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The election of TSG officials is goverened by the TSG Working Procedures (annexed to present contribution), in particular, articles 22, 25, 26, 28 and 35. Article 2 has recently been slightly changed as a result of the PCG decision in October 2004 to increase the maximum number of TSG vice-chairman from two to three.

The candidatures as they stood at 2005-03-08 are available on the 3GPP web, as are the brief curricula vitarum and supporting letters. These are also available in separate contributions to the present meeting.

The elections for CT and RAN will take place in parallel, with the position of chairmen being decided before starting the elections for vice-chairmen. Note that each of the three vice-chairman positions requires a separate vote (and each vote might potentially require up to three ballots!).

Depending on the number of candidates who ultimately present themselves and the willingness of candidates receiving relatively few votes to withdraw voluntarily, each vote may run to as many as three ballots. However, it is thought that few votes will go that far. Timing has been allowed for in the meeting schedules to allow a reasonable number of ballots, should they be necessary; this is why voting begins on day 1 of the meetings.

Ballots are scheduled to take place in coffee and lunch breaks, and after close of the days' business, so that they do not disrupt the normal TSG business. Voting will take place in the Secretariat room on floor 4.

Each ballot will last for 30 minutes. Before each ballot, the individual who will cast the vote on behalf of an eligible Individual Member organization of 3GPP will need to collect a ballot paper from the Support Team, and to sign for it. Within the limit laid down by the 3GPP Working Procedures, a person casting proxy votes on behalf of an Individual Member not represented at the current meeting will collect and sign for a ballot paper for each proxy vote he will cast.

The ballot papers for each round of each vote will clearly show which position is being voted on and which ballot is concerned. It will list the candidates by name. Voters should clearly mark their choice of ONE individual candidate (or the ABSTAIN option); then fold the ballot paper in half so that his choice is not visible to a casual observer, and insert it into the urn.

For CT and RAN elections running in parallel, there will be two sets of ballot papers, two signing sheets, and two urns. (Voters are requested to put the completed ballot forms into the correct urn!)

Each ballot for each position will use different coloured paper, and this will help avoid confusion. (Yes, really, it will!)

Although the voting process is conducted by the Support Team, it is the responsibility of the current TSG Chairmen to ensure that the votes are conducted in a fair manner. For this reason, each TSG is requested to select a volunteer from amongst the delegate throng to oversee the process of each ballot. These individuals may voluteer to act just for one ballot, or for all the ballots necessary to elect a single official, or for all votes for the given TSG. **Chairmen are asked to make this call early on in their meeting**.

At the end of the voting period, the urns will be removed to a counting table, and the Support Team, plus the delegate volunteers, will count the votes. The necessary percentages will be worked out, and the results delivered directly to the TSG Chairmen. The Chairmen are asked to announce the results at the earliest convenient moment. For the sake of good order, CT and RAN election results will all be announced in CN, T and RAN meeting rooms.

To recapitulate the Working Procedures:

- Each position requires a separate vote.

- If, on the first ballot, a candidate receives at least 71% of the votes cast, he is immediately elected to the position.

- However, if no candidate receives 71% on the first ballot, a second ballot is held; all the original candidates may continue to present themselves.

- If, on the second ballot, a candidate receives at least 71% of the votes cast, he is elected to the position.

- However, if no candidates receives 71% on the second ballot, a third ballot is held, with all but the two highest-scoring candidates eliminated.

- On the third round, the candidate having a simple majority of the votes cast is elected to the position.

- If, at the second ballot, only two candidates are presented, the candidate having a simple majority is elected to the position.

Of course, candidates may forshorten the procedure by voluntarily withdrawing from the contest at any time.

Where only one candidate is presented for a given position, that candidate may be elected by acclamation, i.e. without the need for a vote.

Given the number of declared candidates, the anticipated schedule is as follows, though Chairmen can be expected to adapt this timetable to fit the circumstances of the moment.

Week 1

Wednesday	08h00 – 08h15	RAN chairman
	10h30 – 11h00	CT chairman, ballot 1
	13h00 – 13h30	CT chairman, ballot 2 [if necessary]
	16h00 – 16h30	CT and RAN vice-chairman 1, ballot 1
	18h00 – 18h30	CT and RAN vice-chairman 1, ballot 2
Thursday	08h30 – 09h00	CT and RAN vice-chairman 1, ballot 3
	10h30 – 11h00	CT and RAN vice-chairman 2, ballot 1
	13h00 – 13h30	CT and RAN vice-chairman 2, ballot 2
	16h00 – 16h30	CT and RAN vice-chairman 3, ballot 1

If there is a need for further ballots, the above pattern may be continued, if necessary until Friday.

Week 2

Wednesday	10h30 – 11h00	SA vice-chairman 1, ballot 1
	13h00 – 13h30	SA vice-chairman 1, ballot 2
	16h00 – 16h30	SA vice-chairman 2, ballot 1
	18h00 – 18h30	SA vice-chairman 2, ballot 2
Thursday	08h30 – 09h00	SA vice-chairman 3, ballot 1

Similarly, this pattern may be repeated if need be.