

**SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE  
INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUP (SDP IWG)**

**GOVERNING PRINCIPLES**

**Approved at the Inaugural Plenary Session,  
United Nations Office at Geneva, 5 May 2010**

**MANDATE**

1. The Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group (SDP IWG) promotes and supports the adoption of policies and programmes by national governments to harness the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of development objectives, specifically the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and peace.

**OBJECTIVES**

2. To fulfill this mandate, the SDP IWG:
  - a. Provides a forum for governments to benefit from each other's experiences and share best practices;
  - b. Supports the implementation of policy recommendations; and
  - c. Sustains momentum with regard to government awareness and take-up in SDP

**STRATEGIC APPROACH**

3. With the aim of developing and adopting an international framework and sustaining momentum around the development potential of sport, the strategic approach of the SDP IWG is based on three key components:
  - a. *Building Awareness and Encouraging Dialogue on Sport for Development and Peace* with the goal of undertaking outreach and engagement activity to expand the number of governments that are actively engaged in Sport for Development and Peace dialogue and to strengthen existing Sport for Development and Peace initiatives of governments; to support the integration of SDP IWG recommendations into national and international development strategies and programmes.
  - b. *Reporting on Activities of National Governments* with the goal of encouraging regular, voluntary reporting on the progress of national governments in developing and implementing sport for development-related policies to inform policy development and to create a sense of peer momentum.
  - c. *Building Capacity of National Governments* with the goal of supporting governments in policy development and implementation.

**ORGANISATION**

4. The role of the SDP IWG Executive Board is to work closely with the Secretariat to e.g. prepare and determine the Agenda of Plenary Sessions; determine role of the Special Adviser, Secretariat, and Thematic Working Groups; decide on working languages, records and documents; conduct of business, voting, special procedures; supervise financial and administrative arrangements; amendment and suspension; guide the activities of the Thematic Working Groups and Secretariat based upon recommendations of the Plenary.

5. SDP IWG Thematic Working Groups will remain in existence until the issue has been adequately addressed, at which point the Plenary may decide to dissolve. New Thematic Working Groups can be created if adequate funding and support from the Executive Board and Plenary exists. The objective is to reach out to governments, the UN system, the private sector, sports federations and international organisations to implement policy recommendations, adopt national policies to include sport as a tool for development and peace, and encourage the establishment of sport for development and peace projects and programmes. Available resources should be used to identify problems and potential solutions within the thematic concept.
6. The role of the Secretariat is to plan, oversee and manage all SDP IWG activities; organise sessions of the Plenary and Executive Board; facilitate the organisation of Thematic Working Group workshops; draft the work plan of the SDP IWG for presentation to the Executive Board and approval by the Plenary; propose the annual budget and manage the SDP IWG Trust Fund; oversee and coordinate SDP IWG public information and outreach activities; publicise and disseminate all SDP IWG reports to the wider community; monitor progress of SDP IWG activities and ensure coordination among Thematic Working Groups; produce annual benchmarking reports to observe the implementation efforts of national governments; produce annual reports to inform stakeholders on the work of the SDP IWG; and to liaise with Member States, the UN system, international organisations and other partners on SDP IWG matters.
7. The SDP IWG Secretariat, the Thematic Working Groups and the SDP IWG Executive Board shall reflect balanced geographical representation with due consideration for scientific and technical requirements.
8. The SDP IWG Executive Board will meet twice a year. The Thematic Working Groups will meet as often as necessary. The Members of the SDP IWG will meet annually in Plenary Session.

## **PARTICIPATION**

9. Participation in the work of the SDP IWG is open to all Member States.
10. Experts from academia, international, intergovernmental or non-governmental organisations may be invited in their own right to contribute to the work of the SDP IWG Thematic Working Groups as Observers. Governments should be informed in advance of invitations extended to experts from their countries and they may nominate additional experts.

## **PROCEDURES**

11. In taking decisions, the Members of the SDP IWG, the Thematic Working Groups and the Executive Board shall use all best endeavors to reach consensus. If consensus is judged impossible, voting will take place according to the Rules of Procedure (appendix A).
12. Conclusions drawn by the Thematic Working Groups are not official SDP IWG views until they have been accepted by the Members of the SDP IWG in a Plenary Session.
13. These Principles shall be reviewed at least every five years and amended as appropriate.
14. Rules and Procedures for the Election of the SDP IWG Executive Board and SDP IWG Thematic Working Groups are given in Appendix A.

