



GENERAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATE ORIENTATION SESSION

**A ROADMAP THROUGH THE POLICIES,
PROCEDURES AND PURPOSE OF THE
WMA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**



WMA

ROLE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- **Most powerful body of WMA to adopt official, permanent WMA policy on matters of**
 - **medical ethics**
 - **socio-medical affairs and**
 - **health-related human rights**
- **Delegates represent the views and positions of his or her national medical association**

AGENDA OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY



- **Most important: GA Agenda and Council Report**
- **Review the full Council Report to participate effectively in the decision-making process.**
- **There may be new documents, but for most of these Members had opportunities to provide input (but be aware of up-coming emergency issues.)**
- **Seek out Council Members before to discuss concerns.**
- **Not sure whom to approach? – Please ask WMA Secretariat.**

VOTING IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: RULES AND PROCESS



- **The rules and processes may be different from those you use in your home organization.**
- **Confused or concerned about the process?
Ask the Chair to slow down or stop to explain what is happening!**
- **The Chair will allow open discussion on all topics on the agenda, but it is important to finish the entire agenda - discussion time is usually limited.**
- **Be very precise during discussions!**
 - **Avoid long speeches and**
 - **try not to repeat points that have already been made.**

VOTING IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY: ELECTRONIC VOTING - NEMOVOTE



- In order to save time during the sessions and when it requires secret votes, the Chair (or members) may ask for using the online voting system (NemoVote).
- NemoVote must be opened in a browser window with the link and the voter credentials you have received from the secretariat. (Non-voting delegate will not be able to log in.)
- Technical details are available [here](#).

MEDICAL ETHICS AND SOCIO-MEDICAL AFFAIRS POLICY PROCESS



- **The policy process concludes with the General Assembly. But there is the opportunity to provide input throughout the year.**
- **Respond to requests for comments on policy documents! This increases your chance to be successful in your efforts to influence WMA policy positions.**

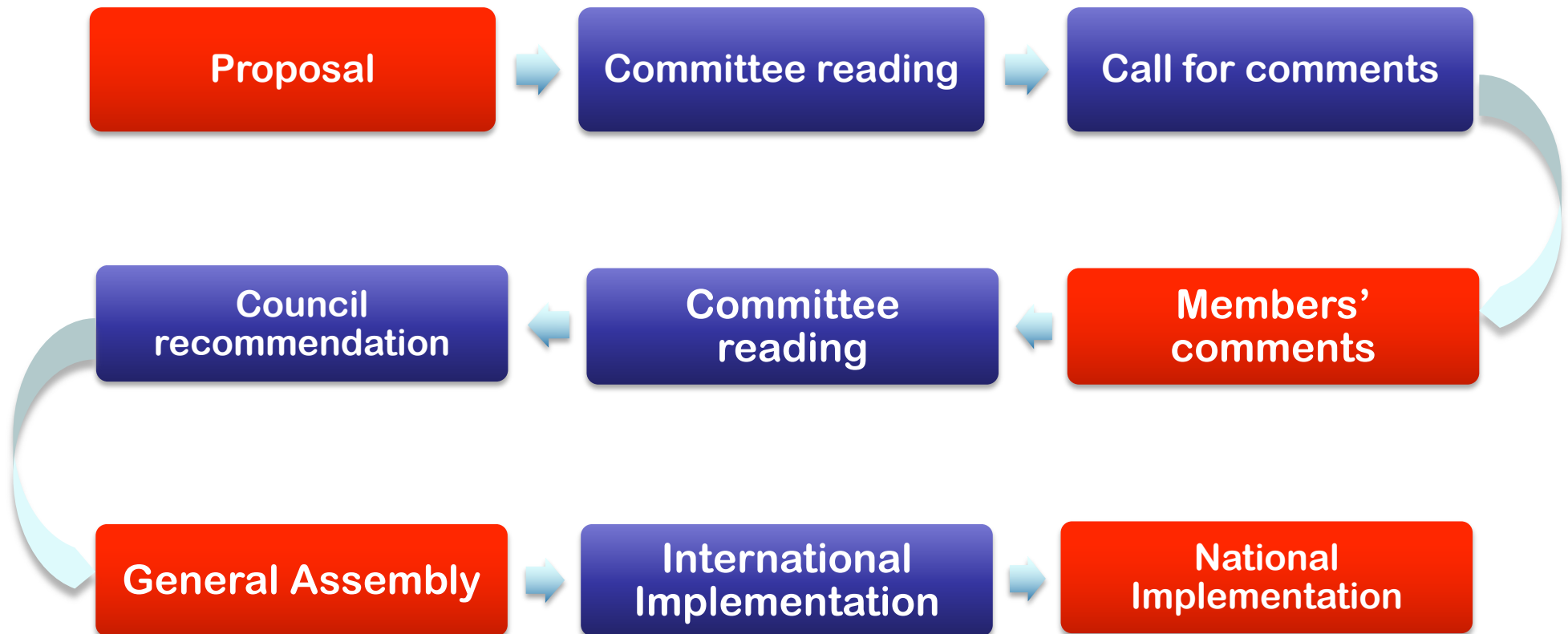


VOTING

Voting in all WMA meetings is based on standard parliamentary procedure

- **Any delegate can make a motion to an issue set forth by the agenda.**
- **That motion must be seconded by another delegate.**
- **Once a motion has been seconded, the Chair will invite discussion.**
- **After discussion is finished the Chair will ask the delegates to vote by raising cards provided by the Secretariat that indicate the number of votes the NMA is entitled to.**
 - **The chair will begin by asking for a count of those “FOR” the motion, then those “AGAINST” the motion and then those who “ABSTAIN” from voting**
- **The votes will be counted and the Chair will announce whether the motion is passed or defeated**

MEDICAL ETHICS AND SOCIO-MEDICAL AFFAIRS POLICY PROCESS



Red fields indicate: broad membership participation is desired



Conclusions

- The WMA General Assembly decides on all policy – be an active part of it
- Your vote counts – but: be prepared, be precise, be considerate
- Take influence! Participate throughout the year by
 - making proposals
 - responding to the calls for comments and
 - attending the council sessions or by
 - corresponding with council members.
- Don't be shy – if things are unclear, please ask – most likely you will find that you are not alone.



Thank you!
Questions or comments?

*Caring,
Ethics,
Science*



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