



## Proposal for changes to the ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure

To be considered by ISC Members at the 2021 extraordinary General Assembly  
( 1 – 5 February 2021)

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## Introduction

The ISC has requested members to provide input for possible changes to the [ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure](#) at the end of 2019 and the beginning of 2020. As a result, the ISC Governing Board has received several responses. In order to analyze the remarks and suggestions and to be able to propose relevant and concrete changes to the ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure, a working group was set up within the ISC Governing Board, as follows:

- Daya Reddy, ISC President (Chair)
- Saths Cooper, member of the ISC Governing Board
- Sir Peter Gluckman, ISC President-elect
- Heide Hackmann, ISC Chief Executive Officer
- Alik Ismail-Zadeh, ISC Secretary

The working group has developed specific textual changes, which are presented in this document. The proposed changes are divided into four different subject areas, as follows:

1. Membership
2. Governing Board
3. Elections
4. Other

The four different sets of changes will be discussed and voted on at the extraordinary General Assembly of 1 – 5 February 2021.



## 1. Group I: Membership categories and membership application

Outlines of changes with regard to membership categories and membership applications have been proposed by the National Academies of Sciences, USA (NAS) and drafted by the working group.

### 1.1. Membership categories (Statutes 8 and 9)

The intention of the proposed changes to the membership categories is to clarify the categories of membership allowing for global science academies and professional scientific societies to join the Council. In addition, it clarifies the eligibility criteria of the different membership categories.

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8. Members shall normally adhere to the Council in one of the following categories:

#### Full Members

- i. Category 1: Scientific Unions, and Associations, and similar bodies, being international scientific bodies organizations<sup>1</sup> devoted to the practice and promotion of specific scientific activities in one or more disciplines and or areas of science and to their promotion.

[Foot note] <sup>1</sup> For the purposes of these Statutes an international scientific organization is an institution that draws membership from several countries within a region or from countries across at least two regions, and whose members are held together by a formal agreement, constitution or similar instrument.

- ii. Category 2: Member Organisations, being Academies of Sciences, Research Councils or analogous not-for-profit scientific bodies representing science a broad spectrum of scientific fields or disciplines in a country, region, or territory or globally.

#### Affiliated Members

- iii. ~~Affiliated Members~~ Category 3: Other bodies, being other governmental and non-governmental organizations, whose affiliation with the Council is not covered by the Membership Categories above, or whose activities are in a field cognate to those of the Council. ~~Affiliated Members pay dues but have no voting rights.~~

9. A Member in good standing is defined as a Member who has paid the membership dues for the previous three years. ~~Member Unions, Associations and Organisations~~ Only Full Members in good standing are entitled to vote in the General Assembly and to present candidates to hold office. Affiliated Members in good standing are entitled only to present candidates to hold office.

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### Comments from the working group

- As academies, unions, and related bodies are all organizations of one kind or another, it is proposed not to refer to these bodies as “Member Organizations”. Moreover, we now distinguish “full” (Category 1 and 2) and “affiliated” members (Category 3). The kinds of bodies belonging to Categories 1, 2, and 3 are defined more explicitly.
- There are a number of scientific disciplinary societies that are international/global. These may not have the title “Union/Association”, but they are otherwise not substantially different. An example would be in medical areas, e.g. the International Society of Endocrinology.
- The term of an “international scientific organization” is defined in the Statutes to make clear which organizations may apply for a membership of Category 1.



## 1.2 Membership applications (RoP 8.1 - 8.6)

The process for application of membership is now better aligned with some procedures being the same for all applicants (RoP 8.1, 8.2 and 8.6) and some being explicitly required for full members (RoP 8.3 and 8.4) or affiliated members (RoP 8.5). The new RoP 8.3 is proposed to avoid the cases of potential opposition from existing relevant members of the Council regarding new membership applications. The other changes are introduced to clarify the decision making related to the application for membership.

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## 8. Applications for Membership

8.1 All applications for ~~M~~membership of the Council must be addressed in writing to the ~~Secretary~~President, and must be received by the Headquarters at least ~~2~~two months in advance of the Governing Board meeting, at which they are to be considered.