## **APPENDIX**

### **RULES OF PROCEDURE**

#### **I. SCOPE**

##### **Rule 1**

These rules of procedure shall apply to any elections of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group (SDP IWG) Plenary, Executive Board and Thematic Working Groups by the Members of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group.

#### **II. DEFINITIONS**

##### **Rule 2**

For the purpose of these rules:

1. "SDP IWG" refers to the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group.
2. "Delegate" means a member of a delegation of a Member State of the United Nations, who is specialised in sport for development and peace and is appointed by the government of that Member State.
3. "Executive Board Member" or "Member of the Executive Board" refers to any person who holds one of the posts on the Executive Board.
4. "Members of the SDP IWG" are Member States of the United Nations.
5. "Observers" refers to representatives of academia, civil society, private sector, sports organisations and non-governmental organisations.
6. "Principal delegate" means Head of the delegation of a Member of the SDP IWG.
7. "Votes" and "Votes for and against" means affirmative and negative votes only and shall not include abstentions or blank or invalid voting slips.
8. "SDP IWG Plenary Session" or "Plenary Session" refers to the annual meeting of SDP IWG Members and Observers.
9. Presiding Officer refers to the person chairing the Plenary Session.
10. "Secretariat" refers to the permanent SDP IWG Secretariat.
11. "Thematic Working Groups" refers to those thematic divisions outlined in the 2008 Report "Harnessing the Power of Sport for Development and Peace: Recommendations to Governments" including: Sport and Health, Sport and Child and Youth Development, Sport and Gender, Sport and Persons with Disabilities and the Sport and Peace.

#### **III. REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS**

##### **Rule 3**

Each Member of the SDP IWG participating in a SDP IWG Plenary Session shall be represented by a delegation consisting of a principal delegate and such other delegates as it may require.

#### **Rule 4**

The appointment of delegates shall be submitted to the Secretariat by an appropriate government authority of the Member State.

### **IV. COMPOSITION**

#### **Rule 5**

The SDP IWG Plenary Session will consist of Members of the SDP IWG and Observers.

#### **Rule 6**

The SDP IWG Executive Board will be composed of the Chair (Head of the Secretariat or his/her representative); Honorary Chair (Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace); Co-Chair (one delegate from the host country of the Executive Board meeting); Regional Representatives (one Member State representative from each geographical region: Africa, Asia, Americas, Oceania, Europe); Working Group Representatives (Chair and Co-Chair of each Thematic Working Group); Donors.

#### **Rule 7**

Each of the Thematic Working Groups is composed of a Chair, Co-Chair, Members and Observers

#### **Rule 8**

The Secretariat is composed of the Head of the UN Office on Sport for Development and Peace, Head of the Secretariat, Programme Officer Knowledge Management, Administrative/Research Assistant and such other staff as required.

### **V. TERMS OF APPOINTMENT**

#### **Rule 9**

The term of the SDP IWG Executive Board Chair corresponds directly with his/her appointment as Head of the Secretariat. The term of the Honorary Chair corresponds directly with his/her appointment as Special Adviser. Members of the SDP IWG nominate the Regional Representatives; elections take place in the SDP IWG Plenary Session, with the election of three geographical regions occurring simultaneously; the term of the Regional Representatives in the Executive Board is two years.

#### **Rule 10**

The term of Thematic Working Group Representatives on the Executive Board corresponds directly with their length of term as Chair or Co-Chair of the Thematic Working Group.

#### **Rule 11**

The term of Donors on the Executive Board corresponds directly to the provision of financial support.

#### **Rule 12**

For both the Chair and the Co-Chair of the Thematic Working Groups, a Member State will be elected by the Members of the SDP IWG for a one year period. If the Chair is a developing country, the Co-Chair is to be a developed country and vice versa. The Body of the Thematic Working Groups is made up of representatives who are designated by Member States who specialise in the field of activity of the Thematic Working Group.

### **Rule 13**

Observers to the Thematic Working Groups are individuals with expertise in the particular theme e.g. academics, representatives of sports federations, international organisations, non-governmental organisations, UN agencies. Invitations to Observers are extended by the Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, upon the advice of the Members of the SDP IWG.

### **Rule 14**

If any elected SDP IWG representative resigns or is otherwise unable to complete the assigned term of office or to perform the functions of that position, a delegate of the same Member State of the SDP IWG, with relevant expertise, is to be nominated by that Member State of the SDP IWG.

## **VI. ELECTIONS – GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

### **Rule 15**

Elections for all positions shall be held at the annual SDP IWG Plenary Session. If the Presiding Officer is a candidate for a position for which elections are to be conducted, he/she shall refuse himself/herself from chairing that portion of the meeting during which the election is considered and conducted, in which case the Members of the SDP IWG will select a temporary Chair, who will be the Presiding Officer for the election.

### **Rule 16**

Chairs and Co-Chairs of the Thematic Working Groups, Regional Representatives of the SDP IWG Executive Board will be elected by the Members of the SDP IWG in the following order:

- 1) Chairs of the Thematic Working Groups
- 2) Co-Chair of the Thematic Working Groups
- 3) Regional Representatives of the SDP IWG Executive Board

### **Rule 17**

All elections referred to in Rule 16 shall be held at the same Plenary Session unless the Members of the SDP IWG decide otherwise.

### **Rule 18**

All elections by the Members of the SDP IWG shall be held by secret ballot, unless otherwise decided by the Members of the SDP IWG at the Plenary Session. Candidates may be declared elected without a ballot if the Members of the SDP IWG decide so.

### **Rule 19**

Each delegation of a Member of the SDP IWG shall have one vote. The Principal Delegate of a Member of the SDP IWG shall have the right to vote or to designate any other member of the same delegation to vote on his/her behalf.

### **Rule 20**

The Presiding Officer will be elected by the Members of the SDP IWG at the beginning of the Plenary Session. Until the Presiding Officer is elected, a member of the Secretariat will act as Presiding Officer.

## **VII. NOMINATIONS**

### **Rule 21**

Nominations for the position of Chair and Co-Chair of the Thematic Working Groups, Regional Representatives of the SDP IWG Executive Board are to be made by Members of the SDP IWG either:

- (a) in writing to the Secretariat between the date of the invitation from the Secretariat up until one month before a scheduled election, the names of the nominees that it is nominating;
- (b) or by making oral representations to the Members of the SDP IWG at the SDP IWG Plenary Session at which an election is to be held.

### **Rule 22**

Prior to each election for a position, or group of positions, a list of the candidates to be voted upon shall be compiled by the Presiding Officer of the meeting. The list will comprise nominations received by the Secretariat from the Members of the SDP IWG. The list shall include only the names of those persons who have stated that they are willing to be included among the candidates for election.

### **Rule 23**

Other nominees may be added to the list following any oral representations made by any Member of the SDP IWG at the Plenary Session while the list of nominations remains open. The list of nominations shall remain open until the Presiding Officer formally announces that the election procedure has started.

### **Rule 24**

Where there is consensus support from a Region for the nominee proposed by that Region for the position of Regional Representative of the SDP IWG Executive Board, that nominee may be elected without ballots. If a regional consensus cannot be obtained, elections for these positions shall be held.

## **VIII. ELECTIONS – VOTING PROCEDURES**

### **Rule 25**

Only Members of the SDP IWG can vote.

### **Rule 26**

In all voting by secret ballot, two tellers selected from among the Delegates present shall be appointed by the Presiding Officer to count the votes. Before voting begins, the Presiding Officer of the meeting shall hand to the two tellers the list of Members of the SDP IWG at the Plenary Session.

### **Rule 27**

The Secretariat shall distribute a voting slip to each delegation. Each voting slip shall be of the same size and color without distinguishing marks.

### **Rule 28**

The tellers shall satisfy themselves and the delegations that the ballot box is empty and lock it.

### **Rule 29**

Members of the SDP IWG shall be called in turn to vote in alphabetical order. At the conclusion of the calling of the Members of the SDP IWG, the Presiding Officer of the meeting shall ensure that all the Members of the SDP IWG have been called.

### **Rule 30**

After the ballot box has been opened, the tellers shall immediately count the voting slips in the presence of the meeting. The voting slips shall be destroyed after the announcement of the results by the Presiding Officer and its acceptance by the meeting.

### **Rule 31**

A voting slip shall be invalid if it contains more names than the number of positions to be filled, or if it includes the name of any other person not appearing in the list of candidates as established by the Members of the SDP IWG in accordance with the provisions of Rule 22 and 23.

### **Rule 32**

After the completion of the elections, the number of votes for each candidate and the number of abstentions shall be recorded in the report of the Plenary Session.

### **Rule 33**

Candidates shall be elected by a simple majority of the votes cast. The simple majority shall be the next integer immediately above the half of the voting slips received, excluding abstentions and blank or invalid voting slips.

### **Rule 34**

The candidate who obtains a simple majority as described in Rule 33 shall be declared elected. If, in the first ballot, no candidate obtains a simple majority, a second ballot, which shall be restricted to the two candidates who obtained the highest numbers of votes in the first ballot, shall be held. However, if any other candidate has obtained the same number of votes in the first ballot as the second candidate, he/she shall also be included in the second ballot.

