



Proposals for the 2023 Congress

Modifications of the Statutes

The texts below are applicable on January 1st, 2024, unless mentioned otherwise.

Article: 3.1. Introduce real-time streaming from the FIE Congress

P.1

Proposal from: Swedish Fencing Federation

Motivation: The purpose of this proposal is to increase the transparency of the FIE Congress procedures. The discussions and the decisions of the Congress are of interest to fencers, coaches and fencing volunteers around the world. It is also of importance that the decision-making process of the FIE is transparent to media to the largest possible extent.

3.1 MEETINGS

f) The proceedings of every Congress must be transmitted live (video and sound) via the Internet and the link to the transmission made publicly available on the FIE web-site before the start of the Congress.

Legal Commission: Not in favour of the proposition.

There are no legal reasons for this requirement, it is not necessary for transparency as the congress report is published later in the year and it is contentious in terms of outside pressures, of the implications for congress attendees of unwanted social media attention.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Agrees with the opinion and arguments of the Legal Commission. Not in favour of the proposal as the current process is fully transparent:

- the documentation for the Congress is issued in 3 languages, sent to NFs and published on the FIE website.
- the list of decisions of the Congress is issued in 3 languages, sent to NFs and published on the FIE website.
- the verbatim report of the Congress is issued in 3 languages, sent to NFs and published on the FIE website.

Article: 3.3 and 4.1**Proposal from: Legal Commission**

Motivation: To allow candidates for commissions and the Ethics Committee to attend Elective Congresses.

3.3 COMPOSITION AND REPRESENTATION

3.3.1 The FIE member Federations may be represented at a FIE Congress by 2 delegates, ~~whose names must be made known to the FIE Head Office one month before the Congress in writing~~. Members of the Executive Committee, the Commissions, ~~and~~ the permanent councils ("Councils") ~~and of the Ethics Committee~~ have the right to take part in the Congress.

At FIE Elective Congresses, the FIE member Federations may be represented by 2 delegates. Members of the Executive Committee and candidates to elected positions have the right to take part in the FIE Elective Congresses.

All participants in the FIE Congresses must be registered by their national federation, 40 calendar days before the opening day of the Congress and using the platform or tool that will be made available by the FIE.

4.1 GENERAL RULES

4.1.2 Candidates for the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council, the Ethics Committee or the Disciplinary Panel may be proposed by an FIE Member Federation, subject to the following conditions ~~and requirements~~:

- only one candidate may be proposed by each Member Federation for each post
- a candidate can only be presented by the Member Federation (treated in 4.4.1, 4.6.2 and 4.7.1) whom the candidate has nationality.

~~4.1.3~~ - ~~A~~ all the candidatures ~~must be received on the FIE platform or tool shall reach the FIE Head Office~~ no later than 00:00 hrs Lausanne time ~~40~~ 50 calendar days before the opening day of the Elective Congress.

- ~~¶~~ the candidatures submitted on the FIE platform or tool must include a CV (maximum length of one page of A4 format) ~~stating must be presented by means of a form provided by the FIE (one single page of A4 format) which must include~~ the languages spoken as well as the degrees or other qualifications for the particular ~~position commission~~. A photocopy of an identity document stating the candidate's date of birth and nationality (passport, identity card, driving licence) must be provided with the candidature.

4.1.3 The ~~administrative office of the FIE will include the~~ list of all the candidates as well as the CVs that have been received ~~will be included~~ in the documents relating to the Congress.

4.1.4 The FIE Bureau rejects candidatures which do not respect the FIE Statutes or the IOC Code of Ethics. Each national federation can contest the list of the candidates communicated by the Bureau. All questions will in the last instance be considered by the Executive Committee, after advice from the Legal Commission and the persons concerned. In case of urgency an opinion can be obtained by fax or e-mail.

Legal Commission: In favour of the proposition.

