

**INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL PROTOCOL  
AND REGIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE COMPOSITION  
Approved by the ICMA Executive Board February 2012  
Reapproved September 2015**

**Constitutional amendments:**

Article VII of the ICMA Constitution outlines the process for nomination and election of the ICMA Executive Board. In addition to setting the nominations and elections schedule, the Constitution as amended in February 2011, gives the board the responsibility for “defining the nominations process for the International region.” The board is also responsible for establishing guidelines for nominations to ensure a uniform structure and process. The general principles of the board’s guidelines, focused on the U.S. process, apply to the International process as well.

Geographical rotation - to ensure rotation of country representation as well as qualified candidates for each seat

- The board built on the regional protocols in the U.S. that define geographical rotation. The current US geographical rotations handle geography in the NE and SE as a north/south rotation and in the MW as a big states/small states rotation. The geographical rotations in the MP and WC have one seat for the dominant state. For the Mountain Plains, this is Texas and for the West Coast, it is California.
- The international region will combine the approaches in the U.S. as follows:
  - Initially, designate one seat for Canada since, currently, almost 61% of those eligible to serve on the board are from Canada – a higher percentage than either Texas or California for their regions.
  - For the other two seats, there will be a rotation between the northern hemisphere (excluding Canada) and southern hemisphere. Based on the current distribution of members, this will provide a strong number of candidates for each turn (Europe for the northern hemisphere and Australia/New Zealand for the southern hemisphere). It will also provide flexibility to consider other candidates. As in the U.S. for states, no country would succeed itself unless there are no other qualified candidates.

Regional nominating process – who serves on the regional nominating committee

- The International Vice Presidents (VPs) will play a key role in facilitating the process just as the VPs in the U.S. Their knowledge of what is involved in being on the board will be particularly needed. The Senior VP will determine a process for personal follow up each year to eligible affiliates to identify candidates.
- The Senior VP will work with staff to finalize the regional nominating committee membership each year and to determine the best process for conducting interviews. All members will be international with the exception of the chair or vice-chair of the International Committee, one of whom has been an American:
  - Senior International VP (The VP may also serve as the ICMA President’s designee). The other VPs would observe the process to provide continuity as is the practice in the U.S.
  - 2 or 3 former ICMA international board members
  - Chair and vice- chair of International Committee
  - 1 or 2 representatives from affiliated countries that have eligible members and, preferably, who are not represented by the VPs.
  - The chair will be selected from a country with no current candidates

Review of geographical rotation and of the nominating committee composition

In 2012, the board committed to soliciting ongoing input from the new regional nominating committees and from the International Committee on how the process was working. A formal review by the board was scheduled for 2015 when the process had been used for the first two selections. This would allow for an assessment of nominating committee composition as well as for potential changes in the numbers and distribution of international members that could affect rotations. In 2015, the International Committee reviewed the process and recommended re-approval by the board. Numbers and distribution of international members had not changed since 2012.