### **Rule 36**

If, in a ballot, a decision is not reached between two or more candidates because they have obtained the same number of votes, another ballot shall be held and, if no decision is reached in this new ballot, the decision between those candidates shall be made by drawing lots.

## **IX. AMENDMENTS AND SUSPENSION**

### **Rule 37**

These Rules of Procedure or Annexes may be amended only by the Members of the SDP IWG.

### **Rule 38**

Any amendments proposed to these Rules of Procedure submitted by Members of the SDP IWG or by the Secretariat should be communicated to all Members of the SDP IWG at least eight weeks before they are submitted to the Plenary Session.

**ANNEX A**  
**MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS GROUPED**  
**ACCORDING TO GEOGRAPHICAL REGION**

**AFRICA**

Algeria	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Angola	Madagascar
Benin	Malawi
Botswana	Mali
Burkina Faso	Mauritania
Burundi	Mauritius
Cameroon	Morocco
Cape Verde	Mozambique
Central African Republic	Namibia
Chad	Niger
Comoros	Nigeria
Congo	Rwanda
Côte d'Ivoire	Sao Tome and Principe
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Senegal
Djibouti	Seychelles
Egypt	Sierra Leone
Equatorial Guinea	Somalia
Eritrea	South Africa
Ethiopia	Sudan
Gabon	Swaziland
Gambia	Togo
Ghana	Tunisia
Guinea	Uganda
Guinea-Bissau	United Republic of Tanzania
Kenya	Zambia
Lesotho	Zimbabwe
Liberia	



## AMERICAS

Antigua and Barbuda	Guatemala
Argentina	Guyana
Bahamas	Haiti
Barbados	Honduras
Belize	Jamaica
Bermuda	Mexico
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Nicaragua
Brazil	Panama
Canada	Paraguay
Chile	Peru
Colombia	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Costa Rica	Saint Lucia
Cuba	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Dominica	Suriname
Dominican Republic	Trinidad and Tobago
Ecuador	United States of America
El Salvador	Uruguay
Grenada	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

## ASIA

Afghanistan	Malaysia
Armenia	Maldives
Azerbaijan	Mongolia
Bahrain	Myanmar
Bangladesh	Nepal
Bhutan	Oman
Brunei Darussalam	Pakistan
Cambodia	Philippines
China	Qatar
Cyprus	Republic of Korea
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Saudi Arabia
Georgia	Singapore
India	Sri Lanka
Indonesia	Syrian Arab Republic
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Tajikistan
Iraq	Thailand
Israel	Timor-Leste
Japan	Turkey
Jordan	Turkmenistan
Kazakhstan	United Arab Emirates
Kuwait	Uzbekistan
Kyrgyzstan	Viet Nam
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Yemen
Lebanon	

## EUROPE

Albania	Lithuania
Andorra	Luxembourg
Austria	Malta
Belarus	Monaco
Belgium	Montenegro
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Netherlands
Bulgaria	Norway
Croatia	Poland
Czech Republic	Portugal
Denmark	Republic of Moldova
Estonia	Romania
Finland	Russian Federation
France	San Marino
Germany	Serbia
Gibraltar	Slovakia
Greece	Slovenia
Hungary	Spain
Iceland	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland
Italy	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Latvia	Ukraine
Liechtenstein	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

## OCEANIA

Australia	Palau
Fiji	Papua New Guinea
Kiribati	Samoa Solomon Islands
Marshall Islands	Tonga
Micronesia (Federated States of)	Tuvalu
Nauru	Vanuatu
New Zealand	

## DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED REGIONS<sup>1</sup>

### *Developing regions*

Africa  
Americas excluding Northern America  
Caribbean  
Central America  
South America  
Asia excluding Japan  
Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand

### *Developed regions*

Northern America  
Europe  
Japan  
Australia and New Zealand

<sup>1</sup> "There is no established convention for the designation of "developed" and "developing" countries or areas in the United Nations system. In common practice, Japan in Asia, Canada and the United States in northern America, Australia and New Zealand in Oceania, and Europe are considered "developed" regions or areas. In international trade statistics, the Southern African Customs Union is also treated as a developed region and Israel as a developed country; countries emerging from the former Yugoslavia are treated as developing countries; and countries of eastern Europe and of the Commonwealth of Independent States (code 172) in Europe are not included under either developed or developing regions." (source: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm#africa>)