The Commission would like to add the attendance of presidents of commissions, councils and committees, so that paragraph 2 of the proposal would read (added words highlighted in yellow):-

At FIE Elective Congresses, the FIE member Federations may be represented by 2 delegates. Members of the Executive Committee, presidents of commissions, councils and committees and candidates to elected positions have the right to take part in the FIE Elective Congresses.

The commission considers that as the congress might discuss matters relating to the work of these bodies their presidents should have the right to be present to represent them and to assist the Congress better to understand the topic concerned.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the modifications in paragraphs 1 and 3 of article 3.3.1. Paragraph 2 of 3.3.1 is reviewed as follows for the sake of clarity:

At FIE Elective Congresses, the FIE member Federations may be represented by 2 delegates. In addition, the following individuals have the right to take part in the FIE Elective Congresses:

- current members of the Executive Committee
- current presidents of commissions, councils and committees
- candidates to elected positions

In favour of 4.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3 and 4.1.4.

Article: 4.4.2**Proposal from: Legal Commission****Motivation:** Refine the conditions for candidature for election to The Medical Commission

4.4.2 To be candidate for a permanent commission or the Ethics Committee a person must hold a licence from his National Federation except if he is a Member of Honour, be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

~~It is desirable that the candidates for various Commissions have specific professional knowledge or credentials as follows:~~

A candidate for the Medical Commission - must have completed the educational requirements for being an MD, DO or DC or have practiced as a physiotherapist, or have been a member of the Commission for at least 8 years.

Medical Commission: Not in favour.

The core issue of discussion pertains to the expansion of criteria for Medical Commission Member candidates to include Doctors of Osteopathy (DO) and Doctors of Chiropractic (DC) proposed by the Legal Commission. While the proposal was rejected by the majority of the Medical Commission with a vote of 8-2, the dissenting and advocacy votes raised significant points that merit further consideration.

Legal Commission: In favour of the proposition.

The Commission however proposes the modification of the proposition as follows:-

A candidate for the Medical Commission - must have completed the educational requirements for being an MD, DO or DC ~~or have practiced as a physiotherapist, or have been a member of the Commission for at least 8 years~~ and hold a valid and active licence, or be qualified and be practicing as a physiotherapist.

The Commission considers that to ensure they maintain their knowledge and skills up to date through continuous professional development it is necessary that its members are currently qualified to practice, and that therefore the clause in the following propositions accepting previous membership of the commission as a criterion for candidature, in order to benefit from their experience, is not appropriate.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the deletion of the sentence below and in favour of the revised proposal below:

~~It is desirable that the candidates for various Commissions have specific professional knowledge or credentials as follows:~~

A candidate for the Medical Commission - must have completed the educational requirements for being an MD, DO or DC ~~or have practiced~~ and hold a valid and active licence, or be qualified and be practicing as a physiotherapist or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.

Article: 4.4.2

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Proposal from: Legal Commission

Motivation: Refine the conditions for candidature for election to the Legal Commission

4.4.2 To be candidate for a permanent commission or the Ethics Committee a person must hold a licence from his National Federation except if he is a Member of Honour, be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

~~It is desirable that the candidates for various Commissions have specific professional knowledge or credentials as follows:~~

A candidate for the Legal Commission — must have the educational requirements or ~~be practising~~ have practiced as a lawyer, judge or notary or have been a member of the Commission for at least 8 years;

Legal Commission: In favour of the proposition.

The Commission however proposes to change ‘the’ to ‘this’, for the sake of clarity, and delete the last 4 words (for at least 8 years), as unnecessary, so as to read:-

A candidate for the Legal Commission — must have the educational requirements or ~~be practising~~ have practiced as a lawyer, judge or notary or have been a member of this Commission.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the deletion of the sentence below and in favour of the following:

~~It is desirable that the candidates for various Commissions have specific professional knowledge or credentials as follows:~~

A candidate for the Legal Commission — must have the educational requirements or ~~be practising~~ have practiced as a lawyer, judge or notary or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates;

Article: 4.4.2

P.5

Proposal from: Legal Commission

Motivation: introduce conditions for candidature for election to the Promotion, Communication and Marketing commission

4.4.2 To be candidate for a permanent commission or the Ethics Committee a person must hold a licence from his National Federation except if he is a Member of Honour, be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

A candidate for the Promotion, Communication and Marketing Commission must have a college or university degree in marketing or communications and have held a management position in marketing or communications or have been the producer of films, or have been a member of the Commission for at least 8 years.

