

出國報告（出國類別：開會）

赴斐濟共和國參加 A-WEB 第 6 次執行委員會議 出國報告

服務機關：中央選舉委員會

姓名職稱：陳英鈐主任委員、余明賢副秘書長、
高美莉處長、賴宗佑科員

派赴國家：斐濟共和國

出國期間：107 年 3 月 25 日至 3 月 29 日

報告日期：107 年 6 月

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一、會議緣起

世界選舉機關協會（Association of World Election Bodies, A-WEB），以世界各國的選舉機關為會員，係 2013 年 10 月 14 日於韓國仁川成立的國際性選舉機關協會。A-WEB 自成立伊始，即以常設於韓國仁川的秘書處為中心，推動選務人員教育訓練課程、舉辦研討會、組織觀選團前往各國觀選，並以所募得的資金用於協助發展中國家改善選舉過程，例如引進選舉科技設備等，以強化選舉的公正與透明，積極落實協會成立目標。A-WEB 成立之目的在發展永續性的民主，實現自由、公平及民主的選舉制度及支持民主轉型國家的政治發展，並致力於建構世界各國選舉機關間的交流網絡，以分享彼此之選舉資訊、知識與經驗，及藉由舉辦教育訓練活動，強化選舉管理相關人員的能力。

A-WEB 主要組織包括會員大會、執行委員會及秘書處等。會員大會為 A-WEB 最高決策機關，由全體會員組成，並以共識決方式進行決議。我國為該協會的創始會員國，並以中華民國名稱參加。2017 年 A-WEB 會員大會於羅馬尼亞布加勒斯特舉行，本會為了爭取更多機會與各會員國進行交流合作，分享我國成功的民主選舉經驗，於該屆大會中積極尋求成為執行委員國，並獲得會員國之支持，順利當選 A-WEB 亞洲區執行委員，期透過 A-WEB 執行委員會議之運作，參與 A-WEB 會務發展及選務經驗交流，並與各國代表分享我國選務經驗，進一步提升我國的國際參與及能見度。

依據 A-WEB 會章規定，執行委員會議每年舉行，執行委員會由 20 名執行委員以及秘書長組成。執行委員除主席、副主席、前任主席外，其餘 17 名係由非洲、美洲、亞洲、歐洲及大洋洲的會員分別選出。2018 年 A-WEB 第 6 次執行委員會議，A-WEB 秘書處經徵詢各執行委員國意見並徵得斐濟選舉局同意後，定於 2018 年 3 月 27 日於斐濟共和國南地市舉行，斐濟選舉局 Mohammed Saneem 先生及 A-WEB 秘書長金容熙先生並

於 2018 年 2 月 2 日共同署名來信邀請本會出席。

本案考量本會係首度當選執行委員，為提升本會於 A-WEB 影響力，有積極參與 A-WEB 執行委員會相關活動之必要，且 2017 年 A-WEB 會員大會通過 A-WEB 轉型為政府間國際組織(Inter-Governmental Organization, IGO)之決議，A-WEB 秘書處爰擬具公約草案，擬提本次執行委員會議討論通過後，送請各會員國簽署，考量 A-WEB 轉型公約事涉未來我國參與權益，爰由本會陳主任委員英鈴率同本會人員前往斐濟共和國參加會議。

二、出席會議人員

2018 年 A-WEB 執行委員會議，除 A-WEB 秘書長金容熙外，計有羅馬尼亞、孟加拉、布吉納法索、克羅埃西亞、多明尼加共和國、薩爾瓦多、

斐濟、幾內亞、肯亞、馬拉威、巴拉圭、烏茲別克及我國等 13 個執行委員、科索沃為 A-WEB 監督及審計委員，韓國非 A-WEB 執行委員國，係以會員身分列席參加執行委員會



議，總計 30 名代表參加。本會由陳主任委員與本會出國人員合影
主任委員英鈴率同本會余副秘書長明賢、選務處高處長美莉、賴科員宗佑出席會議。另外外交部支持本會參與國際組織及交流，指派該部國際組織司游專員琇閔以本會顧問名義陪同與會。



各國代表合照

三、出席會議經過

(一) 3月25日(星期日)

上午搭機前往斐濟，經香港轉機。

(二) 3月26日(星期一)

上午 7 時抵達斐濟南地國際機場，斐濟選舉局安排專人協助快速通關，並以專車載送本會人員前往下榻旅館 The Westin Denarau Island Resort & Spa。

