Telecommunications, Internet & Communications Working Group Charter

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1. Introduction

The Telecommunications, Internet & Communications Working Group (TIC-WG) is established under the Government Blockchain Association (GBA) to explore, evaluate, and promote the use of blockchain technology and related innovations within the telecommunications, internet, and communications sectors. This group will serve as a central hub for aggregating, interpreting, and disseminating information on how blockchain can improve access, efficiencies, and integrity within these systems.

2. Purpose

The primary purpose of the TIC-WG is to develop and maintain a supplement for the Blockchain Maturity Model (BMM) specific to the telecommunications, internet, and communications domains. This supplement will provide a structured framework to assess the maturity of blockchain-based solutions within these sectors, ensuring they meet industry standards and best practices. The TIC-WG will also identify emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities for blockchain implementation in these areas, offering guidance to industry stakeholders, policymakers, and technology providers.

3. Scope

The TIC-WG's scope includes, but is not limited to, the following areas:

- **Blockchain in Telecommunications:** Exploring how blockchain can enhance the security, transparency, and efficiency of telecommunications networks, including 5G and beyond.

- **Internet Infrastructure:** Assessing blockchain's potential in improving internet protocols, DNS systems, and overall web infrastructure.

- **Communications Systems:** Evaluating blockchain applications in enhancing data integrity, privacy, and trust in communication systems, including messaging platforms, VoIP, and other digital communication methods.

4. Objectives

The objectives of the TIC-WG are:

1. **Develop the BMM Supplement:** Create a BMM supplement that defines the maturity levels, criteria, and assessment requirements for blockchain solutions in telecommunications, internet, and communications.

2. **Research & Aggregation:** Collect and analyze data, use cases, and research on blockchain applications in the targeted sectors, ensuring the supplement reflects the latest advancements and industry needs.

3. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Engage with industry experts, government agencies, and academic institutions to gather insights and foster collaboration.

4. **Dissemination of Information:** Regularly publish findings, whitepapers, and reports to educate and inform the broader community on the impact of blockchain in telecommunications, internet, and communications.

5. **Support BMM Implementation:** Provide guidance and support to organizations seeking to implement the BMM in their blockchain projects within the TIC sectors.

5. Membership

Membership in the TIC-WG is open to all GBA members with relevant expertise or interest in telecommunications, internet, and communications. The working group will consist of industry professionals, technologists, researchers, and policymakers who share a commitment to advancing blockchain technology in these areas.

6. Roles & Responsibilities

- **Working Group Leader:** Oversees the activities of the TIC-WG, ensuring alignment with GBA objectives and the timely development of the BMM supplement.

- **Domain Experts:** Provide specialized knowledge in telecommunications, internet, and communications to inform the supplement's development and ensure its relevance.

- **Contributors:** Assist in research, documentation, and the dissemination of findings. Contributors may also participate in the review and assessment of blockchain solutions within the TIC sectors.

7. Governance

The TIC-WG operates under the governance of the GBA Standards & Certification Working Group. All decisions, publications, and outputs will be reviewed and approved by the TIC-WG leader and the GBA Director of Standards & Certifications to ensure consistency with the GBA's mission and values.

8. Deliverables

- **BMM Supplement for Telecommunications, Internet & Communications:** A detailed document outlining the maturity model specific to these sectors.

- **Whitepapers & Reports:** Publications providing insights into blockchain applications in the TIC sectors.

- **Workshops & Webinars:** Educational events to engage stakeholders and disseminate knowledge.

9. Meetings

The TIC-WG will meet bi-monthly to review progress, discuss new developments, and plan upcoming activities. Additional meetings may be scheduled as needed.

10. Review & Amendment

This Charter will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains relevant and aligned with the GBA's goals. Amendments may be proposed by any TIC-WG member and must be approved by the Working Group Leader and the GBA Director of Standards & Certifications.