

Closed Session

Rules and Procedures

Amendment to the Rules and Procedures

Amendment to article 2.1 and 3.2 of the Conference's Rules and Procedures to enable the selection of future year's hosts

Revoke article 2.1(d) (Functions of the Closed Session):

(d) To select the venue of the Conference's Annual Meetings, as well as the Hosting Authority.

Replace article 3.2(c) (Functions of the Executive Committee):

Omit old text

(c) To identify potential hosts of the Annual Meeting.

Replace with new text

(c) To seek proposals from member authorities by a specified deadline to host the Annual Meeting; to evaluate such proposals; and to recommend a hosting authority to the members of the Conference with sufficient time to allow the selected hosting authority to execute orderly preparations.

i. If no member objects within a period designated by the Executive Committee, the recommendation will become the decision of the Conference.

ii. If any member objects, the Executive Committee will as soon as practicable arrange for a membership electronic vote on the recommendation.

Explanation:

The proposal will change the arrangements for settling hosts for future conferences. Currently the rules require the host to be selected during the closed session at the annual conference. This is problematic in that there is no settled process for soliciting and evaluating proposals and the timing leaves hosts with only 12 months to plan and deliver a major event. The new process will enable decisions on hosting to be taken in a more transparent and sophisticated way. By taking

decision between conferences, hosts will gain greater certainty and time to make their plans and secure venue bookings and sponsorship, etc.

The proposal gives effect to the initial strategic plan adopted at last year's conference which sought to put the Conference on a firmer footing by confirming hosts further in advance than has been the case in recent years.

Under the new process, the Executive Committee will set a deadline and call for proposals to host future conferences. The Committee will release guidance to assist authorities to formulate proposals and establish criteria for assessing proposals. The objective assessment criteria will seek to ensure that the conference organisation is in sound hands and that the most useful relevant and productive conference is held for the benefit of all members.