

PDP Working Group (WG) Guidelines and Procedures

<https://afrinic.net/policy/proposals/afpub-2026-gen-001-draft01>

Authors: Gregoire Ehoumi, Noah Maina, Alain Aina

Previous Attempt

22 Jul 2020

Version 1

30 Jul 2020

Version 2

22 May 2021

Version 3

10 Nov 2021

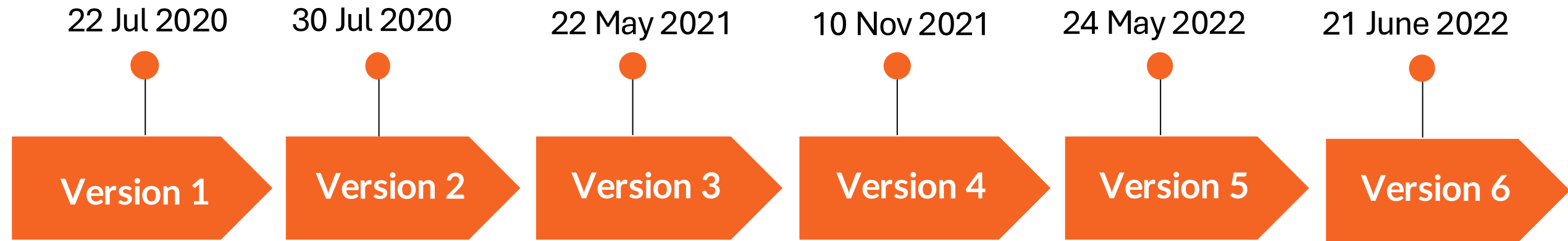
Version 4

24 May 2022

Version 5

21 June 2022

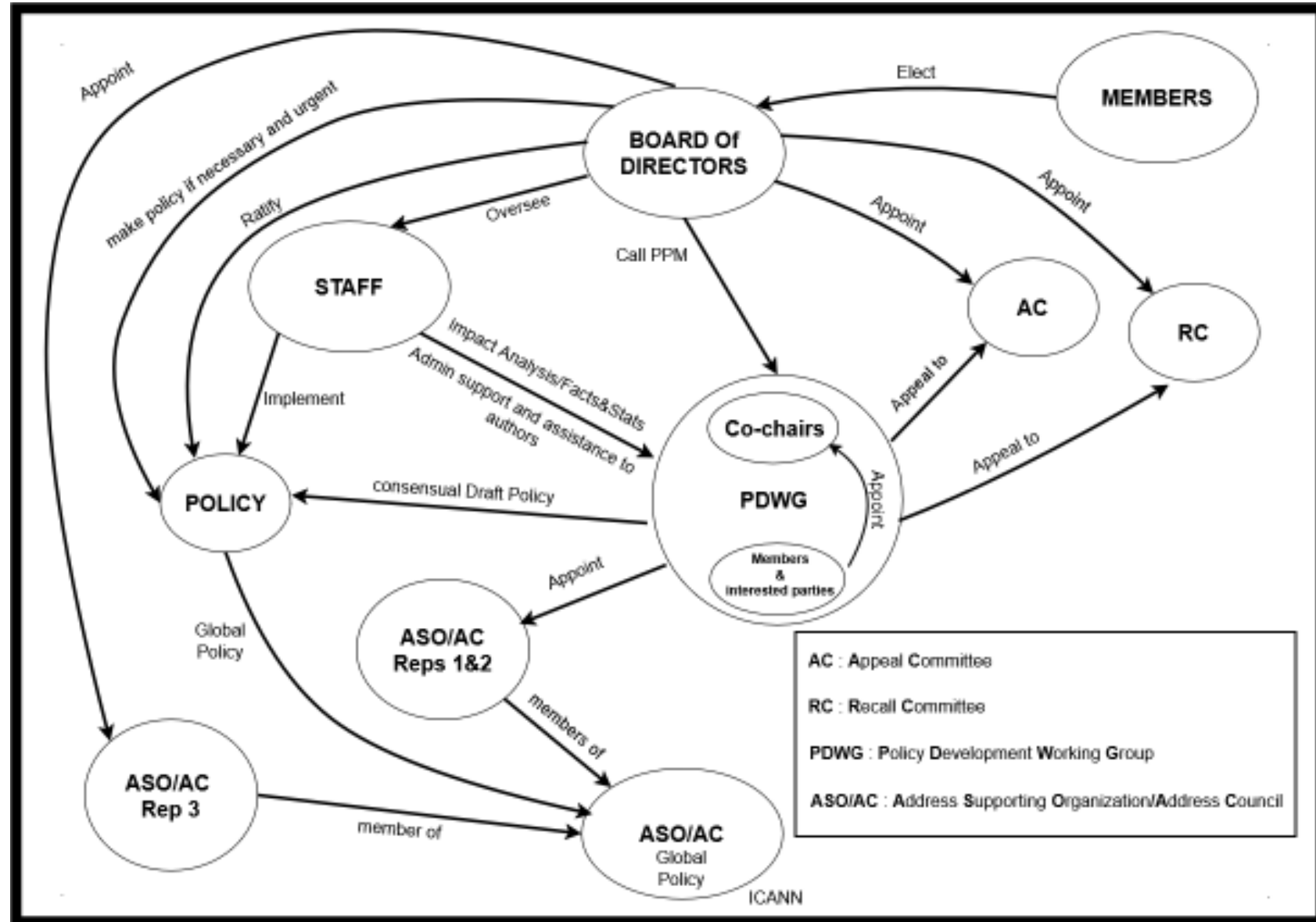
Version 6



What has happened since then ?

- Recent governance crises exposed structural vulnerabilities
- PDP and PDWG operations became dependent on-Board availability
- No mechanisms exist for continuity when:
 - Board loses quorum
 - Board is legally or operationally paralysed
 - AFRINIC is derecognised or registry functions transfer
- Community lacks tools to ensure policy progress during institutional failure

Current AFRINIC PDP framework



What Problems Are We Fixing?

- . No clear rules for how the Working Group operates
- . Board paralysis blocked policy progress
 - No PPMs, no co-chair renewals, no appeals, no NRO NC elections
- . No mechanisms exist for continuity when:
 - Board loses quorum
 - Board is legally or operationally paralysed
 - RIR is derecognised or registry functions transferred to emergency operator

Objectives of the Proposal

- Define clear and explicit Working Group guidelines and procedures
- Reduce PDP dependence on the Board
- Ensure continuity of policy development under all circumstances
- Strengthen transparency and legitimacy of PDWG leadership
- Modernise NRO NC community-representative selection
- Introduce safeguards against indefinite non-ratification
- Align with new ICP-2 requirements for RIR ongoing commitments

What This Proposal Introduces

- Clear rules for how the Working Group functions
- A community-based Number Council
- Community-based Appeal & Recall committees
- Community Consultations in multiple languages
- A way to ratify policies even if the Board is blocked

