

Voting procedure in hybrid session for Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)

1. Announcement of candidatures

Member States may nominate and candidate they would like for the positions of chair or of vice chair of WP.6 based on the person's expertise, professionalism and expected support from the membership. These announcement of candidatures must be received by the secretariat (mika.vepsalainen@un.org) **at least two week prior to the meeting, by 9 November 2021**. No candidatures will be accepted after that date.

Candidatures should provide a short bio which will be published on the event page.

2. Identifying the voting members

If on 10 November, there are only one candidate per available position, and there are no objections received from member States it will be considered that the candidates will be nominated by acclamation.

In the event that there is more than one candidate for one or both available positions, the UNECE secretariat will identify a single head of delegation from member States who will cast a ballot on the day of the event (each member State only receiving a single vote). For this reason, heads of delegation are requested to register for the event no later than 48 hours prior to the start of the event (by 7 November at the latest).

For reminder, the WP.6 Session meeting is open to all participants, but only member States can cast votes when this is required.

3. Voting on the day of the 31st Session

3a. Roll call of voting

At agenda item 2 ("Election of officers"), scheduled for 15:00 on Wednesday 24 November, a roll call of member State heads of delegation will be performed. These voting representatives will be asked to put their delegation and email address in the chat function of the webinar (for example: "UK present – Elizabeth Windsor").

3b. Collection and verification

- The secretariat will collect and check the delegations and email addresses.
- If a voting member had not been verified prior to the event, best efforts will be made to ensure that they are authorized by their Mission in Geneva to vote on behalf of the delegation.
 - If the proposed head of delegation is employed at the Mission and there are no other employees requesting to be head of delegation, they will automatically be confirmed.
 - If the proposed head of delegation is from any other entity, the secretariat will check with the Mission if the proposed individual has the appropriate authorization. Missions will have one hour to confirm; if confirmation is not received, the member will not be able to cast a vote.

3c. Ballot and voting

- The confirmed voting members will receive at the indicated email address, a blank voting bulletin as a WORD document attachment (there will be one bulletin for the chair and a separate one for vice-chair).
- The head of delegation is to indicate in the WORD document bulletin (without ambiguity) their preferred candidate (only one vote per chair / vice-chair ballot).
- The head of delegation should send the completed ballot back to the secretariat by 16:00 (email will be provided on the ballot).
 - The secretariat will maintain a check list of voting heads of delegation who respond. If a head of delegation sends a ballot more than once, only the first ballot sent will be taken into consideration.

- The secretariat will receive the ballot but not open it; it will be saved to an internal file of WP.6 and counted by a different staff member. The email will be deleted promptly, and no association will be made between the head of delegation and their individual ballot.

3d. Announcement of results

Agenda item 2 (“Election of officers”) will be reopened during the session at 17:00. The results of the ballot will be announced at that time.

In the event that there is not a majority for a single candidate, heads of delegation will be requested to recast a vote. The secretariat will resend a ballot of the qualified candidates (those who were tied with the same number of majority votes) to the heads of delegation. The head of delegation will have 15 minutes to respond. The counting of ballots will be repeated as above, and the results announced by the end of the session at 17:30.

If there is still not a majority for a single candidate, and there are only two candidates tied with the same number of votes, both will be confirmed to be on the Bureau. If it was two chairs that were confirmed, the WP.6 Bureau (chair and vice chairs) will be asked to designate the chair between the two candidates and the other will be a vice chair.

Flowchart of the election procedure:

