# 赴羅馬尼亞參加世界選舉機關協會(A-WEB) 第3屆會員大會出國報告

- 服務機關:中央選舉委員會
- 職稱姓名:劉主任委員義問、余副秘書長明賢 高處長美莉、陳科長宗蔚
- 赴派國家:羅馬尼亞
- 出國期間:106年8月29日至9月5日

報告日期:106年10月

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#### 壹、會議緣起

世界選舉機關協會(Association of World Election Bodies, A-WEB)係2013年10 月14日於韓國仁川成立的國際性選舉機關協會,以世界各國的選舉機關為會員。 A-WEB 成立之目的在發展永續性的民主,實現自由、公平及民主的選舉制度及支 持民主轉型國家的政治發展,並致力於建構世界各國選舉機關間的交流網絡,以分 享彼此之選舉資訊、知識與經驗,及藉由舉辦教育訓練活動,強化選舉管理相關人 員的能力。

A-WEB 自成立伊始,即以常設於韓國仁川的秘書處為中心,推動選務人員教 育訓練課程、舉辦研討會、組織觀選團前往各國觀選,並以所募得的資金用於協助 發展中國家改善選舉過程,例如引進選舉科技設備等,以強化選舉的公正與透明, 積極落實協會成立目標。

A-WEB 主要組織包括會員大會、執行委員會及秘書處等。會員大會為 A-WEB 最高決策機關,由全體會員組成,並以共識決方式進行決議。依據 A-WEB 會章規 定,會員大會每2年舉行1次,由副主席所屬選舉機關負責舉辦下屆會員大會。2015 年8月 A-WEB 第2屆會員大會,羅馬尼亞選舉委員會(Permanent Electoral Authority, PEA)主任委員當選為副主席,2017年舉行的第3屆會員大會,爰由羅馬尼亞選舉 委員會舉辦。

羅馬尼亞選舉委員會主任委員 Daniel Barbu 先生及 A-WEB 秘書長金容熙先生 於 2017 年 6 月 6 日聯名致函本會,邀請本會派員出席 2017 年 8 月 30 日至 9 月 2 日於羅馬尼亞首府布加勒斯特舉行的第 3 屆會員大會以及「計票和選票統計:利用 科技使選舉過程更加透明化」(Counting the Ballots and Accounting for the Votes: The Use of Technology for Enhancing the Transparency of the Electoral Processes)研討會。本 會為 A-WEB 會員,為履行會員義務,積極參與會務運作,並期於參與過程中,與 各國選務機關進行互動,建立友好關係及拓展我國國際空間,爰由劉主任委員義周 親自率團與會,並於前開研討會中以「臺灣透明的投開票作業」(Transparent Polling and Vote Counting Process in Taiwan)為主題進行報告,向國際介紹我國民主成果。

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2017 年 A-WEB 會員大會 ,計有多明尼加共和國、印度、韓 國、巴西、厄瓜多、阿富汗、不丹 、薩爾瓦多、墨西哥、薩摩亞、東 帝汶、菲律賓、孟加拉、哥倫比亞 及我國等 56 個會員選舉管理機關, 總計 180 名代表參加。本會由劉主 任委員親自率團出席,余副秘書長



本會出席 A-WEB 會員大會人員合影

明賢、選務處高處長美莉、陳科長宗蔚陪同。另外交部支持本會參與國際組織及交 流,指派該部國際組織司游專員琇閔以本會顧問名義陪同與會。

#### 參、會議行程

2017年 A-WEB 第 3 屆會員大會及「計票和選票統計:利用科技使選舉過程更加透明化」研討會舉行期間為 2017年 8 月 31 日至 9 月 2 日,本會人員於 2017年 8 月 29 日出發,於 9 月 5 日結束行程返抵國門,行程共計 8 日,概述如下:

一、2017年8月29日(星期二)至8月30日(星期三)

本日啟程前往羅馬尼亞,經德國法蘭克福轉機,於羅馬尼亞時間 8 月 30 日 下午抵達布加勒斯特。羅馬尼亞選舉委員會安排專人於機場接機。當日下午召開 執行委員會,本會非執行委員會成員,無須參加會議,爰前往布加勒斯特舊城區 參觀。

#### 二、2017年8月31日(星期四)

本日上午 10 時於羅馬尼亞國會 大廈舉行 A-WEB 會員大會,會員大 會重要議程,包括:2015 年至 2017 年工作成果報告、2018 年計畫概況、 年度會員費繳交情形、新會員入會申 請案、副主席選舉、秘書長任命、2015



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年至 2016 年財務報告、2017 年工作計畫與預算、A-WEB 會章修正、選舉執行委員,以及 A-WEB 轉型為政府間國際組織決議案等,會議現場討論熱絡,至下午5時始結束會議。

三、2017年9月1日(星期五)

本日及9月2日舉行「計票和選票統計:利用科技使選舉過程更加透明化」 研討會。研討會議程包括2場全體會議及4場分組會議,9月1日上午為全體會 議一主題為「科技在選舉過程的重要性:必要或非必要?」(Technology at the forefront of electoral processes: optional or mandatory?),由 A-WEB 資深顧問 Paul DeGregorio 先生主持,演講者包括 International IDEA 經理 Peter Wolf 先生、A-WEB 資通訊技術小組副主任 Gwang II Park 先生等人。

本日下午則舉行「為提升選民信任,如何將科技運用於選舉一提升選舉管理的透明度」(How to implement technology in elections in order to raise voter trust - greater transparency in election management)及「改進選舉過程的資訊技術工具」(IT tools to improve election processes)2 場分組會議,分別由拉脫維亞中央選舉委員會主任委員 Arnis Cimdars 先生及俄羅斯選舉法公共研究所(Russian Public Insitute)執行長 Alexander Ignatov 先生等人進行演講。當日下午羅馬尼亞選舉委員會安排與會人員參觀會議場所羅馬尼亞國會大廈(Palace of the Parliament),結束本日會議。

四、2017年9月2日(星期六)

本日進行研討會第2日議程,上午為第2場全體會議,主題為「傳統與創新 交融的選舉管理制度」(Election management systems between tradition and innovation) ,由羅馬尼亞選舉委員會秘書長 Tiberiu Csaba Kovacs 先生主持,本會劉主任委員 於本場次以「臺灣透明的投開票作業」為題進行演講,獲得與會各國代表共鳴, 同場次演講者則包括 International IDEA 資深計畫經理 Therese Pearce Laanela 女士 等人。

本日下午舉行「傳統與新媒體在選舉中的角色」(The role of traditional and new media in elections)及「計票的系統和方法:國家個案研究」(Systems and methods of counting the ballots: national case studies)2 場分組會議,分別由印尼選舉委員會主任 委員 Arief Budiman 先生、葡萄牙國家選舉委員會委員 João Almeida 先生等人進行

演講。

五、2017年9月3日(星期日)

本日下午自布加勒斯特搭機前往奧地利維也納等候轉機,9月4日上午搭機 返國,於9月5日抵達臺北,結束本次出國行程。

#### 肆、2017年A-WEB第3屆會員大會會議情形及重要決議事項

2017年A-WEB 會員大會於 8 月 31 日上午 10 時舉行。會議首先由現任主席多 明尼加共和國中央選舉委員會(Junta Central Electoral, JCE)主任委員 Julio César Castaños Guzmán 博士致詞。致詞結束後,Guzmán 主任委員依照慣例將代表 A-WEB 的會旗移 交給羅馬尼亞選舉委員會主任委員 Daniel Barbu 博士,完成主席交接儀式後,由 Barbu 主任委員以主席身分致詞



Guzmán 主任委員將 A-WEB 會旗交接給 Barbu 主任委員

Barbu 主任委員為羅馬尼亞政治學者,曾任羅馬尼亞文化部部長、參議員,於 致詞時表示,身為民主工作者,必須謹記選舉組織存在的目的在於促進民主政治發 展。約莫1世紀前,美國總統威爾遜(Woodrow Wilson)於美國國會發表歷史上著名 的演講<sup>1</sup>,倡言美國乃至各國的民主植基於安全的世界之上(The world must be made safe for democracy)。1百年來,世界各國經歷民主的發現與再發現,惟就當前的環 境而言,我們需要一個國際組織來推動民主,以確保世界的安全與和平,他很榮幸 能夠擔任 A-WEB 主席,將在主席任期期間,與 A-WEB 秘書長合作推動全球民主 的深化。Barbu 主任委員致詞完畢後,會員大會正式開始。

一、報告事項

(一)執行委員會會議召開情形:

第4次執行委員會議:2016年2月22日於印度新德里召開,會中選出喀麥隆選
 舉委員會、厄瓜多選舉委員會及科索沃選舉委員會為下屆監察與審計委員

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 1917 年 4 月 2 日,美國威爾遜總統對美國國會發表戰爭咨文(Wilson's War Message to Congress),請求 國會同意參戰。

