

Facts about Servas International Distant Vote

Servas International (SI) makes decisions at General Assemblies, normally held every three years, and between General Assemblies, through a formal Distant Vote process that is defined in section VII of the Statutes. A schedule of Distant Votes is published after each General Assembly, and there are normally 2 scheduled each year. A Distant Vote Administrator is elected at each General Assembly, to ensure that the Distant Vote is run by an independent person chosen by the General Assembly.

As with the General Assemblies, each SI Member Group has one vote. Before each Distant Vote, the status of each SI Member Group is reviewed to determine if they have met the requirements to be eligible to vote in the Distant Vote. The Distant Vote Administrator manages the voting process and also arranges for an online discussion group at which voters can ask questions and discuss the motions.

A Distant Vote decision is passed “as if they have been passed by a meeting of the General Assembly” if it achieves a **double majority**.

A double majority is defined in the Servas International statutes, section VII Distant Voting, clause 11:

- “Motions shall be declared adopted as if they have been passed by a meeting of the General Assembly if they get a double majority:
- a) when the majority of the votes cast are "support/yes",
 - b) AND when the "support/yes" vote is at least four tenths of the number of member groups allowed to vote in the Distant Vote.”