

## **METREX 2010 Elections**

### **Note for the information of Candidates**

#### **Introduction**

At the Riga General Assembly (GA) modifications to the METREX Internal Regulations were approved, which provide the framework for the forthcoming METREX Elections for President, two Vice Presidents and seven members of the Managing Committee (MC). The revised Internal Regulations are attached as Appendix 1.

#### **Election programme**

The Riga GA agreed that the dates for the Elections would be as follows.

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 18 June   | Call for Nominations for all posts, in writing, to the Secretary General, by letter, fax or e-mail. Candidates can stand for more than one post. Nominations must be supported by one other Member, in writing, by letter, fax or e-mail. Nominations for more than one post need only one supporter. |
| 30 July   | Nominations close   |
| 13 August | Berlin GA called. Voting opens. Votes for all posts may be cast electronically up to 18.00 on Friday 10 September or personally at the Berlin GA on Friday 17 September for the President   |

#### **Opportunities to give an electoral address at the Berlin GA or to publish Candidates Statements**

The President wishes to offer all Presidential Candidates the opportunity to address the GA, if they wish. The vote can then be concluded.

All Presidential, Vice Presidential and MC Candidates will have the opportunity to present written Statements to the membership, in advance of the Elections. These should be a maximum of two A4 pages long and should be submitted with their Nominations. Candidates Statements will then be circulated by e-mail to all Members before voting opens on 13 August.

#### **Voting procedure**

For recent Elections METREX has moved away from votes by letter or fax to electronic voting. This was considered more convenient and efficient for the membership and the Secretariat, when holding Elections. The Statutes require a vote to be available to every Member comprising the 46 Member Electoral Register (see Appendix 2).

The voting system must be robust enough to cope with more Candidates than there are posts to fill. With a small electorate of 46 Member metropolitan regions and areas there is a strong possibility of tied votes if a simple vote by each Member for one Vice President and seven MC members was adopted. It is for this reason that each voting Member will be asked to record their two preferences for Vice President (if there are more than two candidates) and their seven preferences for MC members (if there are more than seven candidates).

This voting procedure is in common use in the EU at all levels. It simply means, for example, placing numbers one to seven on the Managing Committee Ballot Paper rather than seven crosses against the names of chosen candidates. Votes are then counted using the single transferable vote system (STV) described later in this note.

### **Candidates for more than one post**

It may well be that some colleagues will wish to stand for more than one post, for example, as a Vice President and a member of the MC. In this case it will be essential to close the vote for all posts at the same time, so that the votes for successful candidates can be transferred to second choices. For example, if there were four candidates for Vice President all of whom were also candidates for the MC, two would be elected and their second preference votes would be transferred to other MC candidates.

The Internal Regulations currently make provision for the President to be elected by a simple majority. If there is more than one candidate for the Presidency then there is currently no provision for such candidates to also stand for Vice President or for membership of the Managing Committee. The MC may wish to consider this situation in due course.

### **Voting recommendations from the Riga General Assembly**

The GA strongly recommends that Members give full weight to the following considerations when voting.

- The need for gender balance when voting for the two Vice Presidents
- The need for gender balance within the Managing Committee of seven members
- The desirability of geographic representation on the Managing Committee
- The need for active members of the Managing Committee to help METREX further its range of activities and interests and its value to Members

## **Information for Managing Committee Candidates**

### **Article 17 of the AISBL Statutes - Responsibilities of the Managing Committee**

*The Managing Committee is responsible for the administration of the affairs of the Association and the promotion of its purposes. It holds all the powers of representation not specifically reserved for the General Assembly by law or these current Statutes.*

*In an emergency the Managing Committee can take a provisional decision on matters that would normally lie within the responsibilities of the General Assembly. Such a decision will stand until it is reported in writing to the next meeting of the General Assembly.*

*The Managing Committee is responsible for,*

#### **Membership issues**

- *Considering and determining applications for membership,*
- *Considering and determining applications for Observer status, and setting out the entitlements and responsibilities of Observers,*

#### **METREX activities**

- *Setting out a broad programme of activities and initiatives for the forthcoming two years to further the purposes of the Association, for consideration by the General Assembly,*
- *Thereafter, implementing the approved programme and taking other appropriate action to promote the purposes of the Association,*