本日上午 11 時 30 分，陳主任委員率同本會人員與 A-WEB 金秘書長容熙就近期各項會務發展以及本次執行委員會議程交換意見，會談氣氛



本會出國人員與 A-WEB 秘書處會談後合影

和諧融洽。下午本會人員與韓國國家選舉委員會代表洽談就未來 A-WEB 會務發展及 A-WEB 會章之研修方向交換意見，藉此溝通理解彼此立場，雙方互動良好。

當日晚間 7 時，斐濟選舉局會於旅館之宴會廳舉行歡迎晚宴，各執行委員國與會人員均出席。晚宴首先介紹出席人員，各國代表於席

間交換選務經驗。

(三) 3月27日(星期二)

本日上午10時於飯店宴會廳舉行A-WEB執行委員會議，重要議程包括：2017年工作成果報告、2018年計畫及預算、A-WEB會章修正案、A-WEB轉型為政府間國際組織之進度、會員入會申請案。會議現場討論熱絡，至中午12時會議結束。



A-WEB執行委員會議開會情形

(四) 3月28日(星期三)

上午本會人員與我國駐斐濟代表邱大使太欽於下榻飯店會談，邱大使向本會陳主任委員簡介斐濟概況、旅斐臺僑在當地發展概況，以及南太平洋國際情勢。



本會與會人員及邱代表太欽拜訪我國駐斐濟共和國農業技術團

下午代表處人員安排參觀我國駐斐濟農業技術團，拜會我國農技團張團長仁謀。我國技術團團部設於北島西干卡SEAQAQA,VANUA，協助斐濟改良農作物及推廣熱帶蔬果生產，為斐濟農業帶來新氣象，對於增進臺斐關係，貢獻良多。

(五) 3月29日(星期四)

本日上午8時20分搭機返國，於當日下午10時返抵臺北，完成本次出國行程。

四、2018年A-WEB第6次執行委員會議情形及決議事項

2018年A-WEB第6次執行委員會議於3月27日上午10時舉行。會議首先由A-WEB主席國羅馬尼亞致詞，惟因羅馬尼亞選舉委員會主任委員未克出席，由該會處長 Daniel Duşa代表致詞歡迎各執行委員出席本次執行委員會議。隨後由主辦單位斐濟選舉局



斐濟選舉局 Mohammed Saneem 選務總長致詞

Mohammed Saneem 選務總長(the Supervisor of Elections)致詞，選舉局為斐濟選舉委員會之二級機關，選舉委員會之秘書長即選務總長，為斐濟選舉局之機關首長，Saneem 先生曾任斐濟全國反洗錢委員會主席，曾代理司法部常任秘書長，反腐敗，溝通及負責選舉法制相關業務，在斐濟具有良好公眾形象，頗具聲望。Saneem 選務總長致詞完畢後，執行委員會議正式開始，並由A-WEB 金秘書長容熙接續執行委員會議之進行。

(一) 報告事項：

1、 確認第5次執行委員會議紀錄及於羅馬尼亞召開之臨時執行委員會議紀錄：

(1) 討論情形：執行委員對於薩爾瓦多舉行之第5次執行委員會議會議紀錄及於羅馬尼亞舉行之臨時執行委員會議紀錄未有異議。

(2) 決定：紀錄確認。

2、 2017年A-WEB 成果報告：

(1) 討論情形：

克羅埃西亞國家選舉委員會代表針對報告中提及有關任命羅馬尼亞選舉委員會前主任委員 Ana Maria Patru 女士為 A-WEB 資深顧問一節提出異議，並說明該國檢察官正對 Patru 女士進行詐欺案之調查，如 Patru 女士繼續擔任顧問，將使 A-WEB 聲譽受損，引起出席各國代表熱烈討論。

A-WEB 金秘書長表示，倘會中通過將 Patru 女士從顧問委員會中除名可能過於匆促，因為在案件經最終裁決宣告有罪前，應推定無罪。A-WEB 南非籍顧問 Terry Tselane 先生及布吉納法索獨立國家選舉委員會代表表示，此項議題應於會員大會中決定，並非執行委員會職權。秘書長也說明，對於顧問之任命沒有特別規定。薩爾瓦多最高選舉法院代表表示，執行委員會有權獨立作出關於此事的決定，惟是否停止其顧問職權或永久性將其除名應予確定。

