ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR TRIENNIAL WORLD CONFERENCE

Showing final proposed amendments

to be voted and approved at the

31st Triennial World Conference,

Ottawa 27 April – 2 May 2026

Amendments last approved by Members prior to 24 May 2023

Rules of Procedure for the ACWW Triennial World Conference

Amendments last ratified by Members prior to 24 May 2023

Amendments to these Rules of Procedure require the approval of 50% plus 1 vote of the Conference.

Rule 1: ACCREDITED DELEGATES

The credentials of Category 1, 2 and 3 Societies' delegates shall be submitted to the Central Office staff in attendance at the time of registration at the Conference, such credentials to be in the form of a signed statement from their Society.

This rule shall not prevent a Society from changing its delegates as named in the pre-Conference registration documentation, subject to proper submission of credentials by the leader of the delegation at the time of the Conference and examination of the credentials where needed.

Rule 2: LANGUAGE

English shall be the official language of the World Conference. Other languages may be used in addition as decided by the Conference with special reference to the Area in which the Conference is to be held.

Rule 3: MAJORITY REQUIRED

Matters of Constitution must have a 75% majority of the voting strength to be carried, and Finance a 67% majority. Unless otherwise stated in the Constitution, a simple majority (50% + 1 vote) is required for all voting. The voting strength shall be established at the start of each session.

Rule 4: METHOD OF VOTING

Except in the case of elections, the Conference shall normally vote by a show of voting cards, but any voting delegate may request a secret ballot. If this request is seconded and accepted by Conference, a secret ballot shall be conducted.

Rule 5: ELECTIONS

All elections of individuals shall be decided by secret ballot. If no candidate obtains, 50% + 1 vote in the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken, confined to the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes. If, in the second ballot, the votes are equally divided, the World President shall draw lots between the individuals.

Rule 6: POSTAL VOTING FOR AREA PRESIDENTS

If ~~Areas decide to have~~ ~~Areas decide to have a~~there is to be a postal or electronic vote to elect the Area President, the World President and Executive Director will decide the method of dealing with the postal or electronic vote.

Postal or electronic votes shall be on ballots issued upon authorisation of the President. Deadline for the return of the ballot shall be specified thereon and shall be not less than forty (40) days after the issue of the ballot.

If a postal or electronic vote is used for the election of an Area President, such votes must be taken in time for results to be announced at the Triennial World Conference.

All ballots returned for a postal or electronic vote from Category 1, 2 and 3 Societies in the Area concerned~~,~~ form the basis on which the 50% + 1 vote~~,~~ majority required is calculated, i.e. majority is calculated from the votes cast and received, not on the number of ballot papers issued.

If no candidate receives the required 50% + 1 vote, those Category 1, 2 and 3 societies present and entitled to vote at the Triennial World Conference~~,~~ then vote in the second round. (If a society is not represented either by delegation or proxy at the Triennial World Conference, it is not issued with ballot papers, therefore the 50% + 1 vote, is calculated on those present and entitled to vote, not on the total number of societies in a particular area.)

Rule 7: DISTRIBUTION OF CONFERENCE RECORDS

As soon as possible, the text of Resolutions, Recommendations and other formal decisions adopted by the Conference shall be distributed by the Central Office to all members of the Conference and any others participating in the sessions, as well as to the Head Offices of all Category 1, 2 and 3 Societies, whether represented at the Conference or not.

Rule 8: SUSPENSION OF RULES

Any of the foregoing Rules of Procedure may be suspended by a two-thirds majority at any plenary session of Conference provided that notice of the intention of a Society to propose such suspension has been indicated to delegations by the Executive Director not less than twenty-four (24) hours before the meeting at which such suspension is proposed.