COMG

Political Platform Amendment

Proposer: CDN (decided on: 17.11.2026)

Title: **CDN Council of Members Guidelines**

Motion text

This document outlines the functioning of the Council of Members (CoM) of CDN.

Basic Information

In accordance with chapter 5 of the Internal Rules and Procedures of CDN, the Council of Members is the second highest decision making body of CDN. It ensures continuity of political action and decision-making between sessions of the General Assembly (GA).

The work of the Council of Members follows CDN's policies, according to the organisation's Political Platform and supporting resolutions. Additional rules to be followed by all participants are outlined in CDN's organisational and governance documents.

Composition and Election

The CoM is composed of one representative of each Member Organisation (MO Reps), all members of the Executive Committee (EC), two co-chairpersons of CoM selected by the GA, and the Secretary General of CDN (who doesn't have voting rights).

The CoM is presided over by one Member Organisation which sets the political agenda for the work of the CoM and defines the priorities during its mandate.

The Co-Chairpersons of CoM are responsible for the procedural management of the Council's work, including convening and moderating meetings and ensuring proper documentation and follow-up of decisions. The role of the co-chairs is more

administrative and logistical than political.

The presiding Member organisation and the Co-Chairpersons are elected at the General Assembly of CDN for a one-year term.

In general, the following should be applied:

- MO rotation is encouraged for the presiding role (taking into account regional balance)
- MO reps should be gender-balanced,
- Co-Chairpersons should be gender-balanced.

In case of resignation by one or both Co-Chairs and/or the presiding MO, the CoM will organise a bi-election to fill in the vacant spot(s). This is chaired by the EC or the Secretary General and its only point of order is the election of the co-chair(s). To facilitate the transitional period, the political agenda and priorities set for the mandate should be kept until the GA, with the EC taking over the temporary presiding role.

Responsibilities of presiding MO and MO Reps

According to the Internal Rules and Procedures of CDN, the responsibilitiesof the CoM include:

- Adopting resolutions, declarations, positions, and other advocacy or strategic documents,
- Providing political guidance to the EC between GAs,
- Convening the GA upon a justified proposal of the EC,
- Submitting an annual report on its work to the GA.

The presiding Member Organisation is responsible for setting the political and thematic direction of the CoM during its term, in the format of an annual agenda. The topics must be aligned with CDN’s workplan(s) and Political Platform.

The CoM works in accordance with the Political Platform of CDN and under the specific guidance of the agenda of the presiding MO, elected at the General Assembly.

Its workload is distributed into five working groups,based on the pillars of the Political Platform: Social rights, Democracy, Economy, Climate and Environment, Foreign Policy and Security.

Each working group is headed and coordinated by a delegate coming from the Member organisation. In each working group up to one EC member participates in a consultatory role, primarily as a resource to the rest of the group, as per their policy responsibility. If needed, the Co-Chairpersons can also be members of working groups in the same capacity as EC members.

Delegates work on drafting a resolution in their policy pillars based on the policy agenda nominated by the presiding MO. The resolutions are proposed to the rest of the Council for amendments and adoption prior to the GA.

Meeting Guidelines

The Council of Members meets at least quarterly with the potential to meet more often if determined necessary by the EC, one third of all delegates of the CoM or the co-presidents of the CoM.

The CoM is considered to have decision making power if there are at least half of all voting members present at a set meeting.

Each CoM meeting is announced at least 14 days in advance of the suggested meeting time.

1. Rules of meeting

    1. The CoM is moderated by the Co-chairs of the council in accordance with the IRPs and the Guidelines. The minutes of the CoM are taken by either the co-chairs, the Staff of CDN, or the EC. The minutes of each meeting are published to all delegates of the CoM within 7 days of the session taking place.

    2. The co-chairs are allowed to order speakers based on gender and regional balance. Each delegate has a right to speak, keeping in mind the time required and the space they are taking up.

    3. In case a delegate or EC member is taking up too much space the co-chairs have a right to warn them to try to speed up their exposition. In case of repeated situations the co-chairs have a right to forsake the right to speak for an individual.

2. Meeting agendas

    1. The meeting agenda is prepared by the co-chairs, a representative from the chairing organisation and the EC and is published 7 days in advance of the session taking place.

    2. Any MO can table additional agenda points by sending it no later than 2 days before the scheduled meeting taking place, when submitted it is sent to all delegates of the CoM.

    3. The proposed agenda is adopted by simple majority, any editions to the agenda during the meeting must be adopted by a ⅔s majority.

3. Rules of decision-making

    1. Unless stated otherwise, all decisions of the CoM are taken by simple majority.

    2. All votes are made publicly. A secret ballot can be made upon request of one-third of all voting delegates.

    3. Elections are done via secret ballot using a platform the CDN office provides.

    4. Decisions regarding the formation of the CoM are made by super-majority.

Reason

This document aims to regulate the work of the Council of Members in order to provide higher clarity to the internal decision making process.