PCM Commission: Proposed text:

A candidate for the Promotion, Communication and Marketing Commission must:

- have a college or university degree in Marketing, Communications or Media
- or have professional experience in Marketing, Communications or Media
- or have been a member of the Commission for at least 4 years.

Legal Commission: In favour of the proposition.

The Commission however proposes to change 'the' to 'this', for the sake of clarity, delete the last 4 words (for at least 8 years), as unnecessary, so as to read:-

A candidate for the Promotion, Communication and Marketing Commission must have a college or university degree in marketing or communications and have held a management position in marketing or communications or have been the producer of films, or have been a member of **this** Commission.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the following:

A candidate for the Promotion, Communication and Marketing Commission must:

- have a college or university degree in Marketing, Communications or Media
- or have professional experience in Marketing, Communications or Media
- or have been a member of this Commission for at least **two mandates**.

Article: 4.4.2
Proposal from: Legal Commission

P.6

Motivation: Refine the conditions for candidature for election to the Refereeing Commission

A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must:

- be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons; and
- be a current member **or have already been a member** of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in at least two weapons in at least two (2) of the 4 fencing seasons (1 September to 31 August) preceding his candidature; and
- have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of **32/16** or eight **or** semi-final

or final of the individual or team event of a senior World Cup, or a Grand Prix, or a World Championships or the Olympic Games of the 4 fencing seasons preceding his candidature **or have been part of the master list.**

Being a member of the Refereeing Commission is incompatible with the national roles of technical director, referee, chief of delegation and team captain, **President, Secretary General or member of the governing body of a National Federation.** Once elected, the Refereeing Commission member shall send to the FIE head-office a letter of commitment signed by both the Refereeing Commission member and his/her national federation.

Refereeing Commission: Not in favour.

Legal Commission: In favour of the first half of the proposition (up to “been part of the master list”). The commission proposes however to replace “have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of 32/16 or eight... etc” by “have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of 16 or eight etc”.

Not in favour of the second part modifications (“Being a member National Federation” as being too wide-ranging and potentially penalizing smaller federations where members fulfill multiple roles:-

A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must:

- be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons; and
- be a current member **or have already been a member** of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in at least two weapons in at least two (2) of the 4 fencing seasons (1 September to 31 August) preceding his candidature; and
- have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of 16 or eight or semi-final or final of the individual or team event of a senior World Cup, or a Grand Prix, or a World Championships or the Olympic Games of the 4 fencing seasons preceding his candidature **or have been part of the master list.**

Once elected, the Refereeing Commission member shall send to the FIE head-office a letter of commitment signed by both the Refereeing Commission member and his/her national federation

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the following:

A candidate for the Refereeing Commission must:

- be or have been an FIE category B or A referees in at least two weapons; and
- be a current member **or have been a member for at least two mandates** of the Refereeing Commission, or have refereed in official FIE competitions in at least two weapons in at least two (2) of the 4 fencing seasons (1 September to 31 August) preceding his candidature; and
- have refereed, at least once, in one weapon, in the table of eight or semi-final or final of the individual or team event of a senior World Cup, or a Grand Prix, or a World Championships or the Olympic Games of the 4 fencing seasons preceding his candidature.

Article: 4.4.2

P.7

Proposal from: Legal Commission

Motivation: Introduce conditions for candidature for election to the Rules Commission

4.4.2 To be candidate for a permanent commission or the Ethics Committee a person must hold a licence from his National Federation except if he is a Member of Honour, be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

A candidate for the Rules Commission must have been an active 'A' or 'B' rated referee or have officiated, at least twice, as a president of the DT at a Zonal Championship or as a member of the DT at a World Championship or as a member of the DT at an Olympic Games, or have been a member of the Commission for at least 8 years.