會(Oversight and Audit Committee)委員,將提會員大會討論。

- 第5次執行委員會議: 2017年2月28日於薩爾瓦多召開,會中通過於第3屆會員大會中推薦印度選舉委員會擔任下任副主席。
- (二) 2015年至2017年成果報告,各年度重要成果如下:
  - 2015年:尚比亞等9個選舉管理機關加入成為會員;舉辦第2屆會員大會; 協助吉爾吉斯強化選舉資通訊科技應用,在該國國會選舉投票、開票及結 果傳輸過程引進及採用電子化設備;辦理12場能力建構課程,共有30個國 家,約300名選務官員參與課程;參與5個國家選舉觀選;與韓國國際協力 機構(KOICA)、肯亞獨立選舉與選區委員會等7個國際組織及選舉管理機關 簽署瞭解備忘錄(MOU);任命諮詢委員會委員等。
  - 2. 2016年:延續2015年計畫,持續協助吉爾吉斯強化選舉資通訊科技應用;協助厄瓜多於選舉中採用選舉結果傳輸系統;辦理11場能力建構課程,共有62個國家,約180名選務官員參與課程;協助辦理12場國際觀選活動;與歐洲選舉支持中心、烏茲別克中央選舉委員會等8個國際組織及選舉管理機關簽署MOU等。
  - 3. 2017年:協助薩爾瓦多等國於選舉管理中應用資通訊技術,並規劃協助剛果、斐濟及烏茲別克採用選舉資通訊科技;辦理3場能力建構課程,共有22個國家,55名選務官員參與課程;辦理6場國際觀選活動;與厄瓜多選舉委員會等6個選舉管理機關簽署瞭解備忘錄。

(三) 2018年計畫概要:

- 促進廉能選舉計畫:持續提供選舉資通訊科技設備之技術支援,重點項目 為選舉人登記與驗證、投票與開票管理、選舉管理等。
- 辦理選舉資通訊科技能力建構課程:為提升選務人員選舉資通訊科技能力,辦理資深、中階及基層選務人員相關教育訓練。
- 3. 薩爾瓦多觀選計畫:前往薩爾瓦多觀察2018年該國國會及地方選舉。
- 4. 促進會員間知識與資訊的交流。
- 5. 推動與國際組織的交流合作。
- (四) 會員費繳交情形:
  - 2017年共有包含我國、馬爾地夫、克羅埃西亞、波士尼亞與赫塞哥維納、
     白俄羅斯、菲律賓、印度、韓國、哥斯大黎加及蒙古等10個國家選舉管理

機關,分別繳交1萬美元的會員費。

2. 討論情形:針對會員費的繳交,墨西哥國家選舉委員會代表發言表示,有 些會員國無法律依據支付會員費,有些選舉管理機關舉辦訓練課程提供其 他國家派員參訓,爰建議應有其他為協會做出貢獻的方案,而不僅是繳交 費用。另有會員認為會員費之繳交應一視同仁,未繳交會員費的會員應說 明未能繳交的原因。經A-WEB秘書處回應略以,秘書處瞭解會員費繳交對 於部分會員確有困難,本次會章修正案已納入會員得向執行委員會提出免 繳交會員費申請之規定,並重申會員費將只用作支應會員參與A-WEB相關 活動所需旅費。另A-WEB將以信函提醒會員繳交會員費,A-WEB秘書處並 將提供收據予繳交會員費之會員。

#### 二、待批准事項:

(一)新會員入會及退會申請:

- 第3屆會員大會共有4個選舉管理機關及1個區域性協會提出入會申請,經執 行委員會初審通過,另有1個選舉管理機關申請退會,其情形如下:
  - (1)申請成為會員(full member):巴布亞紐幾內亞選舉委員會、哥倫比亞國家 選舉委員會、秘魯全國識別及公民身分登記處、索馬利亞國家選舉獨立 委員會。
  - (2) 申請成為準會員(associate member):阿拉伯選舉管理組織。
  - (3) 退會申請:斯洛維尼亞選舉委員會。
- 2. 決議:新會員入會及斯洛維尼亞選舉委員會退會申請案,照案通過。哥倫 比亞國家選舉委員會代表發言表示早於第2屆會員大會時即已考慮加入 A-WEB,該會未來將積極參與A-WEB活動,並邀請會員參與2017年10月26 日至27日於該國舉行的研討會。索馬利亞國家選舉獨立委員會代表則表 示,該國將於2020年舉行40年來首度的民主選舉,該會在安全、財政、基 礎設施等層面面臨許多挑戰,希冀A-WEB會員國提供技術及物質支援,並 希望加入A-WEB後與各會員國相互學習選舉實務經驗。另阿拉伯選舉管理 組織代表發言表示,阿拉伯選舉管理組織已經以準會員的身分加入 A-WEB,而A-WEB也以合作夥伴的方式加入阿拉伯選舉管理組織,期待未 來雙方合作愉快。
- (二)下任副主席選舉:

- 候選會員:依照A-WEB會章規定,副主席應為舉辦下屆會員大會的選舉管 理機關主任委員。2016年10月至2017年1月間,收到印度選舉委員會與幾內 亞國家選舉委員會申請擔任副主席,惟後者復撤回申請,經2017年2月28日 第5次執行委員會議確認印度選舉委員會為唯一副主席候選人。
- 2. 選舉結果:通過印度選舉委員會為下任副主席。印度選舉委員會主任委員
   A. K. Joti先生致詞感謝主席、執行委員、在場會員代表及金容熙秘書長對印度選舉委員會的支持與信任。



印度選舉委員會主任委員 A. K. Joti 先生當選 副主席致詞



本會代表團與印度選舉委員會主任委員 A.K.Joti 先生、馬爾地夫選舉委員會委員 Ismail Habeeb Abdul Raheem 先生合影

(三) 秘書長重新任命:

- 依據A-WEB會章規定,秘書長任期4年,得連任1次。執行委員會應於秘書 長任期結束前決定是否重新任命,並提會員大會討論。現任秘書長金容熙 先生於第4次執行委員會議表達續任意願,經第5次執行委員會通過提名為 秘書長候選人。
- 2. 決議:照案通過。
- (四) 2015年至2016年財務與審計報告:
  - 1. 2015年:
    - 收入:735萬6,965美元,包括韓國政府捐贈199萬7,759美元,韓國國際合 作機構(Korea International Cooperation Agency, KOICA)捐贈528萬836美 元,以及我國2014年捐贈款10萬美元之餘額7萬8,370美元。
    - (2) 支出:729萬55美元,主要係支應吉爾吉斯、肯亞、厄瓜多等國之選舉協助計畫、舉辦教育訓練、觀選、秘書處營運支出等。
  - 2. 2016年:

- (1)收入:285萬2,892美元,包括韓國政府捐贈285萬1,357美元,以及我國捐 贈款餘額1,535美元。
- (2)支出:主要係支應舉辦教育訓練、支應吉爾吉斯之選舉協助計畫、秘書 處營運支出等。
- 3. 討論結果:照案通過。
- (五) 2017年工作計畫及預算案:
  - 1. 工作計畫:
    - (1)運用選舉資通訊科技提升選舉管理機關能力:包括協助薩爾瓦多、剛果、 斐濟、烏茲別克、厄瓜多等國發展資通訊科技合作計畫,發展一套選舉 資訊系統的標準模式,以及另外提供會員的客製化模式等。
    - (2)辦理選務人員能力建構課程:主題包括選舉資通訊科技、選舉管理、民 主公民教育等。
    - (3) 彙整各會員國2017年主要選舉期程。
    - (4)回應國際選舉的挑戰及提升國際能見度:包括加強選舉資訊交流、建立 選舉資料庫、強化與選舉國際組織的夥伴關係、出席各項國際會議,就 選舉相關議題進行報告。
    - (5) 強化秘書處管理能力:強化項目包括:進行募款活動、與國際捐助者合 作發展計畫、管理會員費、招募資訊專家、改善工作條件、進行在職訓 練等。
    - (6) 舉辦執行委員會議。
    - (7) 舉辦第3屆會員大會。
    - (8) 強化諮詢委員會的功能。
  - 2. 預算:
    - (1)收入:685萬1,000美元,包括韓國政府捐贈684萬9,000美元,以及我國捐 贈款餘額2,000美元。
    - (2)預估支出:684萬9,000美元,主要支應協助薩爾瓦多發展計票系統、協助 剛果發展投票計票系統、協助烏茲別克建立全國選舉人名冊、舉辦教育 訓練等。
  - 3. 決議:照案通過。

(六) 會章修正案:

- 依據A-WEB會章第28條及第29條規定,會章修正案須由秘書長或至少10名 會員提出,經執行委員會簽署,並由出席會員大會之會員三分之二以上同 意通過,本次會章修正案係由A-WEB秘書長提出。
- 2. 此次會章修正重點如下:
  - (1) 增列政府開發援助計畫(Official Development Assistance, ODA)為A-WEB目標之一, 消除A-WEB推動是類計畫之爭議及爭取ODA機構投注資源於選舉管理領域。(第4條)
  - (2) 增列在未有國家級選舉管理機關或有多個國家級選舉管理機關國家之會 員資格規定。(第5條)
  - (3) 簡化退會程序,退會申請由「會員大會收到會員退會申請後生效」修正為「執行委員會收到會員退會申請後生效」。此外,有關經會員大會表決通過後,得取消個別會員資格之規定,限縮於以下2種情況始有適用,包括:連續3年未繳交會費(但經執行委員會同意免繳交會費之會員不在此限),及違反A-WEB成立精神。(第9條)
  - (4) 簡化建立合作夥伴關係之程序,秘書處得基於建立夥伴關係需要,與國際選舉組織簽訂瞭解備忘錄(MOU),並由秘書長向會員大會報告。(第11條)
  - (5) 修正會員大會職權,包括將對於預算、決算之核定、決定會計公司及任 命監督及審計委員會等職權,移歸予執行委員會。(第14條)
  - (6) 修正執行委員會的組成及委員產生方式,執行委員會改由包含主席、副 主席、前任主席在內的20個會員機關及秘書長組成;明定執行委員由各 洲依會員比例分配名額,由各洲選出,經會員大會通過;增列秘書長得 徵得執行委員會同意後,向會員大會推薦有特殊貢獻之會員為執行委 員,且不受任期限制。(第15條)
  - (7) 增列會員大會及執行委員會議代理投票規定。無法參加會員大會的會員 可委託與會會員或秘書長代為投票執行委員;無法參加執行委員會議的 執行委員,則可向秘書處以書面方式提交其對討論事項之意見,或委由 其他執行委員會委員行使其投票權。(第14條、第15條)
  - (8) 修正秘書長選任方式。(第18條)