南非籍顧問 Terry Tselane 最後建議由秘書長與 Ana Maria Patru 女士協商後作出決定。秘書長最後要求執行委員會授權他與 Ana Maria Patru 女士溝通，並讓她有機會自行辭職。執行委員會議決議同意先由秘書長向 Ana Maria Patru 女士溝通，以讓其決定自行從顧問委員會中辭職。

(2) 決定：照案通過。

3、2017 年收支之審計概況：

(1) 討論情形：監督及審計委員會對審計報告無異議，並讚許秘書處透明及有效地執行預算。

(2) 決定：照案通過。

4、2018 年計畫及預算：

(1) 討論情形：

斐濟選舉局、孟加拉選舉委員會代表及 A-WEB 顧問 Paul Degregorio 先生讚許 A-WEB 在各地區進行的計畫。在提到這些計畫的大部分預算來自韓國政府後，韓國國家選舉委員會建議 A-WEB 暫停選

舉資通訊科技之計畫，秘書長則詢問各會員在此方面的意見。斐濟選舉局、幾內亞獨立國家選舉委員會、馬拉威選舉委員會及布吉納法索獨立國家選舉委員會代表們表示讚賞 A-WEB 在政府開發援助計畫中執行選舉資通訊科技，並對 A-WEB 計畫之成果給予正面評價。

韓國國家選舉委員會代表建議暫停 A-WEB 選舉資通訊科技計畫的理由：政府開發援助金來自韓國納稅人，應暫時停止使用這筆資金於資通訊科技計畫，直到一些關於違法執行計畫的指控解決為止。秘書長提供有關對他的指控的背景資料，並表示現在不適合討論國內事務。

(2) 決定：照案通過。

(二)討論事項：

1、 A-WEB 會章修正案

(1) 提案說明：A-WEB 秘書處應韓國國家選舉委員會要求，向本次執行委員會提出 A-WEB 會章修正案，修正重點如下：

- ①未能出席會員大會會員，得以提交書面文件或以電子方式參與議案之表決，刪除委由其他會員或秘書長代理投票之規定。
- ②新增 A-WEB 秘書處駐在國選舉管理機關擔任常任執行委員之規定，並刪除 A-WEB 秘書長為執行委員會當然委員之規定。
- ③刪除秘書處得推薦秘書長候選人之規定。
- ④增列秘書長之任期以連任 1 次為限。
- ⑤增列解除秘書長職務之要件與程序。

(2) 討論情形：

A-WEB 秘書長提出個人對於修正案的看法表示，允許無法親自出席會議的會員將其投票權委託給在場的其他會員或秘書長，以便更易於達到會議法定人數。為了防止誤解，A-WEB 秘書長支持此項修正。關於刪除 A-WEB 秘書長為執行委員會當然委員之規定，金秘書長認

為，則應允許秘書長在執行委員會議期間代表秘書處向執行委員會報告。或可讓秘書長留在執行委員會中，但不擁有投票權。至於限制秘書長任期，金秘書長解釋，在第 5 次執行委員會議上取消秘書長的任期限制，並在第 3 屆會員大會上獲得批准，此舉被認為是為了維持這個年輕組織的穩定性。若如韓國國家選舉委員會所建議的，有可能會出現任何不民主的可能性，本人不反對韓國國家選舉委員會的提議。

印度選舉委員會對於上開會章修正案提出書面意見表達，印度選舉委員會不支持將秘書處所在國的會員組織列為執行委員會常任委員的提案。但是，印度選舉委員會承認韓國政府的重大貢獻，根據第 15.2.3 條，或可考慮將韓國國家選舉委員會納入執行委員會。至於秘書長應依然為執行委員會的當然會員。然而，印度選舉委員會同意修正會章，惟建議不要在第 6 次執行委員會議討論修正案，應於下次執行委員會議討論，以便會員有充裕的時間審視會章各條文規定。

多明尼加共和國中央選舉委員會代表表示，考慮修改現行會章是一個很好的提議，但需要更多的時間以更全面地修正會章。他提議成立一個修訂會章的技術委員會，以徹底地研究這個問題。

(3) 決議：

①原提案不予通過。

②執行委員會決定由部分委員組成會章研修工作小組，負責審查及修訂現行 A-WEB 會章，納入會員的建議，以將 A-WEB 轉型為政府間國際組織。每個區域將有 1 名代表，但非洲為 2 名。工作小組成立至該小組向執行委員會議提交其對整部會章審查之結果，包含韓國國家選舉委員會提出的修正案及其他會員之建議，任務始告結束。