Rules Commission: Not in favour. The limitations are not necessary. The competence and the attitude should prevail on previous experience.

Legal Commission: In favour of the proposition. The Commission however proposes to change 'the' to 'this', for the sake of clarity, and delete the last 4 words (for at least 8 years), as unnecessary, so as to read:-

A candidate for the Rules Commission must have been an active 'A' or 'B' rated referee or have officiated, at least twice, as a president of the DT at a Zonal Championship or as a member of the DT at a World Championship or as a member of the DT at an Olympic Games, or have been a member of this Commission.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the following:

A candidate for the Rules Commission must have been an 'A' or 'B' rated referee or have officiated, at least twice, as a president of the DT at a Zonal Championship or as a member of the DT at a World Championship or as a member of the DT at an Olympic Games, or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.

Article: 4.4.2

P.8

Proposal from: Legal Commission

Motivation: Refine the conditions for candidature for election to the SEMI Commission

4.4.2 To be candidate for a permanent commission or the Ethics Committee a person must hold a licence from his National Federation except if he is a Member of Honour, be at least 21 years of age on the date of the elections and enjoy the full civic rights of the country to which he belongs.

~~It is desirable that the candidates for various Commissions have specific professional knowledge or credentials as follows:~~

A candidate for the - SEMI Commission must have a college degree in engineering or science or be practising as an engineer or have been a member of the Commission for at least 8 years.

SEMI Commission: In favour with the follow amendments:

The SEMI Commission will set selection criteria and development opportunities.

A candidate for the - SEMI Commission must have a college degree in engineering or science or a subject relating to the work of the SEMI, be practising as an engineer or have been a member of the Commission for at least 8 years, or hold a qualification recognised by the SEMI Commission in Armoury work.

Legal Commission: In favour of the proposition. The commission would like to modify the text of the proposition by changing 'the' to 'this', for the sake of clarity, deleting its last four words (for at least 8 years), and adding an additional paragraph ('Be a member or') as follows:-

A candidate for the SEMI Commission must have a college degree in engineering or science or be practising as an engineer or have been a member of this Commission, and

Be a member or have already been a member of the SEMI Commission of a National Federation or fulfilled an equivalent role, or have officiated at least twice at weapon control or as a technician at Zonal Championship or a World Championship or an Olympic Games.

The commission notes the risk of candidates for the commission having all the academic qualifications required but no experience of the sport of fencing and therefore of practical fencing-related applications, and therefore proposes this additional second paragraph.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the deletion of the sentence below and in favour of the following:

~~It is desirable that the candidates for various Commissions have specific professional knowledge or credentials as follows:~~

A candidate for the SEMI Commission must have a college degree in engineering or science in a subject relating to the work of the SEMI Commission, or be practising as an engineer or have been a member of this Commission for at least two mandates.

Article: 4.5

Proposal from: FIE Executive Committee

P.9

Motivation:

- increase the number of elected athletes in relation to the number of nominated athletes (IOC guideline)
- take into account the possible change of the year of the Olympic Games
- adaptation of the voting system (electronic voting, scan of the accreditation)
- clarifications