8.2 Applications for ~~M~~membership must be accompanied by a copy of the ~~S~~statutes of the applicant organization, and a signed statement that the applicant will comply with the Council's Statutes and Rules of Procedure and a letter explaining the motivations for the application.

8.3 (a) In the event of an application for membership in Category 1 by an international union or association which was previously a part of an existing Member of the Council, the applicant should inform the relevant Member and seek its support before applying for membership.

(b) In the event of an application for membership in Category 2 by an organization in a country, region or territory which already has existing Member(s) of the Council, the applicant organization should inform the existing Member(s) and seek their support before applying for Membership.

~~8.4~~ ~~8.3~~ Upon the guidance of the Governing Board, the Headquarters shall approach the relevant Members of the Council to seek information as to the benefits to the Council of admitting the applicant. The Headquarters shall then ascertain if there is adequate support for the application from at least 12 Members, including at least three ~~Members~~ Unions or Associations of Category 1 and three ~~Members~~ Organisations of Category 2, by request to all Council Members. Support for applications should clearly indicate ~~that Membership of~~ how the adherence of a given organization concerned would enhance the Council's activities membership base and capacities. Voting Members will have the opportunity, ~~after~~upon receiving the ~~before-mentioned~~said request, to ask for an electronic ballot ~~from~~of all Members on the ~~M~~membership of the applicant. In the case of letters of opposition, the Governing Board may request an electronic ballot of all Members on the membership of the applicant.

~~8.5~~ All successful applications shall have effect from the conclusion of the session of the Governing Board at which they were agreed.

~~8.6 a) Applications for Affiliate Membership must be accompanied by a copy of the Statutes of the organisation, a signed statement that the applicant will comply with the Council's Statutes and Rules of Procedure, and a statement motivating the reasons for the application.~~

8.5 b) The Headquarters shall transmit the application to the Members of Applications for affiliate membership shall be transmitted to the Governing Board, which shall decide whether to ask the Headquarters to ascertain if there is adequate support for the application from at least nine Members, including at least three ~~Members~~ Unions or Associations of Category 1 and three ~~Members~~ Organisations of Category 2, by request to all Members. Support for applications should clearly indicate ~~that~~how Affiliate ~~M~~membership of the organization concerned would enhance the Council's ~~scientific activities~~ membership base and capacities. Voting Members will have the opportunity after receiving the ~~before-mentioned~~said request to ask for an electronic ballot ~~from~~of all Members on the ~~M~~membership of the applicant. In the case of letters of opposition, the Governing Board may request an electronic ballot of all Members on the membership of the applicant.



8.6 All successful applications shall have effect from the conclusion of the session of the Governing Board at which they were agreed.

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### 1.3 Related minor changes (Statute 15, RoP 1.1 and 2.7)

In the related changes the names of the membership categories are replaced by their category number. Also, the definitions of the proposed Statute 8 for 'full member' is used in Rule of Procedure 1.1 and 2.7.

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15. The General Assembly will vote with a different system for three different types of issues:

- i. Regarding voting on scientific strategy and activities: '*One Member, ~~One~~ One Vote*', whereby:
  - ~~e~~Each Member Organisation of Category 1 shall have one vote. Each Member Union or Association will have a weighted vote equal to the total number of Members Organisations of Category 2 divided by the total number of Members Unions and Associations of Category 1, within the total Membership base.
  - Each Member of Category 2 shall have one vote.
- ii. Regarding voting on elections and other procedural matters:
  - ~~e~~Each Member Organisation of Category 1 will have a weighted vote equal to the total number of votes by Members of Category 2 divided by the total number of Members of Category 1, within the total membership base.
  - Each Member of Category 2 shall have one vote, except in cases where there are is more than one Member Organisation of Category 2 representing the same country, territory or region as defined by the General Assembly, in which case the Members from that country, territory or region need to agree on a common voting position resulting in a single vote. Should there be no agreement amongst them, each Member Organisation of Category 2 shall have a proportion of that one vote. Exceptions to this voting rule may be agreed by a resolution of the General Assembly. Each Member Union or Association will have a weighted vote equal to the total number of country, territory or region votes divided by the total number of Member Unions and Associations, within the total Membership base.

1.1 In sessions of the General Assembly a quorum shall consist of a minimum of 50 ~~percent~~% of the voting Full Members of each Membership Category.

