Consensus decision-making is a group decision-making process in which group members develop, and agree to support a decision in the best interest of the whole.

Conditions for using Consensus

1. Common Goal
2. Commitment to reaching consensus
3. Trust and openness
4. Sufficient time
5. Clear process
6. Active participation
7. Good facilitation

Test for agreement
Do you have agreement? Check for the following:

Blocks: I have a fundamental disagreement with the core of the proposal that has not been resolved. We need to look for a new proposal.

Stand asides: I can't support this proposal because ... But I don't want to stop the group, so I'll let the decision happen without me.

Reservations: I have some reservations but am willing to let the proposal pass.

Agreement: I support the proposal and am willing to implement it.

Consensus: *No blocks, not too many stand asides or reservations? Active agreement?*

The Review Team will not require full consensus. We discussed in Brussels 80% agreement of the team would constitute consensus in our recommendations.

As we finalize our recommendations we will record each members level of agreement.

I didn't have time to flesh this out more but thought it would be a start…
(emailed in advance of last week's plenary call)

Susan