

Item 12.1: Revision of Bylaw 4.103 - Division Electorate

It is proposed that Bylaw 4.103, which defines the electorate for Division Committees, be amended as described below.

Background: Currently, the electorate for the Titular Members of each Division Committee is defined in the Bylaws as the Titular and Associate Members of the Division Committee itself and of all Commissions in the Division. After 2001 there will be far fewer Commissions, initially, at least, none in most Divisions. In the absence of a change to the Bylaws, the electorate would then be simply the current Division Committee itself. There is general agreement that there should be a broader electorate.

After considering a number of alternatives, the Division Presidents at their annual meeting in 2000 proposed an electorate based largely on chairmen of task groups that are currently carrying out projects within the Division or that have recently completed such projects. They recommended further broadening of the electorate by including members of the Division's nominating committee from outside the Union. In addition, they recommended that, for the first time, National Representatives to Division Committees should be included in the electorate. The Bureau [Cobham, 2000] endorsed these proposals.

In adopting an integrated program for changes in the organization and management of the Union's scientific work, the Bureau [Frankfurt, 1998] authorized each Division to add up to six non-voting National Representatives [NRs] to its Division Committee, and currently there are several NRs on Division Committees. Although Bylaw 4.305 describes NRs on Commissions, there is at present no provision in the Bylaws for NRs on Division Committees.

The Bureau has been asked to recommend to the Council in Brisbane two amendments to Bylaw 4.103 to achieve these ends.

Current Text:

B4.103 The Titular Members of each Division or Section Committee shall be elected by the Membership of the Division or Section according to its rules and shall not exceed ten Titular Members, unless otherwise determined by the Bureau. [*The Bylaw continues at length, specifying terms of office for Titular Members and Officers and permitting the election of up to six Associate Members. No change is proposed in these sections.*]

Proposed Text:

B4.103 The Titular Members of each Division Committee shall be chosen by an electorate comprising the Titular Members, Associate Members and National Representatives on the Division Committee, together with the members or officers of such other bodies within the Division that the Bureau may specify. The number of Titular Members shall not exceed ten unless otherwise determined by the Bureau. [*Continue unchanged to end of current text.*]

Item 12.1: Revision of Bylaw 4.103 - Division Electorate

New paragraph following current text: Additionally, a Division Committee may elect no more than six National Representatives on the nomination of Adhering Organizations, with no more than one representative from a given Adhering Organization. The term of a National Representative shall be two years, with the possibility of renomination and reelection consecutively for only two more years. Exceptional circumstances must be established and special permission obtained from the Bureau for the election of a National Representative from a country already represented on the Committee by a Titular or Associate Member.

The full text of Bylaw 4.103, showing proposed additions and deletions follows on the next page.

Practical Effect of the Changes:

1. Up to six National Representatives may be appointed to each Division Committee in order to broaden its geographic representation. NAOs will be requested to submit nominations shortly after the General Assembly, when the composition of Titular and Associate Members of the Division Committees is known. Appointments will be effective 1 January 2002. It is expected that these NRs will participate fully in Division Committee business and will become part of the Division electorate. The new language in B4.103 regarding NRs is largely based on that in B.4.305.
2. With approval of the amended Bylaw 4.103, the electorate for Division Committees in 2003 will be that already agreed by the Bureau, namely: All Titular and Associate Members of the Division Committee; all National Representatives on the Division Committee; members of the Division's nominating committee who are not included above [usually three individuals]; and chairmen of all active task groups in the Division, along with chairmen of task groups whose projects have been completed within the period 2000-2002.
3. The electorate for 2005 and beyond will continue in the same fashion. However, the Bureau is to be given the authority to specify the details of a portion of the electorate [such as task groups and nominating committee] in order to gain experience before the specifications are incorporated into the Bylaws.

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Full Text of Bylaw 4.103, showing proposed changes:

B4.103 The Titular Members of each Division or Section Committee shall be ~~elected by the Membership of the Division or Section according to its rules and~~ *chosen by an electorate comprising the Titular Members, Associate Members and National Representatives on the Division Committee, together with the members or officers of such other bodies within the Division that the Bureau may specify. The number of Titular Members shall not exceed ten Titular Members,* unless otherwise determined by the Bureau. The term of service of a Titular Member shall be not more than four consecutive years, but shall cease on election as an Officer. The Vice-President and the President of a Division or Section shall not hold these respective offices for more than four consecutive years; the Secretary of a Division or Section shall serve for four consecutive years and be eligible for reelection up to a maximum of a further four years. Exceptional circumstances must be established and special permission of the Bureau granted for Titular or Associate Membership of the same or more than one Division or Section Committee beyond a total of twelve years of total Titular and Associate Membership, whether the Memberships are consecutive or not.

Subject to this provision, the immediate Past-President of the Division or Section shall be one of the Titular Members of the Division or Section Committee for a period of two years. In addition to these Titular Members, the President, Vice-President, Past-President, Secretary General, and Treasurer of the Union shall be *ex officio* Members of all Division and Section Committees.

Additionally, a Division or Section Committee may elect Associate Members, who shall have full voting rights. The number of Associate Members shall not exceed six. The term of service of an Associate Member shall be two years, with the possibility of reelection consecutively for two more years only.

A newly elected Titular Member or Associate Member of a Division or Section Committee shall assume office only after approval by the Bureau or Executive Committee. The Adhering Organization with which the Titular Member or Associate Member is connected shall be notified of the appointment.

Additionally, a Division Committee may elect no more than six National Representatives on the nomination of Adhering Organizations, with no more than one representative from a given Adhering Organization. The term of a National Representative shall be two years, with the possibility of renomination and reelection consecutively for only two more years. Exceptional circumstances must be established and special permission obtained from the Bureau for the election of a National Representative from a country already represented on the Committee by a Titular or Associate Member.