2.7 The vote of each Full Member ~~Union or Association or Member Organisation~~ shall normally be cast at the meeting by the representative of that Member or by a proxy nominated by that Member. This nomination must be submitted in writing to the ~~Secretary~~President prior to the session at which the proxy is to operate. If a Member is unable to designate a proxy to vote at the meeting, votes on those issues already on the Agenda (and not arising from the floor) may be submitted in writing to the ~~Secretary~~President prior to the meeting.

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## 2. Group II: Governing Board (composition and role Officers & Chief Executive officer)

Possible changes with regard to the composition of the Governing Board, the role of the Officers and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) have been raised by both, the Human Sciences Research Council of South Africa (HSRC) and the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG). From the proposals the working group has drafted the changes in this section.

### 2.1 Composition of the Governing Board (Statutes 17 and 24 (new))

The changes in Statute 17 propose a possibility to co-opt two of ten members of the Governing Board to occasionally balance missing expertise and/or regional representation; and the changes explicitly state that the CEO is a non-voting member of the Governing Board (*moved from current Statute 21; Statute 21 is hence removed*).

Considering that the activities of the Secretary and the Treasurer overlap with the activities of the CEO and the Director of Operations, the changes in Statute 24 (current 26) propose to replace both the positions of Secretary and Treasurer by one additional Vice-President with a specific portfolio.

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17. The Governing Board consists of:

- a) ~~Six~~Five Officers, namely the President, ~~two Vice-Presidents~~, the President-Elect, the Treasurer Vice-President for Outreach and Engagement, the Vice-President for Freedom and Responsibility in Science, and the Secretary Vice-President for Finance;
- b) Ten Ordinary ~~M~~members, of which eight are elected and two co-opted by the Governing Board to balance missing expertise and/or regional representation;
- c) The CEO as a non-voting member.

24. ~~26.~~ The Officers of the Council are:

- i. The President
- ii. The President-Elect, responsible inter alia for Science Planning
- iii. ~~Two~~the Vice-Presidents for Outreach and Engagement
- iv. The ~~Secretary~~ Vice-President for Freedom and Responsibility in Science
- v. The ~~Treasurer~~ Vice-President for Finance

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### Comments from the working group

At ICSU, the Secretary General played a role of administrator/manager in the past controlling the activities of the ICSU Secretariat and working closely with the ICSU Executive Director. The ISC CEO now manages the Headquarters and administrates the Council, and the role of the Secretary is diminished to an Officer position without portfolio but with a few advisory functions related to meeting agendas and minutes. Similarly, the ISC Operations Director performs almost all duties related to Treasurer, and the role of the Treasurer is diminished to a membership in the Committee for Finance and Fundraising.



## 2.2 Roles of Officers (Statute 27 and 31 and RoP 4.2-4.5, 10.3 and 10.5)

The proposed changes focus on what to do in case the President and/or President-elect are unable to fulfil their duties (Statute 27) on the one hand and the roles of the new Vice-President of Finance and the other Officers in - 8 - connection to the Committees they chair (Statute 31) on the other hand. In the Rules of Procedure 4.2 - 4.5, 10.3 and 10.5 the tasks are further addressed.

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### 27. 29. Inability to fulfill duties:

- i. In the event that the President is unable to fulfil his or her duties, the President-elect assumes the position of the President.
  - ii. In the event that the President-elect is unable to fulfil his or her duties, the Governing Board shall appoint one of the ~~two~~ Vice-Presidents to fulfil the duties of the President-elect.
  - iii. In the event that any ~~Officer~~ Vice-President is unable to fulfil their duties, the Governing Board shall decide who shall undertake such duties.
31. Various Standing Committees will be set up by the General Assembly to advise the Governing Board [...].

Such ~~C~~committees will include:

- a) **Committee for Science Planning, chaired by the President-elect,** ~~will~~ undertake ing scientific strategic science planning and reviews and address ing major thematic issues concerned with science for policy and policy for science.
- b) **Committee for Outreach and Engagement, chaired by the Vice-President for Outreach and Engagement,** ~~will~~ engage ing with Members, and focus ing on ~~M~~membership matters, outreach to external stakeholders, partnerships, ~~and~~ strategic communications, and the awards programme of the Council.
- c) **Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science, chaired by the Vice-President for Freedom and Responsibility in Science,** ~~will~~ deal ing with freedom and responsibility of science issues at the global level.
- d) **Committee for Finance and Fundraising,** ~~of which the Treasurer will be a Member,~~ chaired by the Vice-President for Finance, ~~will~~ address ing issues of finance, auditing, resource mobilizzation, and risk management.