#### **METREX financial management**

- *Setting out a budget for the forthcoming two years, for consideration by the General Assembly,*
- *Thereafter, authorising, controlling and monitoring expenditure in accordance with the approved budget, and keeping accounts for presentation to the General Assembly,*
- *Provisionally approving annual accounts,*
- *Establishing a savings fund, in accordance with the law, in order to cover any future expense, exceptional or not.*

#### **METREX management**

- *Defining, contracting and directing the services of the Secretary General and other appropriate support services,*
- *Defining, contracting and directing the services of an external Auditor,*

#### **METREX representation**

- *Representing METREX, and*
- *Generally furthering the purposes, activities and initiatives of METREX.*

## METREX Voting and the Single Transferable Vote.

The Single Transferable Vote, (STV) offers a preferential voting system in which votes are initially allocated to the elector's first choice candidate. If this preferred candidate is elected or eliminated votes are transferred according to the voter's preferences. This minimizes potentially wasted votes and ensures the most represented candidates are elected.

Each candidate must reach a quota to be elected. This is calculated by dividing the total number of votes cast by the number of candidates to be elected plus one. Using a quota ensures it is not possible to elect more than the required number of candidates and removes the possibilities of a tie situation.

Votes are counted according to highest preference, any candidate who achieves the quota is elected. Remaining candidates are elected by transferring votes from candidates with more than the necessary number of votes.

### An illustration of the Single Transferable Vote

48 votes have been cast.

5 candidates are needed for election.

The quota therefore is  $48/5+1 = 8$

#### Stage 1 - Vote Counting

Candidates	Votes	Totals	Results
Black	xxx	3	
Red	xxxx xxxx	8	Elected
Orange	xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx	16	Elected
Yellow	xxxx	4	
Green	xxx	3	
Blue	xxxx xx	6	
Grey	xxxx xxxx	8	Elected
		48	

Three candidates are elected, Red, Orange and Grey having obtained the quota of votes.

## Stage 2 - Vote Transfers

Candidates	Votes	Totals	Results
Black	xxx (xxx)	6	
Red	xxxx xxxx	8	Elected
Orange	xxxx xxxx	8	Elected
Yellow	xxxx	4	
Green	xxx (xxxx x)	8	Elected
Blue	xxxx xx	6	
Grey	xxxx xxxx	8	Elected
		48	

Candidate 'Orange' has 16 votes but only needs 8, a surplus of 8 votes must be transferred.

All sixteen of Orange's ballots papers are transferred, each at a value of 8/16 or 0.5 of a vote to the next available preferred candidate.

10 of the 16 papers preferred 'Green' and 6 preferred 'Black'. Green receives 5 votes, (10 x 0.5); Black receives 3 votes, (6 x 0.5).

This now means 'Green' has reached the quota and is elected.

## Stage 3 - Exclusion

Candidates	Votes	Totals	Results
Black	xxx (xxx)	6	
Red	xxxx xxxx	8	Elected
Orange	xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx	8	Elected
Yellow		-	
Green	xxx (xxxx x)	8	Elected
Blue	xxxx xx (xxxx)	10	Elected
Grey	xxxx xxxx	8	Elected
		48	

There are no more surplus votes. The candidate with the fewest votes, 'Yellow' is excluded, and all his votes are transferred to the next available candidate. All four of Yellow's ballot papers preferred 'Blue'. Blue gains 4 votes giving a total of 10 and is elected.

### Summary

We now have our five elected candidates. The successive stages can be seen in the summary table below.

At each stage of the counting there are always a total of 48 votes available for allocation. Due to the quota, the correct number of candidates were elected and there were no ties.

Candidates	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Results		
Black	3	+3	6	6		
Red	8		8	8	Elected	
Orange	16	-8	8	8	Elected	
Yellow	4		4	-4		
Green	3	+5	8	8	Elected	
Blue	6		6	+4	10	Elected
Grey	8		8	8	Elected	
	<b>48</b>		<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>		

## **Appendix 1**

### **Modifications to the METREX Internal regulations made at the RIGA GA on Saturday 29 May 2010**

#### **Article 11. Powers of the General Assembly (continued)**

##### **President**

The President will normally be elected at a biennial General Assembly (GA) and will serve until the next GA. A President may stand for a second term. Nominations for election as President shall be made in writing to the Secretary General up to three months before a GA and be supported by another Member. If an election is needed it shall be by secret ballot of all voting Members (see Article 10) held at a GA and conducted by the Secretary General or an agreed officer of the Association. A simple majority will determine the outcome. In the event of a tie there shall be a further secret ballot.

