only the votes of committers are binding votes but votes of non-committers must be paid attention to as a way to foster community development. Voting must occur according to the rules established by the ASF [2].
7. Every contributor to the Sahana project (in the form of code, discussion, or other) is a valuable member of the Sahana community. Those who have earned the karma and have become committers have a greater responsibility for ensuring that the community fosters and continues to grow.

2. Sahana Project Management Committee (PMC)

1. The project management committee consists of a subset of the committers from the Sahana FOSS project who have demonstrated sustained contributions to the project's health and success.
 2. The role of the PMC is oversight. The main role of the PMC is not code and not coding – but to ensure that all legal issues are addressed, that procedure is followed and that each and every release is the product of the community as a whole.
 3. Thus, the role of the PMC is NOT to make any technical decisions- its role is to ensure that the community is behaving and governing itself in a manner that is consistent with the objectives of making Sahana a successful open source project.
 4. The initial PMC members will be appointed by the LSF Board. They are: XXX.
 5. New members are elected to the PMC from amongst the Sahana project committers by members of the PMC itself.
 6. All new members elected to the PMC must be notified to the Sahana Board (see below) and acknowledged by the board. If the board has serious concerns about a candidate PMC member it may ask the PMC to review its decision by giving appropriate reasons.
 7. Once elected to the PMC, the membership is perpetual. However, inactive PMC members should consider voluntarily relinquishing their PMC role as inactive members are not in the best position to guide the project and ensure proper community behavior.
 8. The PMC will have a chair elected from amongst the members of the PMC. New elections must be held annually.
3. Sahana Board
1. The Sahana Board is responsible for sustaining and promoting the adoption and growth of the Sahana. The Sahana Board will actively seek to engage with private sector, academic institutions and public sector partners in promoting the adoption and support of Sahana.
 2. The Sahana Board will establish a mechanism for evaluating the success of Sahana deployments and for capturing issues about Sahana development and implementation.
 3. The Sahana Board is appointed by the LSF Board. All appointments are for two years, renewable.
 4. Members of the Sahana Board are distinguished individuals who have demonstrated sustained contributions to the success of the Sahana in some way- by helping raise funds, but providing expert domain knowledge, by helping promote and deploy Sahana and so on.
 5. The chair of the Sahana PMC and one other elected representative of the PMC are always appointed to the Sahana Board. In the event the

PMC chair changes, that person must relinquish their position on the Sahana Board in favor of the new PMC chair.

6. Sahana Board members may nominate additional candidate board members and request the LSF Board to appoint them. Normally, it is expected that the LSF Board will not object and will execute the appointment.
7. The Sahana Board members will be referred to as Directors of the Sahana Project.
8. The Sahana Board will appoint a chairperson for itself by vote and the person will be referred to as the Chairperson of the Sahana Project. Chair elections must be held annually.
9. The Sahana Board periodically reports to the LSF Board on the progress and health of the Sahana project.
10. The Sahana Board is hereby delegated all powers necessary to manage and administer the Sahana project's development and deployment activities.
11. In particular, all funds received into LSF for development and deployment of Sahana will be under the management of the Sahana Board.
12. The Sahana Board is responsible for raising funds as it sees fit for Sahana related activities including, but not limited to, development, deployment and marketing.
13. The Sahana Board may have a funded team to develop and/or deploy for as long as they see fit.
14. Decision-making by the Sahana Board will be on the basis of a simple majority. In the event that there is no simple majority, the Chair of the Board has the casting vote.

Given the similarities of this structure to that of the Apache Software Foundation, we urge everyone involved to read and become familiar with [3].

Board of Directors,
Lanka Software Foundation.

References

[1] <http://www.apache.org/foundation/>

[2] <http://www.apache.org/foundation/voting.html>

[3] <http://www.apache.org/foundation/how-it-works.html>