- 討論情形:針對會員資格,索馬利亞國家選舉獨立委員會建議增列次國家 級選舉管理機關申請成為會員之程序規定,惟墨西哥選舉委員會及玻利維 亞最高選舉法院代表則認為A-WEB應維持由國家級選舉管理機關組成。
   A-WEB金秘書長回應,因各國選舉管理機關的組成不同,是否增列次國家 級選舉管理機關申請成為會員,秘書處將再審慎考量。
- 4. 決議:照案通過。

#### 三、執行委員選舉:

(一)執行委員會的組成:

- 依據新修正會章規定,執行委員會由20名執行委員以及秘書長組成。執行 委員除主席、副主席、前任主席外,其餘17名係由代表非洲、美洲、亞洲、 歐洲及大洋洲的會員選出,依據各地區的會員數比例分配,各地區至少1名。
- A-WEB秘書處依據各洲會員國數目分配應選名額如下:非洲5名、美洲4名、 亞洲4名、歐洲3名、大洋洲1名。
- (二)討論情形:部分會員針對執行委員僅依據地域選出提出質疑,並建議或可增列法語區、西班牙語區委員。A-WEB秘書處則回應,如果增加以語系為執行委員名額分配之方式,將造成重複代表的問題,因此建議仍以維持以地域為執行委員產生依據為妥,至於其他因素,例如宗教、語言等,則不列入考量。
   (三) 選舉結果:
  - 由各洲代表分別召開小組會議,採共識決的方式選出各洲執行委員。在亞 洲執行委員部分,於本次會員大會前,本會即已向A-WEB秘書處表達擔任 執行委員之意願,本會代表團於會員大會期間,亦積極爭取各國代表支持, 故於召開亞洲小組會議時,本會首先獲推薦為亞洲區執行委員,在場會員 國代表紛表同意,在無異議情形下,本會順利當選為亞洲區執行委員。
  - 2. 各洲執行委員當選情形如下:
    - (1) 亞洲:本會、孟加拉選舉委員 會、烏茲別克中央選舉委員會、
       巴勒斯坦中央選舉委員會。
    - (2) 非洲:布吉納法索獨立國家選舉 委員會、幾內亞獨立國家選舉委



執行委員選舉結果,本會當選為亞洲區執行 委員

員會、肯亞獨立選舉與選區委員會、馬拉威選舉委員會及突尼西亞高等 獨立選舉委員會。

- (3) 美洲:多明尼加共和國選舉委員會(前任主席)、阿根廷阿根廷內政部選 舉處、薩爾瓦多最高選舉法院、哥倫比亞國家公民資格登記局以及巴拉 圭最高選舉法院。
- (4)歐洲:保加利亞中央選舉委員會、阿爾巴尼亞中央選舉委員會、克羅埃 西亞國家選舉委員會。
- (5) 大洋洲:斐濟選舉局。
- 四、A-WEB 轉型為政府間國際組織決議案:

會員大會當日下午就A-WEB秘書處研擬A-WEB轉型為政府間國際組織決議 案進行討論,謹說明如下:

- (一)有關本決議案之內容:依據A-WEB秘書處說明,本決議案的目標係為使A-WEB 組織的性質,由國際非政府組織(Non-intergovernmental International Organization, NGO),轉型為政府間國際組織(Inter-Governmental International Organization, IGO)<sup>2</sup>。相關重點說明如次:
  - 1. 目標:
    - (1) 增加資金來源的多樣性,並自特定捐助組織獲得獨立性;
    - (2) 在執行主要計畫上有更大的機動性;
    - (3) 提升A-WEB於國際社會之能見度與地位。
  - 2. 指導原則:
    - (1) 本組織維持與轉型前相同的願景及使命;
    - (2) 本組織維持為一全球性的選舉管理機關組織;
    - (3) 轉型後組織不額外增加會員之負擔。
  - 3. 為落實決議,會員大會授予A-WEB執行委員會議及秘書長以下職權與義務:
    - (1) A-WEB將正式寄送成立國際組織的協定(Agreement on the Establishment of A-WEB,以下簡稱A-WEB轉型協定)予各會員國,並解釋流程及轉型之結 果,A-WEB秘書長並應採取必要措施,請求各會員之相關政府當局批准、

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>此處係指由主權國家組成的國際組織,例如國際貨幣基金會(IMF)、北大西洋公約組織(NATO)、亞太經 濟合作(APEC)、東南亞國協(ASEAN)等。由於 A-WEB 係由各國選舉管理機關組成,未經各國政府簽署 協議成立,因此分類上屬於國際非政府組織。

接受或贊同A-WEB轉型為政府間國際組織。

- (2) 秘書處應向執行委員會報告A-WEB轉型協定經會員國批准、接受或贊同 情形,執行委員會將於取得3個國家批准、接受或贊同前述協定後,立即 宣布協定生效,A-WEB正式轉型。
- 4. 會員大會建議A-WEB轉型協定應在以下條件下簽署:
  - (1) 在決議案正式通過後,將A-WEB轉型協定開放給會員國有關政府當局於 一定期間內簽署。
  - (2) A-WEB轉型協定批准期間屆滿後,仍應開放給任何國家或政府間國際組織,如有提送批准、接受或贊同協定者,由A-WEB執行委員會以簡單多數決通過。
  - (3)簽署批准、接受或贊同A-WEB轉型協定之主體應為各國政府,而代表機關應為各國正式指定之選舉管理機關。
  - (4) 組織轉型後不會改變或創造A-WEB原有組織或運作結構。
- (二) 討論情形:

針對本項提案,部分出會員代表提出了不同意見。哥斯大黎加最高選舉 法院代表指出,許多出席會員大會的代表尚無權就本案表達同意與否,也未 獲得各該國政府權責機關的指示,無法越權代為決定,因此建議暫緩做成決 議,由各會員先行與該國相關政府權責機關討論後,於下次會員大會再行表 決,阿拉伯選舉管理組織及秘魯國家選舉法院代表亦持相同意見。印尼選舉 委員會代表則表示,該會於加入A-WEB以及與A-WEB簽署瞭解備忘錄時,係 與印尼政府進行充分的溝通討論,如果A-WEB轉型為IGO,該會需要時間與外 交部詳細研議,並由該國政府重新就每個環節進行檢視。哈薩克中央選舉委 員會代表則表示,該會支持A-WEB轉型,惟就會員費的角度來看,支付金錢 予國際組織,係屬該國外交部權責,該會尚未能支付金錢予國際組織。

另有部分國家與會代表則發言表示支持本項決議案。布吉納法索國家選 舉獨立委員會代表發言表示,如果只需要3個國家簽署協議,應該沒有問題, 由於完成轉型還有許多程序,應該讓決議案先行通過。貝南國家選舉委員會 代表指出,A-WEB將成為政府間國際組織,而我們需要會員大會的批准,第 一步要做的就是通過決議,讓A-WEB保持獨立,不受各國政府機關支配是很 重要的。南非代表指出,本決議案由秘書處提出。秘書處審視當前組織面臨 的困境是,A-WEB被視為設於南韓的NGO,須依據南韓的法規受到政府稽核, 從而必須應付該國的政治環境變化,基於此考量,A-WEB無法被稱為一個國 際組織,而僅是南韓的NGO,此決議將改變A-WEB作為NGO的現況,免於受 到南韓政府的制掣。幾內亞國家選舉獨立委員會的代表指出,轉型能使組織 更為穩定且更具彈性。多明尼加代表亦指出,多數會員國尚未支付會員費, 到目前為止,會員享有A-WEB帶來的各種好處而未做出貢獻,現實的需求是 A-WEB需要轉型成國際組織。

針對與會代表所提意見,A-WEB秘書處亦做出了回應,茲歸納要點如下: 1、本決議案通過後,A-WEB並非即刻轉型為IGO,決議案係表達會員支持 A-WEB轉型的意向,目的在使轉型程序得以正式啟動;2、為達成轉型之目的, 需要至少3個國家的政府簽署協議;3、如果完成轉型,目前或未來的會員所 屬國家不須簽署協定,現有會員的地位亦不受影響,其他會員國政府亦不須 簽署相關文件以維持其會員資格。

(三)決議:決議案通過。秘書處將於決議案附帶記載對此案持保留立場的會員, 並註明該會員組織名稱、所屬國家及其保留意見。秘書處應接受會員聲明其 立場及保留的書面文件<sup>3</sup>。

#### 伍、「計票和選票統計:利用科技使選舉過程更加透明化」研討會會議情形及摘要

一、背景說明

促進選舉機關知識與資訊的分享,提升選舉品質,為 A-WEB 成立目的之一, 歷次 A-WEB 會員大會,各國代表難得齊聚一堂,主辦單位均同時舉辦國際研討 會,提供知識經驗交流平臺,本次會員大會循例舉辦研討會,以「計票和選票統 計:利用科技使選舉過程更加透明化」為主題,邀請各國選舉管理機關、學者專 家發表演講。

