



# ELECTIONS PROCEDURE FOR SERVAS INTERNATIONAL GA 2022

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1. Voting for the following Servas International positions will occur in this order:
    - A. President
    - B. Vice President
    - C. General Secretary
    - D. Treasurer
    - E. Peace Secretary
    - F. Technology and Membership Secretary
    - G. Committees
      - i. Audit (3)
      - ii. Development (5)
      - iii. Youth (5)
      - iv. Distant Vote Administrator (1)
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## Before the Election:

2. Member countries not sending a delegate to the GA must designate a proxy voter at least 30 days before the GA. See Proxy Voting Procedure.
  3. Candidates submit their Candidate Forms to the Nominations Team. See Nominations Procedure and Guidelines.
  4. The Nominations Team posts information about the election candidates for each position online prior to the GA.
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## Voting Process:

5. The S.I. Statutes state that elections will be conducted by secret ballot. Only the number of votes cast and the number of votes each candidate receives is announced and documented.
  6. The Proxy Officer will announce the countries holding proxies.
  7. The Nominations Team will perform the role of the Balloting Team.
  8. The Balloting Team will distribute, collect, count and store the ballots. When the GA is conducted online, the ballots will be distributed as a link to a ballot form where the delegate (or their proxy) will cast their votes. When the delegate submits the ballot form, the votes are collected, counted and stored electronically.
  9. During the elections process, the GA will conduct other business while waiting for the results.
  10. For each position or committee:
    - a. The position or committee (including the number of members to be elected), and all candidate names and countries will be displayed online. The display will be updated as nominations come in and are confirmed to have the required supporter(s) (nominator(s)) until the nominations close.
    - b. When nominations have closed, each candidate who is confirmed to have the required supporter(s) (nominator(s)) will be assumed to agree to stand for election.
    - c. The display of the position or committee, and all candidates will be updated as required. The display will be accessible online until elections have taken place.
    - d. Each candidate shall notify the Nominations Team no later than close of nominations if they would like to nominate a scrutineer to witness the counting of the ballots.
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- e. The Neutral Moderator will announce the number of registered voters, including proxies, and the Balloting Team will make a note of it.
  - f. The Balloting Team will distribute ballots for delegate and proxy voting. When the GA is conducted online, the ballots will be distributed to the delegate (or their proxy) as registered before the GA.
  - g. Every ballot will also have the option None of the Above (NOTA) on it. For a single-person election, if NOTA gets the most votes, then no one will be elected to the position. For a committee position, only people getting more votes than NOTA will be elected. Voters will write clearly the name of the candidate or candidates on their ballot paper. When the GA is conducted online, the ballot form will state the candidate names and allow the voter to tick next to name(s) to cast their vote(s). For committees, each voter will write the same number of names as the number of the committee members or a smaller number of names. For committees, when the GA is conducted online, the ballot form will allow the voter to tick several times and each voter will tick the number of the committee members or a smaller number of names to cast their vote(s).
  - h. A valid vote includes up to the maximum number of positions being elected. A vote becomes invalid if the number is exceeded.
  - i. The Balloting Team will collect the ballot papers. When the GA is conducted online, the ballots will be collected electronically.

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### Vote Counting:

- j. The Balloting Team will take the ballots to the adjacent room for counting. The scrutineers will accompany them and will observe the counting without touching the ballots. When the GA is conducted online, the Balloting Team will count the votes electronically and the scrutineers can participate online.
- k. In determining the validity of the ballots, the Balloting Team will be the final arbiter of the intent of the voter and any spoiled votes.
- l. The Balloting Team will count the total votes cast, the votes for each candidate, and the votes that are spoiled (e.g. blank, unclear ones, names which are not approved candidates, wrong number of names if a committee).
- m. The Balloting Team will also check that the number of ballots matches the number of voters. If it does not, this needs to be reconciled with the Neutral Moderator and the GA delegates.
- n. The Balloting Team will complete the Election Results Form and store the ballots in an envelope marked with the position or committee name. When the GA is conducted online, the votes will be stored electronically.
- o. The votes will be destroyed at the end of the GA.
- p. The results will be announced to the GA as soon as practical.

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### Voting situations:

For individual positions:

- q. When there are more than 2 candidates for a position, considering None of the Above (NOTA) as a candidate, and none of those receives more than half of the votes, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall stand in a further election with all of the delegates voting again.
- r. If there are more than 1 candidate tied with the most votes, and all of the candidates wish to continue, there will be another vote including only those candidates. If the result is another tie, then the current Neutral Moderator will consult with all candidates to seek a solution.

For Committees:

- s. The candidates with the most votes are elected to the committee.
- t. If a tie vote makes it impossible to declare the full committee, and all candidates wish to continue, then the whole committee election is repeated. If the result is still not clear, then the current Neutral Moderator will consult with the candidates to seek a solution.