What the Proposal *Does Not* Do

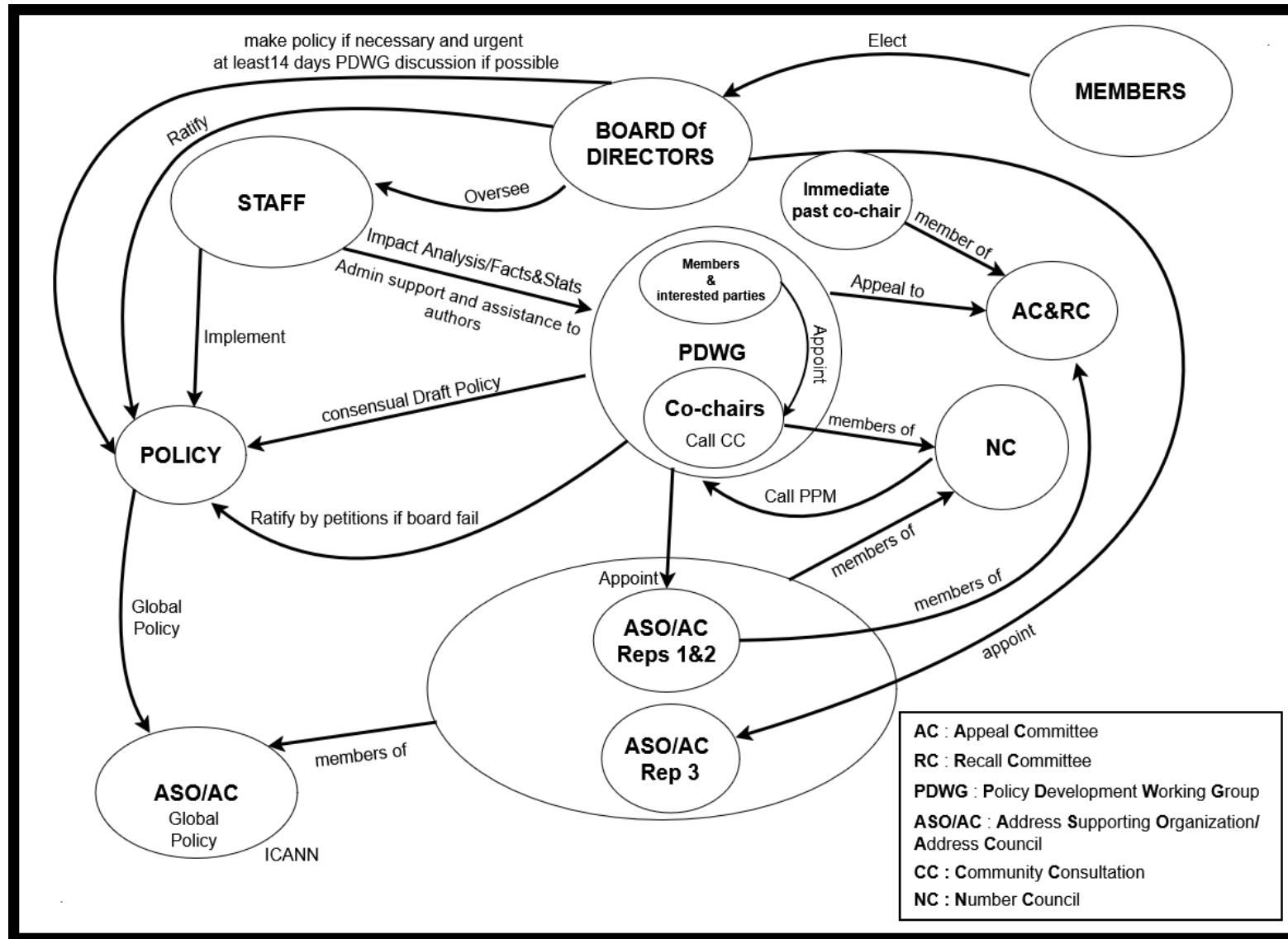
- . Does **not** amend AFRINIC Ltd governance except where explicitly stated
- . Does **not** remove or weaken Board authority
- . Does **not** interfere with AFRINIC operations or staff
- . Does **not** change the grounds for appeal or recall
- . Does **not** create a parallel governance structure

Explicit Governance Interactions

The proposal identifies only two required amendments to the governance:

- 1. Bylaws 11.2** — PPM convening authority
- 2. NRO NC election process** — community representative selection

New PDP framework



Strengthening PDP Continuity

The proposal ensures PDP operation even when:

- AFRINIC is under emergency registry operation
- AFRINIC is derecognised under ICP-2
 - This protects the community's ability to manage number resources responsibly.

Petition-Based Ratification (Safeguard)

