Section 4.2 of the Forum’s Bylaws states that the Board of Directors shall “establish … the qualifications, rights, preferences and privileges for each member class”. The following presents these rights as approved by the Forum Board. Where relevant, member rights defined in the Forum’s bylaws take precedence.

1. All member classes shall be afforded the same rights, preferences, and privileges.

2. Member organizations shall have the exclusive right to initiate new projects within the Forum following an approved process.

3. Member organizations shall have the exclusive right to make input submissions to the Forum for consideration by the Forum following an approved format.

4. Member organizations shall have the right to participate in the established committees and their subordinate groups.

5. All member organizations shall have the right to vote on Forum work products at the committee and plenary level, following an approved document balloting process. Voting shall be one vote per organization at the committee and plenary level.

6. Representatives of member organizations shall have the exclusive right to hold leadership positions within the Forum, including acting as chair and co-chair of work groups, task groups, and special interest groups.

   Member representatives holding leadership positions shall have the right to establish policies and procedures to be followed within their respective work group, special interest group, task group or other project group, subject to appeal by dissident group participants to the Governance Committee. Eligibility for balloting at the group level will be limited to active member organizations only, with one vote per member representative. No member organization shall be denied the right to actively participate at the group level.

7. Member organizations shall have exclusive access to member-only documents and newsletters.

8. Member organizations shall have the right to receive member-only discounts on Forum activities and events and on third party reports, conferences, studies, and other promotional items as negotiated.
9. Member organizations shall have the exclusive right to participate in member-only activities and events sponsored by the Forum, as designated by the CEO or Board of Directors.

10. Member organizations shall have the exclusive right to represent themselves and be recognized as Forum members. Member organizations may use a designated “member’s” logo.

11. Member organizations shall have the right to have relevant events for which they are a named sponsor to be listed on the Forum Calendar of Events.

12. Member organizations shall have the right to present their organization in an Forum membership directory. Such presentation shall not constitute endorsement by the Forum of any member organization’s technologies, products or services.

13. A member organization may designate a contractor or other third party to exercise its rights on behalf of that organization.
   
   a. Individuals representing an organization are expected to represent the consensus position of their organization, and not that of their own employer. Unless a representative has taken appropriate steps to determine what the position of its organization is on any given matter, the representative should generally refrain from commenting. Such agreement shall be made in writing by the principal representative of each organization and the contractor or other third party it has designated as its representative each year on the anniversary date of the organization’s renewal date.

   b. Contractors and other third party representatives of an organization shall use an email address and signature block associated with the organization they represent in all electronic communications. Waivers of this requirement may be made, on a case by case basis, by the Forum CEO. Requests for waiver must be submitted in writing on organization letterhead signed by the principal voting member with reasonable justification for why they cannot operate under these terms. Waiver applications shall be made on an annual basis on the anniversary date of the organizations renewal date. Waivers may be rescinded at any time, however members have the right to petition the board for reconsideration should such an action occur.

14. A member organization may designate a proxy to exercise its vote on a specific proposal.