4.2 The Secretary President-elect shall serve as Secretary of chair the General Assembly Committee for Science Planning, and the Governing Board, which includes: assume other duties assigned by the Governing Board.

- ~~— preparing meeting agendas;~~
- ~~— being the custodian of the Statutes and Rules of Procedure;~~
- ~~— overseeing reporting and monitoring of the agreed actions of the Governing Board and the General Assembly;~~
- ~~— receiving Membership applications; and~~
- ~~— any other duties assigned by the Governing Board.~~



4.3 The Treasurer Vice-President for Outreach and Engagement shall: chair the Committee for Outreach and Engagement,

- ~~— oversee the administration of the finances of the Council, including annual budgets, audits and accounts;~~
- ~~— report on financial matters to the General Assembly;~~
- ~~— assist with fundraising for the Council's activities;~~
- ~~— advise on investments;~~
- oversee risk management and the implementation of internal organisational policies and procedures; and
- ~~any~~ **assume** other duties assigned by the Governing Board.

4.4 The Vice-President for Freedom and Responsibility in Science shall chair the Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in Science, and assume other duties assigned by the Governing Board.

4.5 The Vice-President for Finance shall chair the Committee for Finance, and assume other duties assigned by the Governing Board.

10.3 The Committee for Outreach and Engagement shall:

- a) assist and advise on ~~M~~**m**embership relations, as well as expansion of the ~~M~~**m**embership base of the Council;
- b) engage with external stakeholders to further the impact and visibility of the Council;
- c) establish and maintain strategic partnerships in line with the ~~H~~**h**igh-~~L~~**l**evel ~~S~~**s**trategy;
- d) advise on strategic communications and public outreach activities;
- e) advise and assist with media relations;
- f) advise on ~~any necessary science diplomacy for the Council~~ awards programme.

10.5 The Committee for Finance ~~and Fundraising~~ shall:

- a) make recommendations on finance and budgeting;
- b) oversee the auditing of the accounts, reporting to funders, as well as internal policy development (travel, procurement, etc.) and risk management of the Council; ~~;~~
- e) ~~develop, maintain and support the implementation of a fundraising strategy;~~

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#### **Comments from the working group**

- Statute 29 and 30 (current) are combined with new additions into new Statute 27 to clarify the procedure in the case of inability of the President and President-Elect to fulfil their duties.
- As a new “ISC Award Programme” develops, the Committee for Outreach and Engagement is proposed to oversee and review the programme.
- Fundraising is a matter for the President, President-Elect, VP-Finance, the CEO and Patrons. The Finance Committee is not really set up to manage fundraising.



### 2.3 Changes proposed for role of the Chief Executive Officer (Statutes 16, 20 – 23 and 28 – 30 (new))

As the duties of the CEO are fragmented in the Statutes, these changes propose to put together the CEO duties in a new section (section VIII) with three Statutes moved from the current Statutes to form Statutes 28 – 30 (new).

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16. The overall function of the Governing Board is to provide scientific and strategic leadership, to oversee the achievement ~~pursuit~~ of the Council's vision, mission, principles and values, and to secure the financial and management ~~operational~~ robustness of the Council. ~~It delegates management of the Headquarters and of the implementation of decisions of the General Assembly and the Governing Board to the Chief Executive Officer.~~ The Governing Board is accountable to the General Assembly.

20. ~~The Governing Board shall meet twice a year, of which at least one meeting shall be once~~ in person. The Governing Board shall meet before and after each session of the General Assembly. ~~A meeting can be convened~~ The Governing Board shall be assisted by the President and, upon notice in writing, at the request of at least half of its voting Members Headquarters.