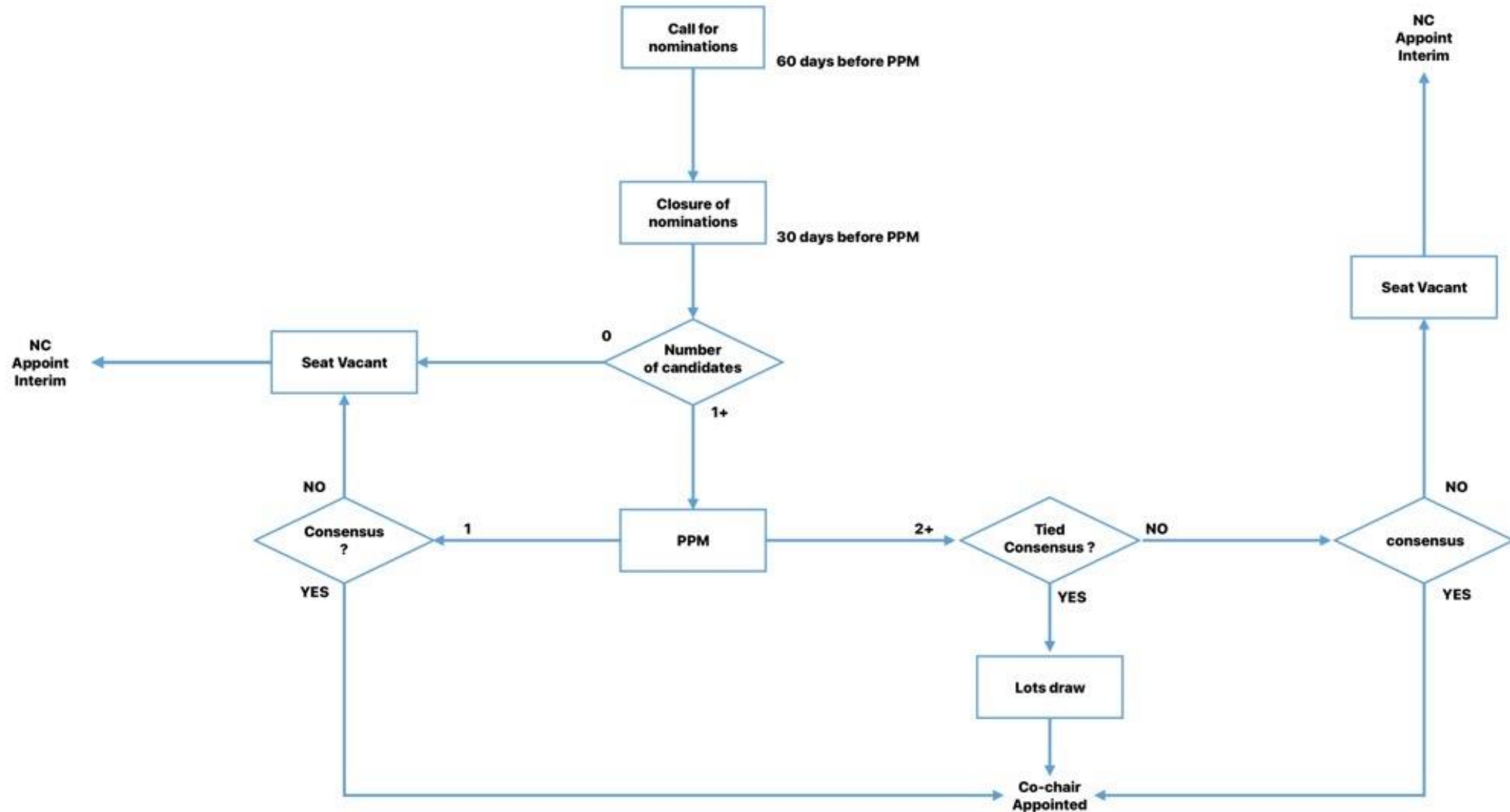
Triggered **only** when:

- Board is unable to act for 60 days, **or**
- Board refuses to ratify **without giving reasons**
 - Not triggered when the Board provides justification.
 - Ensures community-adopted policy cannot be stalled indefinitely.

PDWG Co-Chair Selection Reform

- Moves from **voting** to **consensus-based selection**
- Aligns with global RIR practice
- Reduces politicisation
- Strengthens legitimacy and community trust
- Ensures continuity even when elections cannot be held