##### **Vice Presidents**

Two Vice Presidents will be elected at a biennial GA and will serve until the next GA. Vice Presidents may stand for a second term. Nominations for election as a Vice President shall be made in writing to the Secretary General up to three months before a GA and be supported by another Member. Elections shall be by secret ballot of all voting Members held at a General Assembly and conducted by the Secretary General or an agreed officer of the Association. Voting shall be by single transferable vote.

##### **Managing Committee**

The Managing Committee (MC) of seven members will be elected at a biennial GA and will serve until the next GA. Members of the MC may stand for a second term. Nominations for election to the MC shall be made in writing to the Secretary General up to three months before a GA and be supported by another Member. Elections shall be by secret ballot of all voting Members held at a General Assembly and conducted by the Secretary General or an agreed officer of the Association. Voting shall be by single transferable vote.

##### **Electoral balance**

Members are strongly recommended to give full weight to the following considerations when voting.

- The need for gender balance when voting for the two Vice Presidents
- The need for gender balance within the Managing Committee of seven members
- The desirability of geographic representation on the Managing Committee
- The need for active members of the Managing Committee to help METREX further its range of activities and interests and its value to Members

## Appendix 2

### METREX Members/Observers and the Electoral Roll 2010

Metropolitan area	Member
1 Amsterdam	1 Stad Amsterdam
2 Athens	2 Organisation of Athens
3 Barcelona	3 Prefecture of Catalunya
4 Berlin	4 Joint Spatial Planning Department of Berlin and Brandenburg
5 Bilbao	5 Gobierno del Pais-Vasco
6 Bologna	6 Regione Emilia-Romagna
7 Bruxelles	7 Ville de Bruxelles
8 Bucharest	8 Municipality of Bucarest (UMPCB)
9 Rotterdam/den Haag Metropolitan Area	9 Rotterdam City Council
10 Eurociudad Vasca	10 Municipality of The Hague
11 Firenze	11 Eurociudad Vasca/Bayonne/St Sebastian
12 Frankfurt	12 Regione Toscana
13 Glasgow	13 Planungsverband Frankfurt
14 Hamburg	14 Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee
15 Hannover	15 Hamburg Metropolitan Region
16 Helsinki	16 Metropolregion Hannover Braunschweig Göttingen
	17 Helsinki City Council
	18 YTV Helsinki Metropolitan Area
17 Lisboa	19 Uusimaa Regional Council
18 London	20 Area Metropolitana de Lisboa
19 Madrid	21 Greater London Authority
20 Marseille	22 Comunidad de Madrid
21 Milano	23 AGAM
22 Moscow	24 Regione Lombardia
	25 Institute for the General Plan of Moscow
	26 Cities Globaly United
23 Mitteldeutschland	27 Metropolregion Mitteldeutschland
24 Napoli	28 Provincia di Napoli
25 Napoli	29 Regione Campania
26 Nürnberg	30 Verien die Region Nürnberg
27 Oradea	31 Oradea Metropolitan Area Association
28 Paris	32 IAURIF
29 Porto	33 Area Metropolitana do Porto
30 Prague	34 City of Prague
31 Rhein-Neckar	35 Verband Region Rhein-Neckar
32 Riga	36 City of Riga Council
33 Sevilla	37 Junta de Andalucia
34 Sofia	38 Municipality of Sofia
35 South Coast Metropole	39 Borough of Bournemouth
36 Stockholm	40 Stockholm County Council
	41 Stockholm City Council
37 Stuttgart	42 Verband Region Stuttgart
38 Szczecin	43 Municipality of Szczecin
39 Thessaloniki	44 Organisation of Thessaloniki
40 Torino	45 Regione Piemonte
	46 Provincia di Torino
41 Veneto	47 Regione del Veneto
42 Vilnius	48 Vilnius City Municipal Government
43 Wien	49 Stadt Wien
44 Wroclaw	50 Municipality of Wroclaw
45 Zaragoza	51 Diputación Provincial de Zaragoza
	52 Ayuntamiento de Zaragoza
46 Zurich	55 RZU
47 Krakow	56 Municipality of Krakow
48 Budapest	57 Central Hungarian Development Agency
49 München	58 Regionaler Planungsverband München
50 Granada	59 Centro Internacional de Estudios Urbanos