Election of President and Vice-Presidents

Regulation 4

A submission from the Executive Committee

Purpose or Objective

To vary the Regulations to enable a slate of Presidents and Vice-Presidents to be elected in accordance with the decision made by The Council in May 2011.

Proposal: To amend Regulation 4 as follows:

4. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

4.1 A nomination for President is not valid unless it is accompanied by the names of three individuals nominated for Vice-President, one of whom shall be a woman. These nominations together shall be known as a “Slate”.

4.2 When there are more candidates or Slates for election as President or as Vice Presidents than there are places available, members of the General Assembly shall be provided with ballot papers listing alphabetically the names of all candidates (for Slates listed alphabetically by the surname of the Presidential candidate and including the individuals on the given Slate) nominated in accordance with Article 72 and certified to be eligible by the Election Committee in accordance with Article 74(a).

4.3 Election for the office of President

(a) In an election for the office of President, a candidate or his or her Slate must be elected by more than 50% of the votes and, if there are more than two candidates or a tie vote between two candidates, successive ballots may be necessary:

(i) the first ballot shall be taken and the members shall be directed to vote for one candidate or Slate only. The ballots shall be counted and the candidate or Slate receiving over 50% of the votes, that Slate shall be declared the elected;

(ii) if no candidate or Slate receives more than 50% of the votes then a runoff vote will be held between the top two candidates or Slates. In the event there is a tie vote between the candidates or Slates in the second position, the runoff vote will be between the first candidate or Slate and those Slates tied for second place;

(iii) in the runoff election, the candidate or Slate receiving more than 50% of the votes shall be declared the winner. If no candidate or Slate receives more than 50% of the vote, subsequent runoff elections will be held dropping out the person or Slate with the least number of votes until a candidate or Slate receiving more than 50% of the vote is declared elected.

(b) A ballot marked for more than one candidate or Slate shall be treated as an invalid ballot.

4.4 Election for the remaining Vice-Presidents
(a) After the election of a President and his or her Slate, the General Assembly shall proceed to elect the remaining Vice-Presidents. Any candidate for the office of Vice-President who formed part of an unsuccessful Slate shall be eligible for election, together with any other candidates nominated for Vice President.

(ab) In an election for the remaining Vice-Presidents, a candidate must be elected by more than 50% of the votes and, as there are seven offices to be filled, successive ballots shall be necessary as follows:

(i) the first ballot shall be taken and the members shall be directed to vote for one candidate only. The ballots shall be counted and the candidate with over 50% of the votes shall be declared elected;

(ii) if no candidate received more than 50% of the votes then a run off vote will be held between the top two candidates. In the event there is a tie vote between the candidates in the second position, the runoff vote will include all of them;

(iii) in the runoff election, the candidate receiving more than 50% of the votes shall be declared the winner. If no candidate receives more than 50% of the vote, subsequent runoff elections will be held dropping out the person with the least number of votes until a candidate receiving more than 50% of the vote is declared elected.

(bc) Successive ballots shall be taken with the names of already elected candidates deleted or crossed out from the ballot. In each case the members shall be directed to vote for one candidate only. In each case the ballots shall be counted and the candidate with more than 50% of the votes shall be declared elected. If a candidate receives less than 50% of the vote then runoff elections shall be held according to 4.4(b)(ii) and (iii).

(ed) If, after five six Vice-Presidents have been elected and there is only one woman elected as a Vice-President, the remaining men who are candidates shall become ineligible and the remaining ballots shall be taken among the women candidates only. In the event that no woman candidate remains or no woman is willing to stand for election, the Council shall appoint a woman as Vice-President:

(i) there is not a woman elected as a Vice-President, the remaining men who are candidates shall become ineligible and a sixth and seventh ballot shall be taken among the women candidates only;

(ii) there has been at least one woman elected, the sixth ballot shall be taken with all the remaining unelected candidates eligible for the ballot;

(iii) there having been two women elected, the seventh ballot shall be taken with all remaining unelected candidates eligible for the ballot.

(iv) in the event that no woman candidate has been nominated or no woman is willing to stand for election, the Council shall appoint two women as Vice-Presidents and no further ballots shall be taken.

(ae) A ballot marked for more than one candidate shall be treated as an invalid ballot.

4.45 All voting shall be by secret ballot.

4.6 A Candidate for Vice President may withdraw at any time unless he is nominated for a Slate, when he or she may only withdraw through death, or serious ill health,
and in such circumstances shall not then be available for election under Regulation 4.4. Such a withdrawal from a Slate shall not invalidate that Slate, and the candidate for President on the Slate in question may nominate in substitution another candidate of the same gender from among those candidates for Vice President who are not on a Slate.

4.7 The withdrawal of a candidate for President shall invalidate his or her nomination and Slate but the candidates for Vice President on that Slate shall then be eligible for election under Regulation 4.4.

Current Position
As above.

Reasons