Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) Steering Group - selection procedure

Purpose

This paper provides Members with a proposed procedure for the election of a Member from the British Islands and Mediterranean Regions on the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) Steering Group.

Background

Members will be aware that:

- It was agreed at the AGM, which was held during the BIMR Conference in June 2012, that nominations for the CWP position were to be sent to the BIMR Regional Secretary, Andrew Tuggey, by 19 July 2012, in order that the position would be filled immediately following the departure of the current post holder at the CPA Annual Conference in Sri Lanka;

- At the AGM, in June 2012, the BIMR Regional Secretary confirmed that he would have a selection procedure in place for the meeting in Sri Lanka; and

- It became apparent to delegates present at the regional meeting in Sri Lanka that no selection procedure, or proposals for a selection procedure, was in place.

This paper therefore proposes a selection procedure to Members of the BEC which, if agreed, can then be forwarded to the BIMR Regional Secretary.

Proposed Procedure

The following procedure is proposed:

- Only those candidates who were nominated by 19 July should be considered for election;
Agenda Item 8
03 October 2012

- All eligible candidates can withdraw their candidature before the start of polling;

- Candidates must be expected to serve on the CWP until October 2015;

- All candidates to provide the BIMR Regional Secretary with a personal statement, in support of their candidacy, by 30 November 2012. Personal statements should not be longer than 1,000 words;

- The BIMR Regional Secretary to have distributed all personal statements and the rules for the election by 3 December 2012;

- Each Branch to have 4 votes, with the exception of the Falkland Islands, Alderney and St Helena who will receive 1 vote per branch in keeping with the number of delegates these Branches send to Regional Conferences. The successful candidate will be the candidate with the largest number of votes;

- For Branches with 4 votes, not all of these votes are required to be allocated to one candidate. For example, a Branch could allocate 1 vote to 4 different candidates;

- In the event of a tied vote then the decision will be made by the Regional Representatives. Each Regional Representative will have one vote and the winning candidate will be the candidate with the largest number of votes;

- A Branch can vote for a candidate from within their own Branch who is eligible for election;

- Each Branch to provide details of how they have allocated their votes by 5pm on Thursday 13 December 2012;

- BIMR Regional Secretary to inform the successful Branch by 2.00pm on Friday 14 December;

- Regional Secretary to inform unsuccessful candidates by 3.00pm Friday 14 December;

- The results of the election to be e-mailed to all Branch secretaries by 5.00pm on Friday 14 December;

- If any candidate withdraws votes may be transferred to another candidate provided deadlines as outlined above are met; and

- Any objection regarding the eligibility of the candidates should be notified within one week of circulation of candidates information.
Decision

Members are invited to consider this paper and agree the selection procedure outlined above.

Margaret Neal
Secretary, CPA Scotland Branch
The Scottish Parliament
Email: margaret.neal@scottish.parliament.uk