

IAF General Meeting 15 May 2020

Item 10. Revising Quorum for the International Authors Forum

As the membership of the IAF has more than doubled since its founding, it has become increasingly challenging to fulfil the requirement of quorum for General Meetings as established under section 24(1) of the Memorandum of Association of International Authors Forum.

The current quorum requirement is relatively high at two thirds of the Members entitled to attend and vote at a General Meeting, while a review of other umbrella organisations shows that the standard for quorum is usually closer to half of eligible members. The IAF membership is diverse, representing organisations all around the world of varying size in membership and resources. Because of this, it is understandably difficult for a significant portion of our membership to actively participate in any particular event we arrange. Taken together, this means that, in order to meet quorum, there is currently a significant burden on the administration of IAF to secure telephone participation and proxy voting. Also members will additionally have gone to significant lengths to participate themselves.

At the 2019 AGM it was approved that the secretariat should look to change the IAF quorum to a fixed minimum. It was also suggested that online voting would be reviewed. As a result of this, the secretariat suggests one change to the IAF articles of association and a process for remote voting where suitable.

Article 24 will be amended to read:

24 (1) No business other than the appointment of the chair of the meeting is to be transacted at a General Meeting if the persons attending it do not constitute a quorum. (2) Quorum for a General Meeting shall consist of at least one third of the Members entitled to attend and vote at a General Meeting either in person or by proxy.