~~21. The Chief Executive Officer of the Council will attend Governing Board meetings as a non-voting Member.~~

~~22.~~ 21. Among its duties, the Governing Board shall:

- a) Provide strategic leadership and develop priorities y agendas and associated activity and business plans for approval by the General Assembly;
- b) Review the implementation of the activity and business plans and monitor performance measures;
- c) Review the scientific activities of the Council and make appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly;
- d) Present, to each General Assembly, a report ~~of~~ n the scientific activities and other operations of the Council since the previous ordinary session of the General Assembly;
- e) Propose, for consideration by the General Assembly, a draft budgetary outline for the Council, and the scale of annual dues to be paid by Members for the ensuing ~~3~~ three-year period;
- f) Decide on the annual budget and seek approval of the annual accounts by the General Assembly, as indicated in ~~Article~~ Statute 11;
- g) On delegation by the General Assembly, admit new Members;
- h) Prepare the Agenda for the General Assembly;
- i) On delegation by the General Assembly, appoint Members of Standing and A ad H hoc C committees;
- ~~j) On a non-binding recommendation of the Officers, appoint the Chief Executive Officer.~~

~~23. The Governing Board shall be assisted by Headquarters. The Chief Executive Officer shall direct Headquarters and be responsible for its management, including the appointment of staff, the management of personnel and resources and the payment of accounts.~~



24. ~~22.~~ In the event of a vacancy among the Ordinary ~~M~~members of the Governing Board, the Officers shall have the power to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

25. ~~23.~~ No person with voting rights may serve on the Governing Board for more than six consecutive years, with the exception of a ~~Governing Board Member~~person ~~who can serve for a total of nine consecutive years if he or she is elected as President-~~Elect after serving a first term on the Governing Board; in this case, he or she may serve a maximum of nine consecutive years.

#### **VIII. Chief Executive Officer**

28. The Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Governing Board on a non-binding recommendation of the Officers.

29. The Governing Board delegates management of the Headquarters and implementation of decisions of the General Assembly and the Governing Board to the Chief Executive Officer.

30. The Chief Executive Officer shall direct the Headquarters and be responsible for its management, including the appointment of staff, the management of personnel and resources and the payment of accounts.

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#### **Comments from the working group**

- These changes do not affect the meaning of the Statutes but makes the reading of the document easier.
- The deleted sentence in Statute 20 has no specific meaning.
- The deleted Statute 21 is moved to Statute 17.
- The deleted Statute 22j is moved to new Statute 28.
- The deleted sentence in Statute 16 is moved to new Statute 29.
- The first sentence of the deleted Statute 23 is moved to Statute 20, and the second sentence to new Statute 30.

#### **2.4 Related minor changes (Statutes 11 g, 23 (new), 26 (new) and RoP 1.2, 1.3, 4.6, 8.1, 10.1)**

The changes in these clauses all relate to the proposed title changes of the Vice-President for Finance and the proposed deletion of the role of the Secretary. The change to Statute 23 (new) is to clarify that only the President who served as Board member before becoming President-elect can serve nine years on the Board. The change to RoP 1.2 is also for clarification purposes.

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11. The General Assembly is the highest authority of the Council. It shall, as appropriate and generally after recommendations from the Governing Board:

g) Discharge the ~~Treasurer~~ Vice-President for Finance from liability, set the scale of annual dues to be paid by Members, and approve the draft budgetary outlines as proposed by the Governing Board for the ensuing period;

25. ~~23.~~ No person with voting rights may serve on the Governing Board for more than six consecutive years, with the exception of a ~~Governing Board Member~~person ~~who can serve for a total of nine consecutive years if he or she is elected as President-~~Elect after serving a first term on the Governing Board; in this case, he or she may serve a maximum of nine consecutive years.

~~26. 28.~~ The President and Vice-Presidents shall hold office for one term of three years, non-renewable. ~~The Secretary and Treasurer may be re-elected for a second term of three years.~~



1.2 In sessions of the Governing Board a quorum shall consist of a minimum of 50 percent% of the voting ~~M~~members of the Governing Board.

1.3 For any decision made by the Officers in accordance with the Statutes, at least ~~four~~three of the ~~six~~five Officers must register their support.

