

GUIDE TO AGM MOTIONS

Introduction

Motions for debate are an essential part of the business of the IMO AGM and critical to the development of the IMO, its policy and priorities.

Under the IMO Constitution and Rules April 2014, a number of important changes were made to how AGM Motions are to be dealt with by the Organisation with the view to making the process open and transparent to all members. The following is a guide for members on the new procedures.

AGM Motions Committee

In accordance with Rule 4.9 an AGM Motions Committee shall be appointed each year comprising of the President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary and Chair of the Specialty Group whose specialty is not represented by the three Officers.

The AGM Motions Committee 2015 are:

- Dr Ray Walley, President
- Dr John Duddy, Vice President
- Dr Clive Kilgallen, Honorary Secretary
- Dr Ann Hogan, Chair, Public Health and Community Medicine Committee

Role and Duties of Motions Committee

In accordance with Rule 4.9 the AGM Motions Committee shall consider all motions duly submitted by members and determine:

1. Whether the motion should be put to the meeting
2. At what session of the meeting the motion will be debated
3. Whether a motion should be ruled out of order

Additionally the Motions Committee may:

4. Determine if motions on the same topic may become a composite motion and the Motions Committee may develop such a motion reflecting the overall view of the submitted motions on the topic.
5. Limit the number of motions that may be accepted from individual proposers/seconders if time pressure at the AGM sessions is a consideration.

In making any determination concerning a motion, and whether a motion should be put to members or ruled out of order the Motions Committee shall consider the following:

- a) The legality of such motion and also whether it is compliant with either existing legislation or the rules of the Organisation
- b) The session that the motion will be debated at which will be dependent upon whether the motion is deemed to be:

General Policy or a motion affecting more than one specialty group - Such motions accepted for debate will be debated at the General Motions Sessions of the AGM.

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Specialty motions are motions on issues relevant to a specific specialty group, Consultants, GPs, NCHDs, Public Health and Community Health Doctors - Such motions accepted for debate will be debated at the relevant National Specialty Meeting.

Ethical issues – Such motions accepted for debate will be debated at an Ethical Motions Session at the AGM. Such motions, if passed following debate, will not become official policy until first having been considered by the Ethics Committee of the IMO.

Organisational/IMO Governance Issues – Such motions accepted for debate will be debated at an Organisational/Governance session at the AGM. Such motions, if passed following debate, will not become official policy until first having been considered by the Governance Committee of the IMO who will make recommendations to IMO Council in terms of any required Rule Changes, Bye Law proposals or changes to Code of Practice.

- c) If the AGM Motions Committee determine that a motion is Ruled Out of Order the Motions Committee shall communicate with the proposers and provide them with the reason for the decision.
- d) The decisions of the AGM Motions Committee are deemed to be final.

Who May Propose Motions

Motions may be proposed by:

- Any two members of the Organisation (one of whom will be the seconder)
- The IMO Council or IMO Committees as constituted under the Rules
- Branches or regional groups of members

Debating Motions at the AGM

Once accepted for debate all motions will be published on the IMO Website in advance of the AGM giving details of motion, proposers/seconders, session and time at which motion is to be debated.

Where motions are proposed and seconded by individual members such individuals should ensure they are present at the time designated for the debate of such motions. The absence of the proposer may result in such motions not being taken and the motion will fall.

Where motions are proposed by the IMO Council or IMO Committees or regional groups or branches a representative from that grouping must be presented at the time designated for the debate of such motions. The absence of a representative may result in such motions not being taken and the motion will fall.

Motions listed for debate but not debated at the AGM, due to time pressure, will be referred to the IMO Council.

AGM Motions Committee