針對此次研討會主題,基於選舉是民主的工具,將公民的喜好與政策制定者 的行為連接起來。選舉管理機關負責辦理選舉,基本的使命為民主的傳播者,而 非僅是國家或社會公務上的助手。為達此目的,選舉管理機關應該提升科技能力, 精進專業技能。儘管有各種不同的政治文化、制度設計及選舉系統,選舉管理機

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>A-WEB 轉型決議案通過後,A-WEB 秘書處將另行提供轉型協定及相關說明資料徵詢各會員國意見,俟協定內容確定後,送請各會員國批准、接受或贊同。

關及選務人員都應努力履行其公權力,確保在選舉周期期間,包括選舉準備階段、 競選活動階段、投票日、投票結束後等,相關的規範與程序都能達到國際上的專 業標準。選舉管理機關發揮一項關鍵性的功能:週期性的驗證,並強化民主政府 的正當性。為此,選舉管理機關在辦理計票上必須是值得信任的。又選舉管理機 關最關心的問題應該是,如何確保計票的正式方式為邁向「實質」代表制的基石— 讓政策產出能確實反映民意,唯有透過選舉管理機關的努力,方能讓公民對於選 舉管理機關的課責性及所選出的代表有更佳的認知,同時也為民主政治的滿意度, 帶來正面的影響。

有關本次研討會關心的問題:選舉管理機關負有推進民主的使命,必須使選舉結果能正確反映民意偏好。因此,計票的透明、正確性至關緊要。科技的使用已是一種趨勢,然而選舉機關應該在何種程度上、在何種前提下,採用哪些新科技?應該考量的因素有哪些?這些均是選舉管理機關於採用科技輔助選舉時,必須審慎評估的。

#### 二、會議內容摘要

本次研討會於 2017 年 9 月 1 日至 2 日舉行,共召開 2 場全體會議及 4 場分 組會議。本會於接獲 A-WEB 及羅馬尼亞選舉委員會邀請出席本次會員大會及研 討會後,即就出席會議事宜進行研議,經考量選舉過程的公開透明為選舉公信力 的基礎,科技的使用雖能帶來便利性與效率,但不應以民眾的信任為代價,我國 累積多年辦理選舉經驗,選務作業成熟,開票作業係採人工計票,但卻能維持高 度的透明及獲得社會信任,此種作法或可供各國選舉委員會參考,爰復以本會劉 主任委員樂願於研討會進行演講,介紹臺灣透明的投開票作業。謹摘錄上開研討 會中精彩部分之演講及報告內容如下:

(一) 國際民主及選舉協助機構(International IDEA)Peter Wolf先生:

- 依據International IDEA統計資料,在計票的整個流程,包括結果的傳輸、蒐 集、彙整及最終結果的公布,多數國家都或多或少都藉助科技的輔助,科 技的使用似乎是一個無可避免的趨勢。
- 選舉資通訊科技可區分為兩大類,一類為選舉結果處理系統,另一類為電子投票。從使用比率來看,約有60%的國家採用選舉結果處理系統,但只有約15%的國家採用電子投票,在投票作業上,多數國家仍倚賴人工作業。從這個狀況來看,選舉資通訊科技究竟是選擇性或強制性的,在不同國家可

能有不同的情形,未來的發展,須視兩個因素而定,一為不同科技增進透 明與廉能的可能性,一為這些科技是否容易採用。例如在中央層級,新科 技的使用較為容易,因毋須在不同地點配置各項設備,在人員訓練、設備 建置、網路供應等均較為容易。同時,許多科技可以增進選舉過程的效率, 且成本極低,例如應用網路科技提供選舉相關資料,各項細節資料可以提 供到投票所層次,因而有助提升選舉的透明度,此即為開放資料(open data) 的趨勢。然而在地方層級,科技的運用與維持卻有較多的困難,需要更多 的設備、更多的人員訓練,設備安全性的維護同樣更為困難。

3. 以彙整計票結果的科技使用情形為例,約33%的國家在中央或地方層級採用 相關科技,有11%的國家資料的傳輸只限於在中央層級採用。實際上,有些 先進民主國家並未在投票所層級使用科技,且認為人工開票作業程序即已 夠完善;但另一方面,對於選票設計複雜或有計票正確性問題的國家,在 投票所科技的協助,也確實能發揮效用。綜而言之,必須思考的是,如何 使科技本身是透明的,這需要完整思考,從引進新科技開始,在規劃階段、 可行性評估、效用評估、採購等均必須是透明的。少了透明的要素,科技 的使用就會有很大風險,尤其是在爭議性的選舉或信任度較低的過家。

(二) A-WEB計畫部門資訊科技小組副主任Gwangli Park先生:

- 選舉是一連串的法定過程,包括選舉人登記、身分驗證、投票、精確計票 以及宣布當選人名單等。其中,選舉人登記須以法律規定為準,編造選舉 人名冊,並應採取有關措施,以避免重複登記。在身分驗證方面,選舉票 係於驗證身分後始發給選舉人,選舉機關可應用生物資訊進行驗證,以避 免重複投票。在投開票作業,須依據法律規定程序辦理,防範偽造選票, 並應減少計票過程中的人為疏失。在計票與選舉結果的公布方面,包括計 票結果的彙整、驗證,應快速地彙整計票結果,並使計票結果公開透明。 為達成選舉過程的公平性、透明性並符合成本效益考量,選舉管理機關需 要資通訊科技的支持。
- 傳統的選舉方式在缺乏資通訊科技的使用下,選舉人資訊採紙本作業,無 法進行處理,並且極可能在登錄製作時發生錯誤;選舉人名冊的編造亦難 以避免重複、登記錯誤,也有不易管理及追蹤後續變更情形問題。在驗證 選舉人身分時,傳統作業方式可能出現代理投票或重複投票的問題,且須

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耗時查對紙本資料;計票由工作人員採人工作業,無法避免人為疏失以及 偽造選票的可能性,且亦相當耗時;計票結果的彙整採人員送達、傳真或 電話通知等方式傳遞,並採人工彙整、統計及發布,過程中可能發生人為 疏失、操縱結果以及耗時等問題。藉由資通訊科技的運用,則可以增強可 信度、透明度、公平性及選舉管理的速度。

- 目前可供參採應用的選舉資通訊科技,包括選舉資訊系統、資訊科技基礎 設施、光學掃描讀取系統、資料庫、生物資訊辨識系統、選舉票防偽技術 等。
- (三) IFES資深全球選務顧問Peter Erben先生
  - 傳統的思考與方法,是成功與漸進實施選舉科技的基礎。數十年來,許多 人希望科技能在選舉產生革命性的影響,取代傳統紙本,也認為科技具有 改善選舉人身分驗證方式、快速便利的投票、高度的正確性、透明、廉能、 公眾信任與較低的成本等優勢。然而這並非全然正確,事實上選舉科技可 能也是容易失敗的、不安全的、受到候選人與選民的質疑、成本高昂且經 不起法律的檢驗。選舉管理機關受到各方壓力採用新科技,但是主政者必 須抗拒這些壓力,做出正確判斷。
  - 2. 選舉科技確實能有效改善選舉過程的品質,但僅是作為補充傳統選舉過程的不足,而非即刻、全然地取代之。傳統紙本制度與電子系統皆有其優缺點,兼而採之,可以相互補強。選舉管理機關對於併行採用紙本選票、完善的計票監督與計票結果電子傳輸科技感到驕傲。現代化過程必須謹慎地進行,所有的選項都應納入考量,不僅應檢視現有的科技,同時也應考量發展適合本國的解決方法。許多先進民主國家在近年也對科技政策發展方向進行反思,並決定維持,甚至回復使用傳統的做法,亦即紙本選票,例如挪威、澳洲、德國、丹麥等。
  - 3. 在引進新科技時,傳統制度的良好成分必須受到特別的關注。這些成分包括:完整的法律與程序架構、包容與諮詢性的系統設計與執行、透明且可驗證的紙本與數位證明、訓練與課責、經由向公眾提供資訊與互動建立信任。選務機關必須要求以更寬廣的、更公開的、謹慎的討論來決定新科技的採用,並應進行適當的可行性研究。在評估選舉科技的採行時,應謹守下列3個原則:

- (1) 選舉科技並非萬靈藥,應明智地選擇,並與良好的傳統方法相結合。
- (2) 抗拒外部壓力,尤其是供應商、候選人以及現代化的口號。
- (3)辦理義務性的、審慎的、透明的及參與式的可行性研究,調整採用新科 技的進程。
- (四) 菲律賓選舉委員會委員Al A. Parreño先生:
  - 菲律賓有18個地區,下設81省、144自治市、1,490市、42,036個鎮。2016年 中央與地方公職人員合併選舉,選出公職人員計約1萬8千人,候選人數約4 萬5千人,選務作業複雜。透過光學掃描機等自動化科技,可以改善選舉的 流程,減少缺失,其優點如下:
    - (1) 每一投票所選舉人數可以從200人,提高為800人至1,000人。
    - (2) 選舉票由選舉人自行書寫候選人姓名,改為可以載明600個候選人姓名, 姓名旁邊有橢圓形圈選欄。
    - (3) 投票時間由上午7時至下午3時,調整為上午7時至下午5時。
    - (4) 人工計票改為光學掃描。
    - (5) 投票結果彙整由3至4個星期完成,縮短於9天完成。
    - (6) 可以產製投票憑證,俾與計票結果進行比對驗證。
  - 2. 菲律賓選舉委員會採取下列措施提升選舉透明度:
    - (1) 由政府與公民社會代表組成菲律賓選舉委員會顧問委員會。
    - (2) 由相關政黨進行原始碼檢測(Source Code Review)。
    - (3) 進行人工隨機系統查核。
    - (4) 選舉期間由政黨派員觀察及提供意見。
    - (5) 建置選舉結果網站。
- (五)本會劉主任委員以「臺灣透明的投開票作業」為主題進行演講:
  - 與多數國家相同,我國選舉的辦理介於於傳統與現代科技之間。科技可以 協助我們達到更好的效率與正確性,但是科技本身無法產生信任,而信任 卻是選舉的基石。針對這個問題,或許可藉由「透明化」來提供指引。透 明化並非選舉管理機關決定,而是由公眾來決定。所謂耳聞不如一見,這 意味著選舉管理機關必須向大眾提供他們所需的資訊,讓選舉人知道、看 到選舉過程的細節資訊與結果。

 對於臺灣而言,臺灣擁有先進的 資通訊科技能力,但是在選舉方 面,我們卻是非常的傳統。臺灣 的投票方式,選舉人是憑國民身 分證領取紙本選舉票,以圈選工 具圈蓋,接著將選票投入票匭。 投票時間截止後,工作人員即將 投票匭上鎖並貼封條,接著進行



劉主任委員義周以我國透明的投開票作業為 主題進行演講

開票。依據規定程序,開票時,工作人員首先檢查封條是否完整,接著開 啟票匭,逐張檢票、唱票、記票以及整票計票。全部票數開完後,向在場 民眾展示空票匭,確認票匭中已無選票,在這整個過程中完全未使用科技。 主任管理員接著會填具紙本的投開票報告表、宣布開票結果,並於開票所 門口張貼投開票報告表。另外將投開票報告表送至選務作業中心進行登 錄,傳輸至中央選情中心進行彙計,只有到這個過程時,才開始使用電子 科技。

- 3. 為達到透明化之要求,我們盡力將各種資訊提供給選舉人。例如在選舉公報刊登候選人各項資訊,併同投票通知單分送選舉區各戶。此外,我國投開票作業並規劃完整的監察制度,政黨及候選人可以指派監察員前往投票所監察投開票過程,且每個投票所的監察員須來自不同的候選人或政黨。 在開票過程,工作人員逐張檢票唱票,各個開票所均備有觀眾席,民眾可自行進入觀看開票過程,並拍照攝影。開票完畢後,開票結果張貼於開票所門口,政黨及候選人也可以申請投開票報告表副本。投開票報告表於選務作業中心進行登錄,傳輸至中央選情中心公開,外界也可即時透過本會網站查看計票結果,或利用手機查詢。
- 4. 科技協助選務透明化。一方面,我們將候選人資訊數位化,民眾可由網路 查詢。此外,我們提供投票所地點查詢系統,可配合地圖檢視投票所地點, 也提供選舉人資格線上查詢系統。簡言之,科技幫助我們提供更好的服務 以及更完善的管理。另一方面,我們也推動選舉資料開放。開放資料是指 提供機器能夠判讀的原始資料給大眾。因為使用了特定軟體產製資料,對 於未使用相同軟體的人而言,他們將無法利用這些資料,例如無法進行分

析。因此,我們將所有資料轉化為開放資料格式,在我們的努力下,在政 府資料開放的評比上,依據英國開放知識基金會全球開放資料指標評比結 果,臺灣在選舉結果的開放度評分為100,全球排名第1,其他獲得同樣評 分的包括澳洲、巴西、智利、哥倫比亞、捷克、丹麥、芬蘭等國家。政府 資料開放,可以維持透明度,提高公眾信任,我們也將會持續推動選舉資 料開放,使社會大眾更易於取得資料及進行分析利用。

#### 陸、心得與建議

#### 一、研議加強與 A-WEB 之合作,深化參與相關計畫及分享我國民主與選舉經驗

A-WEB 倡議成立者為韓國國家選舉委員會,在 A-WEB 成立的過程中,本會 與韓國國家選舉委員會始終保持密切聯繫,爰為創始會員國。現任 A-WEB 秘書 長為韓國籍的金容熙先生,渠於任職韓國國家選舉委員會副秘書長及秘書長期間, 負責推動成立 A-WEB 工作,與本會保持友善關係,且協助本會順利加入 A-WEB 成為創始會員。本會經由參與此一組織,在此平臺下,定期與各國選舉管理機關 集會,相互分享及學習選務經驗。此外,A-WEB 亦經常性辦理各種選務人員教 育訓練,提供會員國參訓機會,本會於 2016 年、2017 年 2 度派員參加相關教育 訓練課程,參訓人員收穫豐富,回國後並將參訓期間習得知識與同仁分享。

另一方面,我國於 2014 年捐贈 10 萬美元予 A-WEB,為韓國政府以外唯一捐助經費予 A-WEB 之國家,捐贈之經費用於辦理教育訓練,此節 A-WEB 秘書處於會員大會提出財務報告中均予以載明,使其他會員知悉我國在推動選務經驗分享、支持 A-WEB 發展之實質貢獻,有助提升我國之國際形象。2017 年第 3 屆會員大會,本會首度參選並順利當選為執行委員,實為近年與 A-WEB 密切發展合作夥伴關係之實績。未來本會進入 A-WEB 執行委員會議,對於 A-WEB 業務運作將有更多的發言權,基於推動全球民主之深化普及,我國將深化與該協會之合作,除捐贈外,可更為主動、實質的參與 A-WEB 相關計畫,例如與 A-WEB 合作舉辦教育訓練、研討會等,分享我國民主與選舉成功經驗。





劉主任委員、余副秘書長與 A-WEB 金容熙 秘書長交換意見

劉主任委員與羅馬尼亞選舉委員會主任委員、A-WEB主席 Daniel Barbu 先生合影

#### 二、密切注意 A-WEB 組織轉型動態,維護我國參與權益

A-WEB 秘書處於本次會員大會提出組織轉型為政府間國際組織(IGO)之議案。 轉型後 A-WEB 之組成係以國家為主體,相關協定須經各會員國政府批准、接受 或贊同,會議現場 A-WEB 金容熙秘書長及秘書處人員並說明無論會員所屬國家 政府是否簽署協定,均無損於現有會員之地位。惟鑒於本案事涉本會參與國際組 織事宜,相關協定之內容是否妥適及我國批准程序之進行等,本會將與外交部會 商,密切關注後續發展動態,積極維護我國參與權益。

#### 三、廣泛參與選務相關國際會議,分享我國民主選舉經驗

本會累積數十年選務經驗,歷 次選舉過程順利平和,對於我國政 黨輪替、落實婦女、原住民及身心 障礙者參政權之保障等民主政治 發展各面向發揮積極作用,且選務 經驗純熟,深獲社會之信賴,選舉 資料開放成效亦受到國際評比組

織高度評價,相關經驗對於民主轉



劉主任委員與墨西哥國家選舉委員會國際關係處 處長 Manuel Carrillo 先生於研討會同場次進行演講

型國家均極富參考價值。以本次 A-WEB 研討會為例,本會劉主任委員於研討會 進行演講,與各國分享我國透明的投開票作業經驗,深獲與會人員之共鳴。基於 促進全球民主的發展,本會未來仍可考量持續參與選舉相關國際會議,與各國選 務機關交流,分享我國民主選舉經驗,一方面可提供民主轉型國家作為建立選舉 制度時之參考,另方面亦可彰顯我國民主之成就。

#### 四、持續研議以資通訊科技輔助選舉之過程,推動選務革新

本次會員大會舉辦「計票和選票統計:利用科技使選舉過程更加透明化」研 討會,由學者專家、選舉管理機關分享相關經驗與研究心得。科技的應用,對於 選舉產生了革命性的影響,正如部分學者指出的,多數國家或多或少採用了選舉 科技,如何妥善運用科技,對於選舉管理機關是個無可迴避的議題。在某些國家 的實施經驗,科技可以提升選務辦理效率、改善選舉透明度,同時增進人民的信 任,但是在另一方面,新科技可能也是容易失敗的、不安全的、成本高昂,而且 新科技本身的透明度與可信度,亦須經得起檢驗。易言之,科技的使用可能帶來 正面的效果,亦無法避免可能潛藏的風險,如何善用科技的優勢同時避開風險, 值得選舉管理機關審慎思考。

目前我國採取傳統人工作業與科技併用的方式,符合我國當前的社會環境所 需,然而傳統人工作業方式,無可諱言較為耗費時間、人力且潛藏錯誤風險。隨 著科技發展日新月異,如考量科技有助於提升選舉透明度、選務辦理效率、購置 成本許可且符合社會實際需求的情況下,審慎辦理可行性評估,並邀請相關利害 關係人共同參與,逐步將選舉的各個過程進一步地資訊化、科技化,有其必要。 一、2017 年 A-WEB 第 3 屆會員大會決議

# Outcomes of the 3rd General Assembly of A-WEB I Overview 1. Date and Time: 31 August 2017, 10:00 - 17:00 2. Place: Parliament House, Bucharest, Romania 3. Participating Members : 56 countries, 60 organizations II Participating Organizations No Continent Country Organization Autonomous National Electoral Commission I Benin Autonomous National Electoral Commission

