

FIG 32nd General Assembly in Eilat, Israel, 3-8 May 2009

FIG Internal Rules

Geosuisse from Switzerland has sent the Council a letter in July 2008 proposing two changes to the FIG statutes and internal rules.

Proposal 1: Candidate shall decide clearly for which function he/she will apply and to omit multiple choice applications.

Comment: The option of standing up for two different positions was not considered at the time the statutes were revised. The Council considered the situation before Stockholm, but it was considered to make any formal changes at this time (the candidate was contacted on the situation, but he continued to run for both positions. There is need to change the statutes.

Change to internal rules:

Proposal:

New Internal Rule 9.4 *No individual may be nominated for election to more than one position at any General Assembly. No serving Commission Chair or Chair Elect may be nominated for a position on Council if this would result in overlapping terms of office as a Council Member and Commission Officer.*

Proposal 2: Same association should not lead more than one commission at the same time.

Comment: The principle of one association holding only one chair at the same time has been unwritten rule. At the moment there are two chairs from Hungary (to be noted that there can be two chairs from the same country, if there are two member associations). Exceptions have been made because it has been difficult to find candidates in certain commissions. It would be understandable to write this principle in the statutes. In the case that there will be no candidates, the Council has the responsibility to find a chair. At this situation candidates from all member associations can be considered (even if there is already a chair from that association).

Change to internal rules:

Current:

Internal rule 11.4 Each commission shall be presided over by a chair who shall take office at the start of the year following a congress and serve for a four year term. The election of chairs of commissions shall be decided by a vote of the General Assembly. In the case of each commission, nominations may be made by a member association. Nominations shall normally be called for at least four months in advance of the General Assembly at which the elections are to be held to enable the Council to ensure that the nominees command the support of their member associations and the relevant commissions. A nominee shall preferably have played an active part in the activities of the commission for which he or she is being nominated as chair, and shall have demonstrated possession of the personal and professional capabilities needed to lead the work of the commission. In addition, the Council shall assure itself as to the nominees' practical availability for service and that they have sufficient financial and administrative support. In the event of no nomination being received for the chair of a

particular commission, the Council shall take such action as may be needed to ensure that the position is filled.

Proposal:

Internal rule 11.4 Each commission shall be presided over by a chair who shall take office at the start of the year following a congress and serve for a four year term. The election of chairs of commissions shall be decided by a vote of the General Assembly. *For each four year term, each member association may nominate one person for a position of a Commission Chair.* Nominations shall normally be called for at least four months in advance of the General Assembly at which the elections are to be held to enable the Council to ensure that the nominees command the support of their member associations and the relevant commissions. A nominee shall preferably have played an active part in the activities of the commission for which he or she is being nominated as chair, and shall have demonstrated possession of the personal and professional capabilities needed to lead the work of the commission. In addition, the Council shall assure itself as to the nominees' practical availability for service and that they have sufficient financial and administrative support. In the event of no nomination being received for the chair of a particular commission, the Council shall take such action as may be needed to ensure that the position is filled.

Current

Internal rule 11.8 The election of chair-elect shall be decided by a vote of the General Assembly at the meeting which takes place two years prior to the General Assembly at which chairs are elected. In the case of each commission nominations may be made by a member association. Nominations shall normally be called for at least four months in advance of the General Assembly at which the elections are to be held to enable the Council to ensure that the nominees command the support of their member associations and the relevant commissions. A nominee shall preferably have played an active part in the activities of the commission for which he or she is being nominated as chair, and shall have demonstrated possession of the personal and professional capabilities needed to lead the work of the commission. In addition, the Council shall assure itself as to the nominees' practical availability for service and that they have sufficient financial and administrative support. In the event of no nomination being received for the chair of a particular commission, the Council shall take such action as may be needed to ensure that the position is filled.

Proposal:

Internal rule 11.8 The election of chair-elect shall be decided by a vote of the General Assembly at the meeting which takes place two years prior to the General Assembly at which chairs are elected. *For each four year term, each member association may nominate one person for a position of chair-elect of a Commission.* Nominations shall normally be called for at least four months in advance of the General Assembly at which the elections are to be held to enable the Council to ensure that the nominees command the support of their member associations and the relevant commissions. A nominee shall preferably have played an active part in the activities of the commission for which he or she is being nominated as chair, and shall have demonstrated possession of the personal and professional capabilities needed to lead the work of the commission. In addition, the Council shall assure itself as to the nominees' practical availability for service and that they have sufficient financial and administrative support. In the event of no nomination being received for the chair of a particular commission, the Council shall take such action as may be needed to ensure that the position is filled.