Abbas Naderi Afooshteh

1. If elected, what would be your top three priorities for your first year on the board?

a) organize projects, specially by funding them more actively and creating workgroups in charge of project support (not directly involved with technical project aspects)

b) OWASP is not just US (or EU). We have many chapters around the world with a lot of potential, who are just watching because the community is not paying enough attention to them. We will have surveys for all inactive chapters, allowing us to help them better either by funds or by personel support.

c) More clear decisions at the board level, which are published. On top of letting the *leaders* community have a VETO over board decisions, I will do my best to require the board to make clear decisions about money and policies, and publish them clearly in a single place so that everybody can peek at it and raise up a discussion if needed.

2. What is your style for dealing with complex situations that may impact many people or where other decision makers hold differing viewpoints?

The first method is obviously discussing it more from a logical point of view, and discarding the personal viewpoints via clear conversations. If they are not resolved, involving more leaders - and at extreme cases the whole leaders list - is the next option. Finally, the VETO option available to the leaders allows for reversing decisions that are made by the board, but don't fit the interests of the community.

3. Describe your experience leading organizations. Were they non-profits or community based? Please explain both your role and the nature of your involvement.

I have led many open source initiatives, and have been a chapter leader for many years now. I am a strong leader who acknowledges all feedbacks and opinions, but makes his decision and not someone else's.
On top of that, I have led two very successful commercial corporations in my country, and made both of them leading experts in their field. I have led many workgroups in other companies, some with more than 40 actively paid members, and think I posess the mindset for disaster recovery and critical missions.

What I state might be my personal perspecive, so I urge the reader to take a peek at my OWASP page and my CV.

I have spent a few hours everyday (including weekends) on OWASP activities for a year now, and expect to double it if I become a board member.

4. Describe your most successful contribution to the OWASP community (Project, Chapter, Conference, or other).

I have been chapter leader for Iran, which was a very sensitive chapter because of US sanctions. We couldn't have paid members because of financial sanctions, but we still have a considerable number of honorary and active Iranian members. The chapter in general has contributed a lot to OWASP (including many native translations of OWASP materials and other projects).

On top of that, I have contributed much time into key OWASP projects, such as ASVS, ESAPI, Top Ten, etc. and have started a bunch of other significant projects such as OWASP RBAC (won the innovation award and attracted a good number of people who are working on standards now), OWASP PHP Security Project (more than 130 watchers and 20 active developers!) OWASP Cheat Sheets and etc.

On average, I receive a few emails every day from individuals seeking help on web application security on my OWASP account, and try my best to help them accordingly and encourage them to join OWASP projects and communities.