PDWG Co-Chair Selection Reform

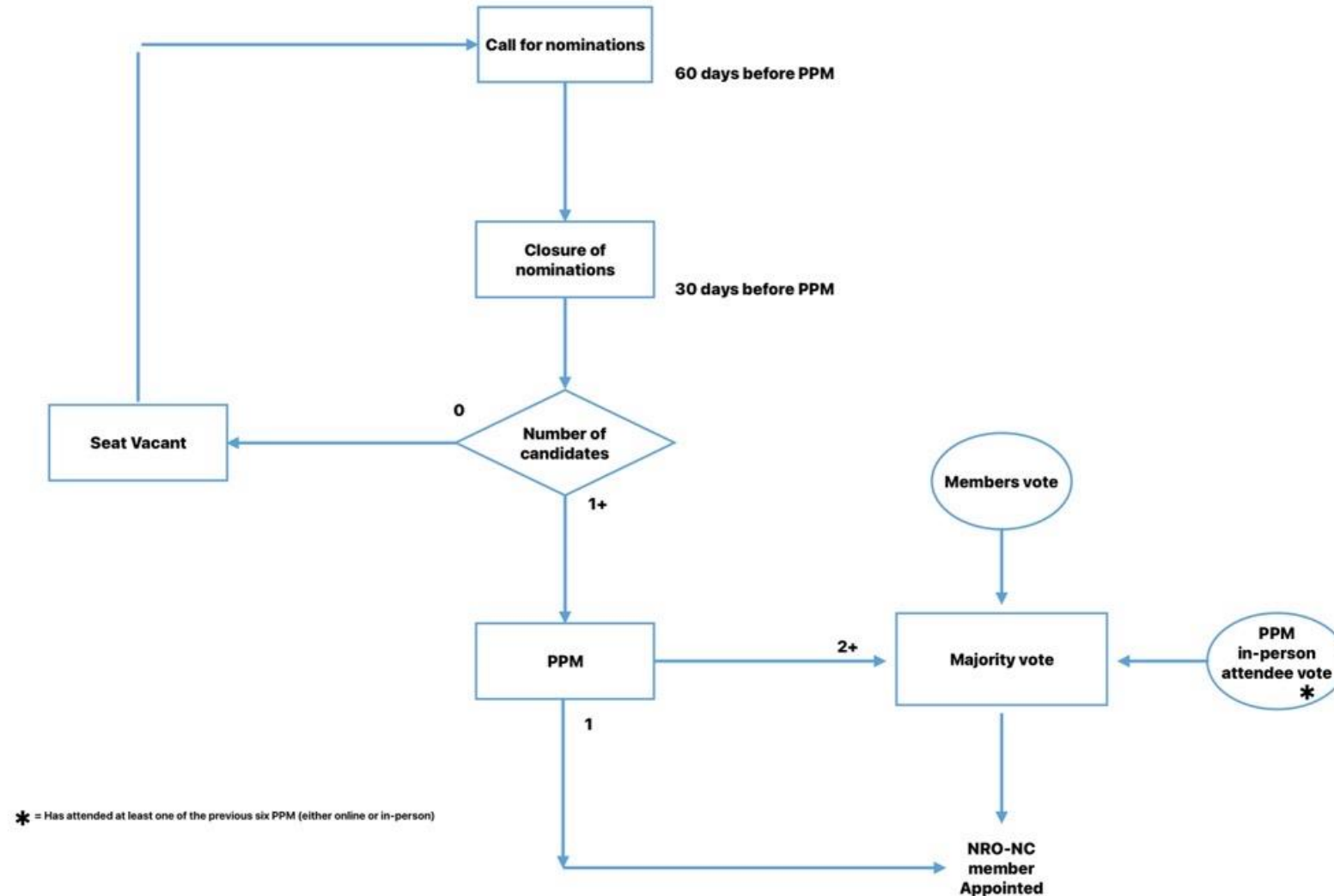


NRO NC Community Representatives

New hybrid model:

- AFRINIC members vote
 - Corporate contacts
 - Authorized contacts with voting rights given by the Corporate Contact
- Meeting attendees vote
 - Individuals who reside in a country within the AFRINIC service region
 - registered for the current PPM they are attending **in-person**
 - attended at least one of the previous six PPM (either online or in-person)
- Ensures broad legitimacy
- Aligns with global NRO NC expectations

NRO NC Community Representatives



Regional Number Council (RNC)

- May convene a PPM **only when the Board cannot**
- Ensures the PDP remains functional under all circumstances
- Appoint interim co-chair(s)
- RNC chair leads Consensus determination if no co-chair
- **3 NRO NC representatives + Co-chairs**

Appeal & Recall Committees

No change to grounds or procedures. Improvements:

- Recall now requires:
 - 10 supporters
 - from 10 organisations
 - subscribed ≥ 1 year
 - attended ≥ 1 PPM in last 2 years
- Increases transparency
- Reduces risk of abuse
- Committees remain distinct in function
- **AC/RC: 2 NRO NC Community-representatives + Immediate past co-chairs**

Behaviour & Moderation

- Everyone is welcome
- Disruptive behaviour gets a private warning
- Then a public warning
- Then temporary posting suspension (max 30 days)
- All decisions can be appealed

Thank You

Questions & Discussion

Not mature enough to move to next step.