

Policy for motions for the General Assembly

Purpose

To lay down the requirements and procedures for motions submitted to the GA.

With this policy the World Board aims to guide IFOAM members, however it leaves any freedom for members to submit motions diverting from these requirements

Background

According to paragraph 5 of IFOAM's Statutes, motions from members have to be proposed at least four months (120 days) before the General Assembly.

5. General Assembly

IFOAM members and the World Board may submit motions to the General Assembly. Motions from members must be proposed to the World Board at least 120 days before the session of the General Assembly. Motions must be sent out at least 60 days before the session of the General Assembly. Motions from the floor may only amend the aforementioned motions. Adopted motions must be implemented. Once adopted, the content of a motion can only be changed by a new motion at the next General Assembly.

The Rules of Procedure for the IFOAM General Assembly define under § 6 the decision-making procedure for motions and conduct at the GA in detail.

Motion requirements

Motions should address important policy issues and long-term strategies of IFOAM.

Submitters of motions are encouraged to apply the following requirements for the formulation of a motion in order to clarify the exact proposed decision:

- Only one topic per Motion (the topic itself may have different action items/subtopics)
- Consistent with IFOAM's mission, goals and objectives (if applicable with reference to the IFOAM Program)
- Clear and easy to understand
- Short
- No questions
- No statements

The submitter of the motion should send along with the motion text a short rationale (maximum half page A4), which explains the reasoning of the motion. Furthermore the submitter should indicate in the motion text the target of the motion, i.e. the body to implement the motion (e.g. Membership, WB, Committees, etc.).

Procedure

A Call for motions is published in IFOAM in Action - IFOAM's Internal newsletter- and on the webpage for affiliates (Intranet) in due time - at least three month - before the 120 day motion submission deadline. The above requirements are part of this call.

Approved by the EB 0503