~~4.6~~ 4.4 The Chief Executive Officer, or his or her delegated representative, shall act as an ex-officio non-voting ~~M~~member of the Governing Board and the Council's Advisory Bodies. He or she will work with the ~~Secretary~~President on meetings of the General Assembly and Governing Board. He or she shall be accountable to the Governing Board:

- for the day-to-day management of the Headquarters;
- through the ~~Treasurer~~Vice-President for Finance, for financial and auditing matters; and through the President for general performance and implementation of the Council's activity and business plans.

8.1 All applications for ~~M~~membership of the Council must be addressed in writing to the ~~Secretary~~President, and must be received by the Headquarters at least ~~2~~two months in advance of the Governing Board meeting, at which they are to be considered.

10.1 Under Statute 31 four Standing Committees are set up by the General Assembly.

Each of these Standing Committees:

- a) is responsible for advising the Governing Board;
  - ~~b) is chaired by a Member of the Governing Board;~~
  - b) ~~e)~~ will have as a vice-chair an Ordinary ~~M~~member of the Governing Board, appointed by the Governing Board;
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### 3. Group III: Elections (Committee and procedure)

The Human Sciences Research Council of South Africa (HSRC), the US National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and the Australian Academy of Sciences have raised issues about the Statutes and Rules of Procedure regarding the composition of the Elections Committee or issues connected to the election's procedure. The working group has included their suggestions in the below proposed changes.

#### 3.1 Elections Committee (Statute 32, RoP 10.6)

The changes propose (1) to increase the number of additional members of the Elections Committee from four to eight and (2) to clarify the composition of the Committee. The logic in increasing the number of the members of the Election Committee to eight people is that if we are to have a robust nomination process then this Committee must have diversity. The larger this group is the easier it will be to have a non-iterative nomination process.

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32. An **Elections Committee**, chaired by the President and including ~~four~~eight additional ~~M~~members. The additional members are proposed by the Governing Board, having taken geographical, disciplinary and gender considerations into account, and elected by the General Assembly. The Elections Committee will be responsible for advising on and managing the Governing Board nominations and election processes.

10.6 The Elections Committee shall be chaired by the President of the Council and shall consist of ~~up to~~ ~~four~~eight additional Members, elected by the General Assembly ~~out of~~from among at least ~~8~~16 candidates proposed by the Governing Board. ~~When the Governing Board decides on the 8 candidates to put forward, M~~members that are interested to be who have an interest in being elected for another further term will not take part in the Governing Board's discussion and decision-making process.

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#### 3.2 Election procedure of Governing Board members (RoP 6.1 - 6.4 and 7.1 - 7.4)

The proposed changes allow for a smooth, non-iterative process carried out by an Elections Committee suitable constituted in terms of size, and disciplinary and geographical diversity. Needless to say, attention must be given to gender, geographical, disciplinary and age balance. The list of candidates for each Officer position may contain two or three names. The changes are proposed to simplify the election procedure avoiding an iteration process in nomination process as well as to allow the Elections Committee to propose a concise list of candidates.

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## 6. Election of Officers

6.1 At least ~~6~~six months in advance of an ordinary session of the General Assembly, ~~each~~ Members of the Council in good standing (according to Statute 9) shall be invited by the Elections Committee to propose a single ~~name~~candidate for each of the offices of President-~~Elect~~, Secretary, Treasurer, and ~~each~~ of the ~~two~~three Vice-Presidents. Each proposal shall be accompanied by biographical information, and a statement of motivation and ~~the agreement of the candidate~~intention to serve if elected.

6.2 The Elections Committee, after reviewing these proposals and with appropriate regard to Rule of Procedure 5, shall propose a ~~recommended short~~ list of candidates containing two or three names for each Officer position listed under Rule of Procedure 6.1. The Elections Committee may include on this



~~shortlist~~ additional names not proposed by a Member of the Council if it deems the ~~group~~pool of proposed candidates received to be inadequate in any respect. The list shall constitute the final list of candidates.

6.3 The Elections Committee's ~~shortlist~~ of candidates for Officer positions shall be sent to all Members of the Council ~~4~~two months in advance of an ordinary session of the General Assembly.