1		Benin	Autonomous National Electoral Commission	
2		Burkina Faso	Independent National Electoral Commission	
3		Cote d'Ivoire	Independent Electoral Commission	
4		Egypt	High Elections Commission	
5		Guinea	Independent National Electoral Commission	
6		Kenya	Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission	
7		Malawi	Electoral Commission	
8	Africa	Mali	National Independent Election Commission	
9		Sao Tome and Principe	National Electoral Commission	
10		Sierra Leone	National Electoral Commission	
11		Somalia	National Independent Electoral Commission	New Membe
12		South Africa	Electoral Commission	
13		Tunisia	Independent High Authority for Elections	
14		Uganda	Electoral Commission	
15		Argentina	Electoral Department, Ministry of Home Affairs	
16		Bolivia	Electoral Supreme Court	
17		Brazil	Superior Electoral Court	
18		Canada	Elections Canada	
19	Americas	Calassiti	National Civil Registry	
20	-	Colombia	National Electoral Council	New Membe
21		Costa Rica	Supreme Electoral Court	
22		Dominican	Central Electoral Board	
23		Republic	Supreme Electoral Tribunal	

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No	Continent	Country	Organization	Notes
24		Ecuador	National Electoral Council	
25		El Salvador	Supreme Electoral Tribunal	
26		Haiti	Permanent Electoral Council	
27		Mexico	Federal Electoral Institute	
28		Paraguay	Supreme Electoral Tribunal	
29		Peru	National Electoral Tribunal	
30		Afghanistan	Independent Election Commission	
31		Bangladesh	Election Commission	
32		Bhutan	Election Commission	
33		India	Election Commission	
34		Indonesia	General Elections Commission	
35	-	Iraq	The Independent High Electoral Commission	
36		Kazakhstan	Central Election Commission	
37		Korea	National Election Commission	
38	Asia	Kyrgyzstan	Central Election Commission	
39		Maldives	Elections Commission	
40		Mongolia	General Election Commission	
41		Palestine	Central Elections Commission	
42		Philippines	Commission on Elections	
43		Taiwan, R.O.C	Central Election Commission	
44		Thailand	Election Commission	
45		Timor Leste	National Electoral Commission	
46	-	Uzbekistan	Central Election Commission	
47		Albania	Central Election Commission	
48		Belarus	The Central Commission of the Republic of Belarus on Elections and Holding Republican Referenda	
49		Bosnia and	Central Election Commission	
50		Herzegovina Bulgaria	Central Election Commission	
51		Croatia	State Electoral Commission	
52	Europe	Georgia	Central Election Commission	
53		Kosovo	Central Election Commission	
54		Latvia	Central Electoral Commission	
55		Portugal	National Electoral Commission	
56		Romania	Permanent Electoral Authority	
57		Turkey	Supreme Electoral Council	
58		Fiji	Fijian Elections Office	
59	Oceania	Samoa	Office of the Electoral Commissioner	
60	Associate	Santou	Organization of Arab EMBs	
00	Member		Organization of Alab Elvids	

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#### Agenda 4

## Annual Membership Fee

1. Report: Members who have paid Annual Membership Fee for 2017

#### 2. Discussion

- O Some members do not have the legal mandate to make such payments. Some EMBs organize training programs for other countries such as Korea, Taiwan, Japan, etc. Member suggests that there should be other types of contributions in the form of support for programs rather than just monetary fees. (Mexico, INE)
- O Realizing the difficulties some members may have in paying the fee, an amendment to the charter was introduced to exempt members from the fee for such reasons. Membership fees are used only for travel expenses of the members. A-WEB also welcomes in kind contributions (Director Lee, A-WEB)
- O To ensure fairness between all members, those members who have not paid the membership fee should provide an explanation why they could not pay. (Costa Rica, TSE)
- There needs to be better communication between the Secretariat and member organizations. If there was an invoice sent to member organizations mentioning the membership fee, some organizations may have paid already. Understands what was mentioned about members explaining why they did not pay, however the General Assembly was not the time and place and should be done individually with the member and the Secretariat. Agrees that members should pay the fee. (South Africa, EC)
- O The Secretariat does not want to burden members with the membership fee. Reiterates that the membership fee is used solely for the member's needs when participating in A-WEB events. (Secretary General, A-WEB)



and electoral materials from members of A-WEB. Joining A-WEB is an opportunity to gain experience and best practices from other member organizations. (Somalia, NIEC)

- O Arab EMBs has joined A-WEB as an associate member and A-WEB has joined the Arab EMBs as a partner, looking forward to future cooperation and collaborations between the two organizations. (Arab EMBs)
- 3. Conclusion: Approved as proposed



#### Appointment of Vice Chairperson

1. Proposal: Electing the new Vice Chairperson of A-WEB

#### 2. Discussion

- O The Independent National Electoral Commission of Guinea and the Election Commission of India had submitted applications for the position of Vice Chairperson of A-WEB. However, the Independent National Electoral Commission of Guinea later withdrew its application, leaving only the Election Commission of India as the sole candidate. As such, the only nomination the Secretariat has is the Election Commission of India.
- 3. Conclusion: Approved as proposed

## Reappointment of the Secretary General

1. Proposal: Approve the reappointment of the Secretary General for his 2nd term.

- 2. Discussion
  - O No questions or comments
- 3. Conclusion: Approved as proposed

Agenda 7



body. (Somalia, NIEC)

- O When an EMB becomes a member of A-WEB, it is natural to imply that a sub national election commission may become a member as it is not stipulated in the charter that they cannot. (Director Lee, A-WEB)
- O There are some systems that are managed by other organizations. In Peru, the Peru Registration Department has applied for membership and it was requested. This brings about a question on voting rights and membership fees; in the case a country has more than one member organization in A-WEB what happens to voting rights? Also, is the country responsible only to pay membership fee once? (Peru, National Jury of Elections)
- In the case of Peru, A-WEB currently has two members from Peru. There are three institutions in Peru that are in charge of elections and all of them can become members of A-WEB; in this case the country of Peru will only have one vote. For membership fees, since the fee is used for the particular organization, then only the organization that has paid the membership fee will be able to use it for travel expenses for A-WEB events. (Director Lee, A-WEB)
- O Support the notion of Mr. Kim when saying that the nature of A-WEB is the national institutions. Mexico is a federal system but it has 32 local electoral states and 300 district electoral authorities. (Mexico, INE)
- O Regarding the amendment to the new charter and allowing sub national institutions to become a member of A-WEB, we support what Mexico mentioned about only central level electoral authority can be qualified as a member. In Bolivia there are many regional election commissions and they are separate organizations. For countries that have multiple election organizations they are in charge of different areas in election. These kinds of country should be represented as one organization. (Bolivia, TSE)

- O A-WEB recognizes that there are several types of institutions and systems in each country. As such, A-WEB will consider more carefully the amendments to the membership. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O Question on the rationale on deleting 14.1.6 and 7 and 8. What is the technical reasoning behind deleting these provisions? (Palestine, CEC)
- According to the current charter, article 14.1.6 provides final approval to the budget cycle, however the General Assembly gathers only once every 2 years. But the budget cycle happens every year, therefore it is pointless to have the General Assembly approve a budget that has already passed. This is why we moved the authority to the Executive Board, which means every year. (Director Lee, A-WEB)
- 3. Conclusion: Approved as proposed

#### Session III

Agenda 11

#### Appointment of the Members of the next Executive Board

 Proposal: Upon the approval of the amendments to the charter, the composition of the Executive Board shall increase to include more representation from each region. Appoint members to the new Executive Board.

#### 2. Discussion

- O When Arabic countries gather for the regional caucuses, where do they join? Some are in Asia and some in other regions. (Iraq, IHEC)
- O There have been several requests about making a separate representation for the Arabic speaking group. There was also a request to make separate allotments for French speaking EMBs and Spanish speaking EMBs. And

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when we introduced such a measure, there occurs duplication in the division of region, and it was decided that geographical categorization was the only way. If we consider, other factors such as religion and language, it is impossible to avoid duplication. (Director Lee, A-WEB)

- O Will there be any candidates that are recommended by the Secretary General? (Burkina Faso, CENI)
- O There will be no candidates nominated by the Secretary General at this time. (Director Lee, A-WEB)
- O As per the regional caucuses the candidates nominated per region are:

[Africa]

#### Ahmed Newton Barry

Chairperson, Commission Electorale Nationale Independante of Burkina Faso

#### Amadou Salif Kebe

Commission Electorale Nationale Independante of Guinea

#### Wafula W. Chebukati

Chairperson, Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission of Kenya

Jane Mayemu Ansah

Chairperson of Malawi Electoral Commission

#### Anouar Ben Hassen

Vice-Chairperson of High independent Commission of Election of Tunisia

#### [America]

#### Julio Cesar Castanos Guzman

President of the Central Electoral Board of the Dominican Republic

#### Fernando D. Alvarez Alvarez

President, National Electoral Directorate or Argentina

Julio Alfredo Olivo Granadino

President of the Tribunal Supremo Electoral of El Salvador

Juan Carlos Galindo Vacha

President of the National Registry of Civil Status of Colombia

## Jaime Jose Bestard Duschek

President of the Tribunal Superior Justicia Electoral of Paraguay

[Asia]

