

# FAQ

## Q. What is the purpose of the Business Group?

A. The Group is aimed at connecting companies within the cloud computing sector to encourage productive dialogues on ways to propel and embed cloud computing services across the various business industries in Dubai.

## Q. Who is behind this? Is this a regional initiative or a local one?

A. This is a Dubai-focused, local initiative launched by Dubai Chamber of Commerce, one of the three chambers operating under Dubai Chambers.

## Q. Which part of the cloud ecosystem is the group focused on?

A. As this is a non-technical Group, the initial focus will be on policy recommendations and regulatory issues around Cloud computing in Dubai. It may well be that the Group outgrows itself and begins addressing other areas of concern in the future.

## Q. Who is involved?

A. At this point we have reached out to more than twenty international and local cloud and technology companies to join the initiative as founding members. These include hyperscalers, telecom operators, SIs, DC providers, multinational SaaS and open source providers and more.

## Q. How many types of membership does the business group offer? Is it paid/unpaid?

A. There will be different levels of membership to choose from with different commitments associated with each, including monetary contributions. This will be a member-funded, member-driven initiative, so there will be a membership fee requirement. Details of those membership levels and associated fees, however, depend on the Group's roadmap, deliverables, budget, etc which will be decided by the soon-to-be-formed board.

## Q. How can organisations have a seat at the board?

A. Depending on an organisation's membership level, they can nominate a person to be elected for the board. These elections will be on a rotation basis and voting rights of board members change on the basis of membership levels i.e. the higher the membership level the more voting power.

## Q. What type of commitment is required from members in terms of time and resources?

A. Member organisations are expected to assign at least one representative to attend the Group's events/calls, depending on the level of membership and involvement a member organization opts for. Initially, minimal time commitment is required from members.

## Q. What is the difference between 'Founding Member' and other types of membership?

A. Founding members, as the first group of companies to decide on the important underlying mechanics of the Group's formation, will have an opportunity to greatly impact the possible outcomes and overall direction of the Business Group.

## Q. If the individual who is a member of the group leaves their company, will they still be part of the group as an individual member, or will their company need to appoint someone else to represent them?

A. Members are organisations. When a representative leaves a member organization, their replacement should be introduced by the member organization to take over. In the future, the group may decide to offer individual memberships, but this is not the case at present.

**Q. Is this a technical group? Does company representative need to have deep technical knowledge on cloud computing?**

**A.** There is no need for technical knowledge; the focus of the group will be on policy and strategy. We urge senior leadership roles to take part in the beginning stages of the process. Companies will be provided with enough time to look over the information, discuss internally, and appoint a different representative afterwards.

**Q. Is this relevant to my organisation if our core business is not cloud computing?**

**A.** Even though the Group is named a 'Cloud Computing Business Group', if you are interested in concepts like Technology Regulation, Cross-border Data Movements, Data Residency/sovereignty, Cybersecurity, Network reliability, Connectivity Quality, etc. the Group might be a good fit for your organisation.

**Q. What are the likely outcomes of participating in the Business Group? Any particular benefits for members?**

**A.** The Group strives to contribute to an encouraging regulatory and policy space for cloud computing in Dubai. By joining, companies can directly engage major policy-makers and regulators and convey a unified message around concerns and opportunities in Dubai cloud ecosystem. This is an unprecedented opportunity for a dialogue between the industry and Dubai leadership to help elevate Dubai's standing when it comes to cloud computing.

**Q. What are the types of activities that the business group will engage in?**

**A.** The soon-to-be-formed board will have to make those decisions. The proposed Work Items (WI) could include opinion pieces, reports, events, round tables, workshops, education/awareness campaigns, collaboration agreements, policy consultation sessions etc.

**Q. Will leaders be elected? What kind of governance structure is in place for the Business Group?**

**A.** Business Groups have a Governance structure under Dubai Chambers. (See Bylaws)  
We will form Working Parties (WPs) within the Group whose chair / Vice Chair will be elected on a rotation basis depending on the associated organisations membership levels. There will also be elections for Business Group Chair, Treasurer, etc.