~~6.4 If the Elections Committee's shortlist does not contain a Member's proposed candidate(s), the Member may re-submit the name(s) put forward or submit additional names in accordance with Rule of Procedure 6.1. Such re-submissions or new submissions of candidates must be received by the Elections Committee 2 months in advance of an ordinary session of the General Assembly.~~

~~6.5 The Elections Committee's shortlist of candidates for Officers and all resubmissions and additional submissions, shall be distributed to all Members at least 1 month in advance of the date of the ordinary session of the General Assembly. This shall constitute the final list of nominations.~~

~~6.6~~ 6.4 In case that any candidate as mentioned under 6.5~~3~~ ~~- for whatever reason -~~ is unable to stand for election, ~~- for whatever reason -~~ leaving only a single candidate for that specific Officer's position, the Elections Committee will make sure that ~~at the General Assembly~~ another candidate is presented at the General Assembly.

~~6.7~~ 6.5 Election of the Officers by the General Assembly shall take place according to established voting procedures (see Statute 15 and Rule of Procedure 2).

## 7. Election of Ordinary Members of the Governing Board

7.1 ~~Proposals~~ At least six months in advance of an ordinary session of the General Assembly, Members of the Council in good standing (according to Statute 9) shall be invited by the Elections Committee to propose candidates for Ordinary ~~M~~membership of the Governing Board, ~~Each proposal shall be accompanied by biographical information, and a statement of motivation and the agreement of the candidate~~intention to serve if elected, ~~shall be invited by the Elections Committee at least 6 months in advance of an ordinary session of the General Assembly.~~

7.2 The Elections Committee, after reviewing these proposals and with appropriate regard to Rule of Procedure 5, shall propose a ~~recommended shortlist~~ of candidates containing, ~~if possible, at least twenty candidates~~ 24 names for eight positions of Ordinary membership of the Governing Board. The Elections Committee may include on this ~~shortlist~~ additional names not proposed by a Member if it deems the ~~group~~pool of proposed candidates received to be inadequate in any regard. The list shall constitute the final list of candidates.

7.3 This final shortlist of the candidates shall be sent to all Members of the Council ~~4~~two months in advance of an ordinary session of the General Assembly.

~~7.4 If the Elections Committee's shortlist does not contain a Member's proposed candidate, the Member may re-submit the name put forward or submit additional names in accordance with Rule of Procedure 7.1. Such re-submissions or new submissions of candidates must be received by the Elections Committee 2 months in advance of an ordinary session of the General Assembly.~~

~~7.5 The Elections Committee's shortlist of candidates for Ordinary Members of the Governing Board and all resubmissions and additional submissions, shall be distributed to all Members at least 1 month in advance of the date of the ordinary session of the General Assembly. This shall constitute the final list of nominations.~~



7-6 7.4 Election of the Ordinary Members of the Governing Board by the General Assembly shall take place according to established voting procedures (see Statute 15 and Rule of Procedure 2).

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**Comments from the working group**

- Instead of an unlimited number there will be two or three candidates for each Officer position.
- The list of candidates for ordinary membership of the Board may contain up to 24 names for eight positions.



#### 4. Group IV: Other

These additional changes are proposed by the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) regarding electronic means of decision-making within the ISC as well as in connection to the possible changes of the Statutes and Rules of Procedure.

##### 4.1 Electronic means (Statutes 11j and 13)

The changes are introduced to allow for more flexibility regarding the use of electronic means for certain decisions of the General Assembly.

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11. The General Assembly is the highest authority of the Council. It shall, as appropriate and generally after recommendations from the Governing Board:

- j) Elect the Members of the Elections Committee, by electronic or other means, as appropriate;

13. An extraordinary session of the General Assembly may be called either on the initiative of the Governing Board, or at the request, in writing, of at least one-third of the Members entitled to vote. Extraordinary sessions may take place in physical or virtual format, as decided by the Governing Board.

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##### 4.2 Modification of the Statutes (Statute 43)

This change clarifies precisely who may propose changes to ISC Statutes and Rules of Procedure, now also including Officers to do so.

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43. Proposals for changes to any articles of the Statutes and Rules of Procedure may be made by a Member of the Council or the Officers of the Council with the Governing Board's endorsement. Proposed draft amendments to the Statutes shall be conveyed in writing, by Members, to the ~~Secretary~~ **President**, at least ~~four~~ **six** months before the General Assembly in which they are to be considered, to allow sufficient time for them to be examined by the Governing Board and for the proposed amendments to be distributed to all Members.

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