# Liu, I-Chou

Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Taiwan

K. M. Nurul Huda

Chief Election Commissioner of Election Commission of Bangladesh

# Abdusalomov Minza-Ulugbek Elchievich

Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Uzbekistan

# Hanna Nasir

Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Palestine

# [Europe]

# Ivilina Aleksieva-Robinson

Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of Bulgaria

# Klement Zguri

Chairperson, Central Election Commission of Albania

# Duro Sessa

Chairperson of the State Election Commission of Croatia

# [Oceania]

# Mohammed Saneem

Supervisor of Elections at the Fijian Elections Office

3. Conclusion: Approved as proposed

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## Agenda 12

1. **Proposal**: Introduces a resolution to convert A-WEB from a Korean NGO to an inter-governmental international organization

#### 2. Discussion

- O When the General Assembly was decided it was said that decisions would be made with a simple majority. It was mentioned that if the adoption of the resolution does not have consensus it would be adopted by simple majority. For the resolution, will it be decided by consensus or simple majority? (Costa Rica, TSE)
- First the General Assembly will read over the resolution carefully, then in the case there are objections the item will be put to a secret vote. If there are members who are concerned with adopting the resolution then it is suggested to reflect their concerns in the minutes of the meeting and specify the list of names of those who express concerns about the adoption of the resolution. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- As there are representatives from various countries, the resolution was received in order to express the opinions of the members. For those present at the General Assembly, most have been mandated to make a decision either on consensus or by a simple majority, and most members did not know if they were going to vote on anything or not. In the case of the resolution to convert A-WEB into an inter-governmental organization, that decision does not lie with our institution, it lies with another institution of the state. We cannot bridge the competencies of other institutions. If the resolution is adopted by simple majority, there might be some problems from organizations that are from a country where they do not have the authority to make the decision without discussing with their government. It would be

respectful to be able to vote in the countries they represent. Suggests possibility of postponing the vote until the next General Assembly after discussion with proper institutions (Costa Rica, TSE)

- O The resolution will not confirm the conversion of A-WEB into an inter-governmental international organization, it is simply expressing member's support of the intent to convert A-WEB into an international organization. If A-WEB converts into an international organization, current and prospective member organizations' countries will not be required to sign the agreement. The status of current members will not change even after the conversion. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O The adoption of the resolution does not automatically convert A-WEB into an international organization; it does not have any legal power. It will be used as a clarification of A-WEB members stating that they intend on converting to an international organization. (Director Lee, A-WEB)
- O For those countries who have objections to the resolution or the content of the text, will the adoption of the resolution be applied to such countries? Therefore, what would be the status of members who object to the resolution? (Benin, CENA)
- O In the case a country does not sign the agreement to become an international organization, their status as an A-WEB member will not change and your government will not be required to sign the agreement. The resolution is simply expressing the intent of our organization to convert to an international organization. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O It is important to look at governance in the sense that most members are independent election management bodies and it should not be forgotten that they are supposed to be autonomous. Membership is on the virtue that the EMBs can maintain their independency. (South Africa, EC)

- O Although the resolution is supported by the Arab EMBs, the final decision may rest in other government institutions, and as such A-WEB should wait several months or a year to review the topic. It is suggested to not rush through the process because EMBs cannot make any decisions in place of the government. (Arab EMBs)
- O This resolution is the intent of the members of A-WEB; it is not the intent or idea of the governments. If the resolution is adopted, an agreement to convert the association will be drafted and sent to current members and upon their approval the conversion to become an international organization will move forward. All members are not required to sign the agreement, only 3 is needed. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O Legally there should be no problems if the institution only requires 3 signatures on the agreement. As there are more stages to becoming an international organization, the resolution should be no problem. (Burkina Faso, CENI)
- O Supports the intention to covert A-WEB into an international organization. However, in the case for the membership fees, the CEC of Kazakhstan cannot make payments to an international organization as this is a matter for the financing department in the ministry of foreign affairs. There will be countries who support the resolution but also those who wish to abstain, postponing the decision might be a good idea. (Kazakhstan, CEC)
- O Please provide an example of an example of an organization becoming an international organization in the same manner as the way A-WEB is trying to convert. What is the legal value of an intention? It will be better to discuss this with examples of other cases. (Benin, CENA)
- O Adoption of the resolution does not immediately convert A-WEB into an international organization, it simply introduces the necessary steps to get

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there. The governments, such as Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will initiate the actual conversion process. Members of A-WEB will not require the permission of their government to be a member. This resolution holds no legal impact. It is the initiating process for some governments to begin the actual conversion process. All members' governments are not required to sign the document to maintain their membership, the agreement will only require 3 signatures from 3 governments. (Director Lee, A-WEB)

- O It is important to improve the status of A-WEB. A-WEB will become an international organization and we will need the approval of the General Assembly. The first step to do so is adopting the resolution, and then A-WEB will only need 3 signatures from 3 different countries; which perhaps A-WEB already has the signature from the South Korean government and the Secretary General may have 2 other countries already in mind. It has been mentioned several times that the membership status of organizations whose countries did not sign the agreement will not change. It is fundamental for A-WEB to stay independent and to be independent from state authorities and governmental bodies. This flexibility is something A-WEB should secure when converting the status of A-WEB. (Benin, CENA)
- O There are no objections to the conversion process and nothing against A-WEB becoming an international organization. However, there is concern about the funding of A-WEB. Currently there are only 10 members that have paid the membership fee, it might be a good idea to discover other types of funding; to expand the means of the funding sources. (Mali, CENI)
- O An important reason behind the decision to convert A-WEB into an international organization deals with the independency of the association. Currently, A-WEB has a status of an NGO in South Korea and is funded by the South Korean government. Due to this, the South Korean government has to audit the budget of the association, even though A-WEB already goes

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through an external audit. The Korean audit department wants to audit and supervise the expenditures of A-WEB; they want to interfere with the plans of our association. The main reason to convert this association is so that A-WEB can be independent from any political power, state, and country, including South Korea. There have been many cases of other organizations gaining international status with only three or four signatures. After discussing with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of South Korea, they agree with the intent to convert A-WEB into an international organization. (Secretary General, A-WEB)

- O Given the diversity of A-WEB, one can say that A-WEB is already international because we have member organizations from around the world, from all the continents. The problem at hand is that our organization will then open to countries and states. If those countries and states want to become a member of our association they must comply to A-WEB's vision and mission. (Benin, CENA)
- O The proposal before the General Assembly is one that is coming from the Executive Board. The Executive Board look at various options and one of the current difficulties of the association is that A-WEB is being perceived as an NGO in South Korea and audited according to the rules and regulations of South Korea, where they must also be sensitive to the political dynamics of the country. Due to this, A-WEB cannot be called an international organization. It is simply an NGO in Korea. This resolution is attempting to free A-WEB from being an NGO in Korea so it does not have to be subjected to the laws and rules of South Korea. (South Africa, EC)
- O The benefits of A-WEB becoming an international organization to enable A-WEB to be more sustainable financially because currently it has been funded by the Korean government. The Korean government is now supporting the conversion of A-WEB which will open doors and increase the

benefits of members. Members have benefitted from the limited resources A-WEB has. The conversion will make the association more sustainable, give the association more feasibility, and bring in more order and possible donors. Countries that have legal constraints in signing the agreement simply do not have to sign and nothing will change in their membership. (Guinea, CENI)

- O There are no concerns about the leadership trying to do something that will benefit the association, but there are some members who have a problem with the wording. Regardless if it is only a resolution, it is a bit strict. If the wording can be changed and say that it is a General Assembly Recommendation then perhaps it will be easier to support it. The moment inter-governmental is mentioned, most of the countries it is very sensitive because then it opens it up to a country's president and parliament. If the association becomes inter-governmental then at some point the government of a country will send some ministers to A-WEB meetings. Since most of the members are independent organizations it is better to have only representatives of the independent election management body. Therefore, if the wording can be changed to be more gentle it would make it things easier. The CEC of Bosnia fully supports the intent of the leadership. (Bosnia and Herzegovina, CEC)
- O Changing the name of A-WEB will cause difficulties for the General Electoral Commission of Mongolia as we are currently paying taxes under the name of A-WEB. It is recommended to include the name of A-WEB even as an international organization. (Mongolia, GEC)
- O It was a mistake to introduce the resolution at the end of the meeting. It is clear that the intent to convert A-WEB into an international organization is positive. It is understood that A-WEB does not want to be dependent on the government. Members first need to resolve administrative matters with their government and because our General Assembly only mets every 2 years the

members have only received the resolution now. I do not have the authority to vote for such a change because it was not included in the agenda prior. Members will need time to consult with the representatives of the country and then the members will be able to give you an answer. Members do want to change in order for the future but in order to make this big step members will need time to consult people back home. (Peru, JNE)

- O A-WEB has reached its peak as an NGO and needs to move on to the next stage, which is becoming an international organization. The limitations of fundraising as an NGO is a very difficult task. Because of the important and difficulties in financing, Kenya supports the resolution. (Kenya, IEBC)
- O The reason to convert this association is because A-WEB should be independent from any political power, and those who give money to our association, like the government of Korea, suspect that the money will be considered as ODA. This concerns them because most developed countries are suppressed by the international community to expend ODA for developing countries. Therefore, if the korean Korean governments give some money to the association they want the money to be considered ODA. However, because A-WEB is considered an NGO they suspect that the considered ODA from the international money is not community. Governments that want to give money to the association will then want to audit and supervise the budget. How can A-WEB be considered an independent organization when it has to answer to the government's audit department? There has been continuous attempts to convert A-WEB into an international organization, but there was no opportunity because the Korean government hesitated. But, there is a new administration in Korea and they have agreed that A-WEB should be independent from the Korean government and other political powers. All member countries do not need to sign the agreement in order for A-WEB to become an international organization.

