

Overview of Parliamentary Procedures

According to the RULE OF PROCEDURE for ALL DELIBERATIVE BODIES
Of THE WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INC. (Doc. 32.70)

| To do this | You say this | May you interrupt the discussion? | Must you be seconded? | Is the motion debatable? | Is the motion amendable? | What vote is required? |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|---|
| Substantive motion = shall be subject to and voted after the subsidiary motions | | | | | | |
| Introduce a main substantive motion (Must be for a particular agenda item or matter of urgency) | "I move to ...[<i>precisely name the motion in accordance with the written proposal</i>]" | No | No | Yes | Yes | majority/ matters of medical ethics¹ or matters of urgency² : 3/4 of the General Assembly (!) delegates present and voting |
| Subsidiary motions - In the order of precedence (a,b,c,d,e,f)! | | | | | | |
| a) postpone temporarily | "I move to postpone this motion temporarily." | No | Yes | No | No | majority |
| b) terminate debate and vote immediately on the pending motion (only) | "I move to terminate debate and vote immediately" | No | Yes | No | No | 2/3 majority |
| c) postpone to a definite time | "I move to postpone this motion until..." | No | Yes | Yes, but only on the issue of postponement | Yes, but only on the issue of timing | majority |
| d) refer to another body | "I move to refer this motion to..." | No | Yes | Yes, only on the question of referral | Yes, as to any provision of the proposed referral | majority |
| e) amend (first degree) | "I move to amend this motion" (by adding, eliminating, substituting) | No | Yes | Yes, limited to the proposed amendment | Yes (second degree amendment) must be disposed of first | majority |
| f) postpone indefinitely (final disposition and equivalent to a negative vote) | "I move to postpone this motion indefinitely." | No | Yes | Yes | No | majority |

¹ ARTICLES AND BYLAWS of THE WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.,(Doc. 32.2/Oct2018), CHAPTER IV - GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Section 6. Voting in the General Assembly item C

² ARTICLES AND BYLAWS of THE WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.,(Doc. 32.2/Oct2018), CHAPTER IV - GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Section 6. Voting in the General Assembly item D

| Incidental motions | | | | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| To do this | You say this | May you interrupt the discussion? | Must you be seconded ? | Is the motion debatable ? | Is the motion amendable ? | What vote is required? |
| to vote by secret ballot ³ | "I move to vote by secret ballot on this motion" | (No) | (No) | (No) | (No) | majority |
| reconsider a matter already voted upon (same session) | "I move to reconsider item [<i>name precisely</i>]" | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | majority |
| divide the question and vote on each part separately *see privileges of the chair | "I move to divide the question and vote on each part separately. " | No | No | No | No | Immediate decision by the chair – no vote |
| request information | "Point of information!" | Yes | No | No | No | To be answered by chair. No vote |
| suspect mistake, error or omission | "Point of order!" | Yes | No | No | No | To be ruled by chair. |
| ruling by the Chair is in error | "I appeal the ruling by the chair."(must be done immediately after the ruling by the chair) | Yes | Yes | Yes | (No) | majority |
| withdraw the motion *see privileges of the chair | "I request permission to withdraw my motion. [<i>please name</i>]" | Yes | Yes, if withdrawal is not granted by chair | (No) | (No) | majority |
| recess the meeting | "I move to recess the meeting until [<i>give exact time or duration</i>]" | Yes | Yes | No | Yes, but only concerning the timing | majority |
| adjourn the meeting | "I move to adjourn the meeting" | Yes | Yes | No | No | majority |

Privileges of the chair:

- When a main substantive motion has two or more independent parts, the Chair may rule that each part be voted on separately.⁴
- If there is no objection to withdrawing the motion, the Chair may grant the request⁵
- If a vote is equally divided on matters other than elections, and the Chair has not voted, he/she shall have the right to cast the deciding vote to break the tie.⁶

Majority rule:

The majority is calculated from votes cast by those present and voting. Members who abstain from voting are considered not voting.⁷

Special rules including timelines apply for the amendment of Articles and Bylaws, the Rule of Procedures and the Operating Policies of the Association.

³ ARTICLES AND BYLAWS of THE WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.,(Doc. 32.2/Oct2018), CHAPTER V - COUNCIL, Section 6. Voting in the General Assembly item E.

^{4,5} RULE OF PROCEDURE for ALL DELIBERATIVE BODIES of THE WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INC. (Doc. 32.70) Rules 10 and 14

^{6,7} ARTICLES AND BYLAWS of THE WORLD MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.,(Doc. 32.2/Oct2018), CHAPTER V - COUNCIL, Section 7. Voting in the Council.