



# Review of Rules of Procedure

NWWRAC General Assembly  
26 September 2012

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# Background

- Decision of GA/AGM September 2011:  
Mandate to Secretariat to amend rules of procedure.
  - Rules not revised since the creation of the NWWRAC (September 2005) – current practices.
  - Reference document for researchers and consultants.
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# What has been done so far?

- Proposal submitted in February 2012 asking members for feedback and contributions.
  - Comments received from 2 members: incorporation into suggested revised text.
  - Draft proposal presented today for comments only. Final, approved version to be presented for adoption at the first Executive Committee 2013.
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# Overview: Basic ideas

- Align terms of office for all NWWRAC positions to three years.
  - Update rules of procedure in line with current practices.
  - Several “cosmetic” changes (terminology, article numbering, etc.) to improve consistency and coherence of the text.
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# Main changes proposed:

## *Operating Principles*

- Inclusion of NWWRAC Vice-Chairs to assist the Chair in liaising with Member States, EU bodies and wider audience.
  - Adoption of decisions by the Executive Committee either present at a meeting or by fast track electronic procedure (e-mail).
  - Consultations for emergency measures (requisite 3 languages).
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# Main changes proposed

## *Articles*

- Art. 6: Increase deadline from 14 days to 2 months for uploading meeting reports.
  - Art. 12: Remove “location rotation” of meetings.
  - Art. 14: Role of the RAC WG Chairs at the ExCom.
  - Art. 15: Work of Steering/Focus Groups.
  - Arts. 17 and 46: Application for RAC membership.
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# Main changes proposed

## *Articles (cont.)*

- Art. 21: Expand definition of observers.
  - Arts. 24-25: Consistency regarding number of Executive Committee members.
  - Art. 32: Formalise work with the European Parliament.
  - Art. 35: Broaden category of experts at meetings to include economists and academics.
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## Way forward: timetable

- The proposed amendments will be circulated in the 3 working languages of the RAC (EN-FR-ES).
  - Addressees: GA members, Member States and European Commission.
  - A consultation period of 6-8 weeks will be open for submitting comments.
  - The revised text will be put forward at the next Executive Committee meeting for adoption (January 2013).
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# **PROCEDURE PRESENTED FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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Any questions/comments/objections?

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More info: [www.nwwrac.org](http://www.nwwrac.org)



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