

## Elections Framework for Coordinating Committee Membership

### **Principles**

1. The Coordinating Committee (CC) is an elected body.
2. There is no fixed limit to the number of positions in the CC. Quorum is half the members of the CC plus one.
3. One purpose of an election is to provide CC members with a clear mandate to exercise their responsibilities.
4. It is envisioned that the recall/suspension process would be a rarely used mechanism. The recall/suspension process is the mechanism of last resort and applied only to serious problems such as a member thought to be endangering the safety or security of the Assembly or acting against the decided goals and work of the Assembly.

### **Equity**

5. In the interest of CC equity the Workers' Assembly recognizes a duty to include and support members facing structural barriers preventing participation in the CC because of immigration status, race, class, age, gender, dis/ability and sexuality.
6. The Workers' Assembly commits to making resources available to CC participants for child-care, transportation and other accommodations for those facing financial barriers. The Workers' Assembly also commits to make accommodations, such as structuring meeting times and locations to account for various schedules, commitments and accessibility concerns for people facing non-financial barriers.
7. In the interest of promoting equity and a general desire to participate in the CC, a process of mentorship will be put in place. Interested Assembly members can take part in CC activity, although they will have no voting rights. The MFO will place a callout to the Assembly and co-ordinate the pairing of mentees to CC members. Any Assembly member can recommend mentees to the MFO or self-volunteer.
8. The Assembly must continually assess whether the elections framework has been successful in promoting equity and make efforts to improve the framework if it has not.

### **Elections Process**

9. Anyone running to be elected to the CC can self-nominate.
10. Elections are the responsibility of a MFO sub-committee. Current CC members or candidates are barred from participating in this sub-committee. On the day of the election this sub-committee will request volunteers from the floor to aid in tallying the votes. Those volunteers must not be CC members or candidates.
11. Those running for the CC can introduce themselves and articulate their suitability for CC membership to the Assembly by writing a bio. Candidates are encouraged to keep their bio relevant and concise. These bios should be submitted to the Elections sub-committee before the Assembly where elections will take place. The Elections sub-committee will select the precise deadline and will submit the bios to the members list. The privacy of CC candidates must be respected so it is asked that those on the members list take care not to forward those bios to anyone outside the assembly.  
Candidates also have the right to use pseudonyms for their bios.
12. Even if candidates do not submit a bio beforehand, all Assembly members are free to self-nominate on the day of the election.

13. There will be time for discussion and Q & A with the candidates during the Assembly.
14. The election vote will be held by a secret ballot.
15. Votes will be tallied by the Elections sub-committee and volunteers from the Assembly. Candidates are barred from tallying the votes.
16. All candidates will have to garner the support (i.e. 'yes' vote) of 50% + 1 of eligible and present Assembly members to be on the CC. A valid ballot can have as few or as many candidates chosen as the elector decides.

### **Terms**

17. Terms will last for one year. Therefore, major CC elections will only be held at one out of the four yearly Assembly meetings.
18. There will be no term limits, that is, CC members can continue to seek re-election.

### **By-Elections**

19. By-elections can take place during any of the other quarterly Assemblies. Although major elections will be held once a year, some Assembly members may have been unable to participate in the most recent major election due to various circumstances (e.g. they may have been out of the country, they may have been ill, they may be a new member, etc.). These members should not have to wait until the next major election to join the CC.
20. In either case, the same process will be followed as regular elections.
21. If an Assembly member joins the CC in between major elections, their term expires at the same time as it will for the other members of the CC.

### **Suspension & Recall**

22. In the spirit of comradely cooperation, should an Assembly member (including a CC member) take issue with the actions of a CC member as they relate to Point 4, the CC must open a dialogue with him or her.
23. In exceptional cases where the above fails, the CC will vote (50%+1) to retain/suspend the member from the CC.
24. If the CC votes to suspend, the decision must be raised at the next Assembly for approval.
25. Even if the CC votes to retain that member, any Assembly member can present a motion from the floor to recall him/her.
26. Prior to the Assembly's vote, anyone involved can explain their perspective to, and answer questions from, the Assembly.
27. If the Assembly votes (50%+1) to recall the CC member, s/he is instantly recalled. If the Assembly overturns the suspension, the member is instantly reinstated to fulfill their term.
28. Anyone recalled from the CC may still run as a candidate in the next major election.