

2017 At-Large Board Member selection

BMSPC Guidelines

Mission

1. The mission of the BMSPC is to oversee the entire selection process including the election culminating the process, but excluding those responsibilities specifically retained by the ALAC or given to the BCEC.

Composition

2. The BMSPC shall be populated with two representatives of each region selected by both the ALAC and the RALOs plus a chair selected by the ALAC. For each region, one Alternate member will be selected who can replace a member from the same region who for whatever reason is not able to fully participate and such replacement will be at the sole discretion of the BMSPC Chair in accordance with BMSPC guidelines.

Working Methods

3. The BMSPC Chair will take best efforts to make decisions by consensus, but has sole discretion to take decisions of the BMSPC in the absence of consensus or when time does not permit consultation.
4. The BMSPC, among its other responsibility, will ensure that there is adequate opportunity for the electorate to interact with the candidates.

A process for such interaction using various kinds of tools (mailing list, wiki, teleconferences, face to face meeting when possible, etc.) is to be defined with the candidates and approved by the BMSPC.

Process

5. The whole selection process should be completed before 3 May 2017 so that a written notice of the selected person be provided to the Secretary of ICANN no later than six months before the conclusion of the 2017 ICANN's annual meeting (28 October – 3 November 2017).
6. Following the publication of the BCEC slate of candidates, RALOs have an opportunity to suggest adding candidates to that list.
 - The timetable should allow for consultations and outreach both within and among RALO's.
 - RALOs can only suggest candidates who had previously submitted an Eol to the BCEC during the current selection process.
 - Candidates will be added only if they receive support through a formal vote of at least three of the five RALOs, each RALO voting according to its respective rules.

7. The electorate for the final election will be the fifteen ALAC Members plus the five RALO chairs.
 - If an elector for any reason knows that they will not be able to cast a vote through any of the approved methods, they may name an At-Large member to act as their proxy by informing the Chair of the BMSPC and At-Large Staff. That person may only cast a vote as explicitly **directed** by the original elector
 - If any ALAC seat is vacant at the time of the election, the RALO for the region represented by that seat will name a replacement for the purposes of the vote. This replacement must be approved by vote of the RALO according to its rules
 - If a member of the electorate is a candidate, the RALO for their region will name a replacement for the purposes of the vote. This replacement must be approved by vote of the RALO according to its rules. If multiple electors from one region must be replaced, the RALO shall identify which replacement serves in place of each replaced elector. Replacement electors retain that responsibility for the duration of the election
 - If a vote of a RALO Chair is to be directed by RALO membership, that decision and the nature of the direction require vote(s) of the RALO according to its rules.
 - ALAC Members, or any individual selected to replace an ALAC Member for the purposes of the vote, are encouraged to consult with the RALO from their region, but voting will however be **undirected** and votes must be confidentially cast in what the voter believes to be in the best interests of At-Large, the ALAC and ICANN

Voting Procedure

8. All votes must be by secret ballot.
9. Votes may be cast electronically, in person, telephonically or some combination thereof. For votes cast in person or telephonically, the services of a trusted third party will ensure the secrecy of the ballot.
10. If there is only one candidate on the Final Candidate List, that candidate will be acclaimed the winner and the selection process will be terminated.
11. If there are more than three candidates on the Final Candidate List, the first vote of the electorate will use a form of **Single Transferable Vote (STV)**¹ method that will allow the three most preferred candidates to be selected. If, in the process of this STV, one candidate receives more than 50% of the first preference votes cast, that candidate will be declared the winner and the selection process will be terminated.
12. The detailed vote results, along with intermediate results if there were multiple eliminations in the STV must be announced once this round is completed

¹ In this voting method, each elector orders the candidates and those less preferred are dropped, one by one until there are just three candidates left. If a candidate is dropped, the next preferred preference on each ballot is promoted. Thus if an elector chooses candidate C as their 1st preference, and candidate C is dropped, the elector's 2nd preference is used. In the case of ties to be dropped, the candidates overall vote preference is used to determine who drops, and failing that, random selection.

13. When there are three candidates remaining, there will be a vote of the electorate. Should one candidate receive more than 50% of votes cast, that candidate will be declared the winner. If not, the candidate with the least votes will be removed.
14. When there are two candidates remaining, there will be a vote of the electorate. Should one candidate receive greater than 50% of votes cast, that candidate will be declared the winner.
15. If there is a tie at any level of the selection process, and
 - If sufficient time remains, the BMSPC will run election among the tied candidates. This can be done just once in any given step of the process. Detailed vote results will be announced at the completion of the vote
 - If there is no time to run the tied election, a random selection by a method determined in advance by the BMSPC will be used to identify the candidate to be removed. Such method will be one that does not rely on trusted agents but can be independently verified.
16. If multiple voting rounds are necessary and if the schedule permits, time should be allowed for discussion and consultation between rounds.