



FIG FIG Working Week 2012
Rome, Italy 6–10 May

Knowing to: Manage the territory
Protect the environment
Evaluate the cultural heritage

Brian Coutts (New Zealand)

Report of the Working Group on Voting Rights



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FIG FIG Working Week 2012
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Documents

- The Agenda of the General Assembly contains the report from the WG on Voting Rights at Item 13.
- It consists of:
 - the report of the Chair summarising the input of the WG members
 - an abbreviated report on the history of the statutes (Henning Elmström)
 - full version available on the FIG website
 - a report on participation in FIG GAs (Maria João Henriques, Portugal)



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Recommendation from the Working Group

- There are strongly held views amongst the members;
- these views are divergent;
- this divergence is likely to reflect the views of the wider membership.
- Any solution to the question will necessarily involve compromise.
- In the discussions so far a willingness to compromise has not been evident.
- Therefore there is no recommendation from the WG.

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The Chair's report summarises options identified by the WG:

- One member - one vote (the current method)
- One country - one vote (the previous method)
- Weighted voting based on member membership numbers
 - there are a number of possibilities within this option e.g. 2, 3 or 5 levels
- World zones
- Population-based voting (implies voting by countries)

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A solution?

- Any conclusion to this debate that involves a change must be for the greater good of FIG,
- it must benefit its administration, management and/or work,
- any proposal for change should clearly demonstrate the benefits that will accrue to the Federation,
- and must be relatively simple to understand and to operate.

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There appear to be two issues:

- 1. whether voting is by members or by countries.
- 2. whether FIG should adopt a weighted or proportional system of allocating the number of votes to those entitled to vote.
- It seems that these can be taken as two separate issues.
- Taking them separately may expedite the process.

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Secondary issues

- It has been suggested (but not debated) that the duty of allocating Working Weeks and Congresses should be transferred from the General Assembly to the Council.
 - this does not require amendment of the statutes.
- It has been suggested that the 2nd session of the GA not be held at the very end of the Working Week when some delegates have to leave before the end of the session to meet international flight connections.
 - this also does not need amendment of the statutes, but a resolution of the GA.

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