Members' status will not change regardless if they sign the agreement or not. There has been attempts to receive funding from countries such as Japan, australia, Canada, and Taiwan but they all hesitated because A-WEB is only an NGO in legal status. (Secretary General, A-WEB)

- O Most members of the association has not paid their membership fee. A-WEB is an autonomous organization by nature. For an international government to be established it is something that a country's parliament should give the final approval. The election commission of the Dominican Republic fully supports the intent to convert the association to an international organization. Up until now, all members have been living in a sort of paradise, but in reality members have not brought in any contributions to the existing cost. Members cannot continue living in heaven and the reality is that A-WEB needs to become an international organization. (Dominican Republic, JCE)
- O The current draft of the resolution is scary because as it was explained it says that members have to guarantee their governments' signatures. After wasting time expressing the concerns of the members it appears that the Secretariat already has the signatures necessary to convert A-WEB into an international organization. Therefore, the question in front of the General Assembly right now is whether or not members agree to the conversion or not. (Palestine, CEC)
- O When the general election commission of Indonesia became a member of A-WEB it was done after long discussion with the Indonesian government, and when the GEC signed an MOU with A-WEB, it was also discussed with the Indonesia government. Now, if A-WEB is attempting to convert to an inter-governmental international organization our government will need to review everything, even if it is still possible to continue the MOU that was already signed with A-WEB. It does not mean whether the GEC agrees or disagree with the resolution but it needs time to discuss with the foreign

ministry. (Indonesia, GEC)

- O The agenda item to adopt the resolution to convert A-WEB into an inter-governmental international organization shall be put up for secret vote. If there are members who have problems with the resolution, there can be more discussion and will put a list of countries that want more discussion on the minutes of the meeting. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O It is a suggestion that given that the members understand and support the motivation behind the Secretary General and converting the association, that the members support the proposal and those who have some challenges or qualms about the proposal can abstain from voting until they have had their consultation. (South Africa, EC)
- There has been continued discussion with the Korean government to convert A-WEB into an international organization and the Korean government continued to decline the proposal. However, for the first time the Korean government has approved the proposal and expressed their will to convert A-WEB into an international organization. the Deputy Foreign Minister in Korea said that he would fully support the proposal if the resolution gets adopted at the General Assembly. The General Assembly is held only once every two years and it might be too late by the next General Assembly. The situation in Korea may change so there is a sense of urgency. The concerns of the members have been heard and are understood put because of the above reasons the resolution must go to vote. It is emphasized once gain that the status of each member will not change even after converting to an international organization. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O There has been no obvious "no" to the resolution and as such for those who need to consult their governments shall do so by abstaining to vote. A-WEB cannot wait any longer as the Secretary General has mentioned. As such it is

suggested that the resolution will be passed by consensus because no member has given an absolute "no." (Burkina Faso, CENA)

- O A new proposal on the adoption of the resolution is the item passes by consensus of the General Assembly and for those members who still have concerns regarding the resolution, the Secretariat will add a page to the resolution with a list of all the EMBs and give them time to consult with their respective governments. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O The principle of the resolution is supported by members however although Haiti is open to adopt it through a consensus, it depends on the various existing frameworks in different countries as some may problems may arise, and Haiti is such a country. Haiti cannot sign the resolution. It does agree to adding a last page to the minutes where you list the names of the countries who have concerns regarding the resolution. (Haiti, CEP)
- O The Secretariat will attach another page to the minutes reflecting the opinions of the members after adopting the resolution. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O It is suggested that the General Assembly adopt not a resolution, but a draft resolution or intention for consensus to express the intent to convert into an international organization and grant a mandate to the Executive Board to go through the necessary procedures. There should be a deadline to carry out the discussion for the members and their governments. (Colombia, RNEC)
- O Instead, why don't we the General Assembly adopt the resolution here and for members who cannot adopt it, the Secretariat will attach a page to the minutes stating the position of those particular EMBs. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O There should be four columns in the list that state the name of the institution, ayes, nays, and abstaining. Those who need more time to think can abstain and then will have a deadline to make a final decision. The

diversity of points of view should be respected. (Costa Rica, TSE)

- O For those countries that wish to abstain, their names will be attached to the resolution reflecting their decision. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O The Secretariat should present a letter addressed to my government stating that the status of members will not change even after the conversion. Also, if the three countries to sign the agreement are identified, the process will go a lot smoother. (Benin, CENA)
- O There may be concerns that without the signatures it is not enough to convert A-WEB into an inter-governmental international organization. Members here are representing election management bodies. three countries are necessary but the more the better. Lastly, the Secretary General will ask that this resolution be adopted by consensus and for those who have reservations on this topic, the Secretariat will attach a paper reflecting the opinions of the members to the resolution. For those who have reservations, please notify the Secretariat. (Secretary General, A-WEB)
- O If only three countries are necessary, it would be better to express their agreement to have their signatures on the agreement for those of us who need more time for analysis and consultation. It would be good to hear who those three countries are. (Colombia, RNEC)
- O There is no institution present that can make that decision. There are no government agencies present and this resolution has no legal power, as mentioned previously. This resolution is just proof that the members agree on the conversion of A-WEB into an international organization. The three countries cannot express their intention right now because it is just a resolution. The Secretary General reiterates that membership status will remain the same and there will be no extra financial burden of the members. Are there any objections? (Secretary General, A-WEB)

\*No objections\*

### 3. Conclusion: Approved as proposed

#### Follow-up Measures

- The Secretariat will attach a paper to the resolution reflecting the concerns and reservations of some members.
- \* The paper will include the name of the organization, country, and their reservations
- The Secretariat shall receive from the members an official letter stating their position and/or reservation

# Resolution to Convert A-WEB into an Inter-Governmental International Organization

We, the members of the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) established on October 14th of 2013 for the purpose of ensuring the conduct of free, fair, and transparent electoral processes in the world, who share A-WEB's vision and are fully committed to promoting democratic and credible elections in respective countries,

While appreciating the achievements that A-WEB has made since its establishment and recognizing their contribution to, and reverberating impact on, fostering democratic election management in member countries,

While acknowledging that the significance and *raison d'être* of A-WEB stand well demonstrated through the collective efforts of its members who strive to promote democratic elections in their countries,

While admitting that the inaugural form and status of A-WEB as a non-intergovernmental International Organization have not posed serious limitations to achieving its goals until now,

Also recognizing that some opportunities for A-WEB to better realize its vision and mission have been lost due to its nature as a non-intergovernmental International Organization,

Therefore, for the purpose of achieving the following objectives:

- 3. Increasing diversity in funding sources and thus gaining independence from particular funding organizations;
- 4. Gaining more maneuverability in the implementation of major projects; and
- 5. Improving visibility and status of A-WEB in the international community,

Hereby resolve to convert A-WEB into an inter-governmental International Organization under the following guiding principles:

- 1. The organization shall maintain the same vision and mission of A-WEB;
- 2. The organization shall maintain its nature as an association of Election Management Bodies around the world; and,
- 3. The organization shall not impose more burden upon its members than what they are currently bearing.

For the purpose of implementing this resolution, the General Assembly of A-WEB, as the ultimate decision-making body of this Association as stipulated in Article 14.1 and Article 14.2 of the Charter of A-WEB, hereby delegate and confer following authority and responsibilities to the Executive Board and the Secretary General of A-WEB:

- 1. The Secretary General of A-WEB shall take necessary measures to request relevant government authorities of members to ratify, accept, or approve the conversion of A-WEB into an intergovernmental International Organization by directly addressing signatory member countries with an official letter concerning the Agreement on the Establishment of A-WEB, which explains procedures and ramifications of the conversion; and
- 2. The Secretariat shall report to the Executive Board ratification, acceptance, or approval of the abovementioned Agreement that take place, whereupon

Executive Board shall declare the completion of the conversion process and promulgate that the effect of the conversion will come into force immediately after collecting three countries' consent to signing the Agreement.

The General Assembly hereby suggests that the Agreement on the Establishment of A-WEB be signed by concerned states based on the following conditions:

- 1. 1. The Agreement shall be open to be signed by the relevant government authorities of A-WEB members for long enough time after the adoption of this Resolution;
- 2. After the expiration of the specified period, the present Agreement shall remain open for accession by any state or intergovernmental organization, contingent upon approval by the Executive Board of A-WEB by simple majority;
- 3. While the signatory bodies for ratification, acceptance, or approval of the Agreement shall be the government of respective countries, the representative body of each state that has signed the Agreement shall be a duly designated Election Management Body of each country; and
- 4. The conversion shall not change or create any governance structure within A-WEB.

## [Appendix]

**Members that have expressed their reservations regarding the resolution** The State Election Commission of the Republic of Croatia

✓ submitted the letter on Sept. 12th 2017 explaining that jurisdiction of the State Election Commission of prescribed by Article 11 of the Act does not give it the authority to decide whether the Republic of Croatia can or cannot enter any form of international organization, and expressed its reservation regarding the decision of the 3rd General Assembly on the Resolution and its intent to make an official statement on its position on the subject within the next one month, after receiving an opinion from the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on the topic.