4.5 ELECTION OF THE ATHLETES COMMISSION.

- 4.5.1 The elections for the Athletes Commission are held at the ~~Open Senior~~ World Championships in the year following the Olympic Games.
- 4.5.2 All athletes who, in the weapon in which they fence, have been entered to compete in either one of the last two Olympic Games or at least one of the ~~Open Senior~~ World Championships held over the last 5 years can be a candidate for the Athletes Commission.
- If the fencer has fenced several weapons during such competitions, he must choose only one of those weapons for this candidature.
- Each member federation can nominate one single athlete ~~for~~ to the Athletes Commission
- 4.5.3 Each member federation shall indicate to the FIE the name of its candidate two months before the first day of the ~~Open Senior~~ World Championships in the year following the Olympic Games.
- 4.5.4 One month before the ~~Senior~~ World Championships, the FIE shall send to each member federation the list of the candidates.
- 4.5.5 The athletes who will participate in the ~~Open Senior~~ World Championships in the year following the Olympic Games will elect ~~six-seven~~ representatives (always among the athletes nominated by the member Federations) ~~for a four year term~~.
- 4.5.6 A list of candidates will be established, all weapons combined, and each participant shall vote for ~~6~~ ~~seven~~ athletes maximum, whatever weapon the athletes are applying for.
- 4.5.7 The voting athletes will personally go to the ~~voting~~ office of the FIE at the competition site ~~in order to proceed with the vote to fill in their voting slip and deposit them in the ballot box~~, after having verified their identity by presenting their accreditation.
- ~~The athlete's accreditation will be scanned or the athlete will sign and having signed~~ the attendance sheet.
- 4.5.8 ~~Voting may be conducted electronically. If the vote is not organised by electronic means but by means of paper ballots, o~~One single ballot box will be provided for all weapons.
- 4.5.9 The voting will be open for all weapons and will begin on the first day of the ~~Senior~~ World Championships and will end at noon local time on the last day of the World Championships.

- 4.5.10 The **seven** candidates who have received the greatest number of votes will be elected, without distinction of weapon.
- 4.5.11 In case of a tie, the candidate who has the highest placing in the world Open ranking on the date of the opening of the **Open Senior** World Championships will have the preference.
- 4.5.12 The Executive Committee, at its first meeting after these **Open-Senior** World Championships, will nominate up to **6 five** athletes among the list of athletes submitted by their national federations. ~~The athletes are nominated for a four year term.~~ If the submitted candidacies allow it, all 6 weapons and four zones – Europe, America, Africa and Asia/Oceania – must be represented within the commission.
- 4.5.13 The federations will be informed of the result of the athletes' votes at the closing ceremony of the **Open Senior** World Championships. ~~and t~~The complete list of **elected and appointed athletes names** will be **sent to the federations provided by the Executive Committee** with as little delay as possible.
- 4.5.14 The Athletes' Commission thus formed shall remain in office until the Senior World Championships held after the next Olympic Games.

Legal Commission: In favour.

Athletes' Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal.

Application: next elections of the Athletes Commission (2025).

Article: 4.4 and 6.9

Proposal from: Legal Commission

P.10

(Deferred proposal from Congress 2022)

Motivation: To bring the Committee into line with the Commissions, to increase its availability to both ensure the FIE's observance of its Code of Ethics and to provide a viable quorum of neutral members when required.

4.4 ELECTION OF COMMISSIONS (OTHER THAN THE ATHLETES COMMISSION) AND THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 4.4.3 a) For the elections to the permanent commissions **and the Ethics Committee**, the 10 candidates with the most votes are elected subject to the fact that they must be of different nationalities.

~~b) For the election to the Ethics Committee, the 5 candidates with the most votes are elected subject to the fact that they must be of different nationalities.~~

4.4.4 a) If the 10 candidates to a Commission or the Ethics Committee who have obtained the most votes do not include at least 3 persons of each gender, the Commission will consist of the 3 candidates of the under-represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and the 7 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes.

~~b) For the Ethics Committee, if the 5 members who have obtained the most votes do not include at least 2 persons of each gender, the Committee will consist of 2 candidates of the under-represented gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes and 3 candidates of the other gender who have obtained the greatest number of votes~~

6.9 THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Ethics Committee is made up of five ten voting members elected by the Congress.

Legal Commission: In favour.

Ethics Committee:

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the proposals in 4.4.3, 4.4.4 and 6.9.

P.11

Article: 5.2.1

Proposal from: National Fencing Federation of Kazakhstan

Motivation: Our federation regularly reads and continues to study the Statutes of the FIE. We are also reviewing modern conditions of the development of the Fencing world.

In this regard, the Kazakhstan Fencing Federation would like to inform you that in Chapter V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, in paragraph 5.2 STRUCTURE OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, contains paragraph 5.2.1. which does not include all members of the executive committee of the FIE, and thus automatically limits the rights of a certain number of full members of the executive committee in the right of appointment or selection for certain positions, for example: the appointment as Secretary General or Treasurer, or in the election for the position of three vice presidents of the FIE. However, the FIE executive committee currently consists of 22 full members (see paragraph 5.2.4 and paragraph 5.2.5.)

a) To revise article 5.2.1 as follows, and to remove articles 5.2.4 and 5.2.5:

The Executive Committee consists of the following members with full rights including voting rights: the President ~~on the one hand, and~~, fifteen elected members ~~on the other~~, the President in office of each of the five geographic zones and the President in office of the Athletes Commission.

The five geographic zones are the following: Africa, America, Asia, Europe and Oceania.

b) To remove article 5.2.4

~~The President in office of each of the five geographic zones is an ex-officio member with full rights of the Executive Committee of the FIE. As such, he has the right to vote. The five zones are the following: Africa, America, Asia, Europe and Oceania.~~

c) To remove article 5.2.5

~~The President in office of the Athletes Commission is a member of the FIE Executive Committee with full rights and obligations. As such, he/she has the right to vote.~~

Legal Commission: Not in favour.

The proposal would allow a president of a confederation or the president of the athletes' commission to become secretary general, secretary-treasurer or a vice president of the FIE. But these persons' situation in the Executive committee is different from that of the other members, in that they have been elected to that position by a body other than the Elective Congress of the FIE and therefore do not carry the mandate of all the FIE members. They are also likely to perceive their role as representing the interests of their confederation or the athletes rather than the whole FIE; and at a practical level the workload of a confederation president is incompatible with taking on the heavy burden of FIE secretary general or secretary-treasurer.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: Not in favour.

The proposal has been withdrawn.

Article: Chapter 13

P.12

Proposal from: Women and Fencing Council

Motivation: The FIE statutes already include expectations on National Federations in relation to sport integrity for example:

Betting and Anti Corruption: 2.5 It is recommended that Member Federations and Confederations put in place similar rules and regulations to safeguard the integrity of competitions held under their respective jurisdictions.

The proposal is to extend Safeguarding recommendations in a similar way so that the expectations of the FIE are clear.

Chapter 13

(add at end):

It is recommended that Member Federations and Confederations develop and implement similar policies and procedures to safeguard and promote the welfare of all participants in fencing activity held under their respective jurisdictions.

Women and Fencing Council: Agreed.

Legal Commission: In favour.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal.

Article: Chapter 13

P.13

Proposal from: Women and Fencing Council

Motivation: For the protection of all participants,

1. Extend the requirement for a Safeguarding Officer role to the Zonal Championships.
2. Ensure that unresolved safeguarding reports are reported to the FIE.

Chapter 13

During the Junior/Cadet and Senior and Veterans World Championships, incidents of harassment/abuse/neglect can be reported to the FIE Safeguarding Officer on site.

During Open World Cups and Junior World Cups, incidents of harassment/abuse/neglect can be reported to the FIE Supervisor, acting as the FIE Safeguarding officer. This responsibility shall be added to the list of responsibilities of Supervisors.

The FIE shall designate Safeguarding Officers to other official FIE events, for example, training camps.

The FIE shall ensure that the FIE Safeguarding Officers receive appropriate training and support for carrying out their responsibilities under this policy.

Zonal Confederations shall appoint at least one person to serve as a Safeguarding Officer at each Zonal Championship. All safeguarding reports which are not resolved through mediation must be reported to the FIE.

Women and Fencing Council: Agreed.

Legal Commission: In favour. The commission would however like to modify the text of the proposition by adding the clause highlighted in yellow as follows:

Zonal Confederations shall appoint at least one person to serve as a Safeguarding Officer at each Zonal Championship. All safeguarding reports which are not resolved through mediation must be reported to the FIE **in accordance with the underlying safeguarding rules of the FIE.**

The commission asks for this addition to help ensure the confidentiality of such reports.

Opinion of the Executive Committee: In favour of the proposal as revised by the Legal Commission.