(4) 會章研修工作小組成員：斐濟、布吉納法索、馬拉威，多明尼加共和國與我國當選為會章研修工作小組各區代表，歐洲之會章研修工作小組成員代表，尚待執行委員會決定。本次會中原屬意印度擔任亞洲區

代表，惟經本會主任委員向會方戮力爭取，並與亞洲區之執行委員國代表積極協調，同意由我國擔任亞洲區會章研修工作小組成員。

2、召開臨時會員大會

(1) 討論情形：考量前開會章修正案未獲通過，且執行委員會決定於舉行 2019 年第 4 屆會員大會前組成會章研修工作小組，爰無須於 2018 年 6 月召開臨時會員大會。

(2) 決議：不予通過。

3、A-WEB 轉型為政府間國際組織之進度

(1) 進度報告：A-WEB 轉型為政府間國際組織共有 16 名會員同意簽署關於世界選舉機關協會轉型為政府間國際組織之公約。

(2) 決議：洽悉。

4、舉辦第 7 次執行委員會議

(1) 說明：秘書長建議有意主辦 2019 年第 7 次執行委員會議之會員組織於今年年底前通知秘書處。若無其他會員國申請，將於韓國舉行第 7 次執行委員會議。

(2) 決議：照案通過。

5、新會員入會申請案

(1) 說明：柬埔寨國家選舉委員會與烏克蘭中央選舉委員會已申請成為 A-WEB 新會員。秘書處向執行委員會報告他們申請案，以便在第 4 屆會員大會之前授予其臨時會員資格，使其享有正式會員的一切權利和利益。

(2) 決議：執行委員會通過柬埔寨國家選舉委員會與烏克蘭中央選舉委員會成為 A-WEB 新會員。

五、心得與建議

本次執行委員會議係於斐濟共和國南地市舉行，此次執行委員會的參與，除會議之外，與各國代表有更多交往，對維繫我國積極參與及加強與會員國之關係有正面意義，尤其我國參加 A-WEB 執行委員會議全程懸掛我國國



會場佈置

旗，此在我國外交處境較艱難狀況下，實屬難能可貴。另為能更有效地參與國際組織相關活動，謹提出建議如下：

(一) 本會參與 A-WEB 之未來展望

A-WEB 係以世界各國選舉機關為主體組成之選舉國際組織。該會於韓國仁川設有常設秘書處，專責推動辦理各項 A-WEB 之計畫及執行委員會交辦事項，並設置秘書長一人，綜理秘書處處務運作，A-WEB 欲持續推動廣泛之發展及合作計畫，A-WEB 資金之籌措及來源，仍持續影響 A-WEB 會務發展，從本次執行委員會議財務報告觀之，A-WEB 收入大部分仍為韓國政府及韓國國際合作機構，另有部分來自我國之捐款，至於會員費則僅供會員出席相關活動費用，A-WEB 財務狀況對韓國政府的依賴度仍高，未來韓國政府是否持續給予資金之挹注，仍待繼續觀察，A-WEB 秘書處如擬維持財務運作之自主性，勢須向外爭取更多資金來源，確保資金來源之穩定性。

就本會參與之角度言，A-WEB 係目前本會所參與最具規模之國際組織，對於本會推動國際選務合作具有重要意義。未來如有機會，本會可評估深化與 A-WEB 合作關係，除積極參與協助發展中國家之選舉外，或可藉由召開國際研討會、舉辦觀選活動、進行選舉協助及培訓選務人員等交流，俾協助促進全球選舉民主之普及化。

另外為加強與各國選舉機關選務經驗交流，增進對我國選舉制度的瞭解，進而彰顯我國民主價值及政治穩定發展之成就，因此本會已規劃於 2018 年地方公職人員選舉期間，邀請各國選務人員來臺觀選，加強與各國選舉機關資訊分享，更有效地提高我國國際能見度，提升我國與各國之實質友好關係。

(二) 擴大國際選務交流合作之能量

本會國際組織業務係由業務單位兼辦，主要係參與協會之定期性會議，包括：AAEA 執行委員會議（每年召開 1 次）、會員大會（每 2 年召開 1 次）及 A-WEB 執行委員會議（每年召開 1 次）、A-WEB 會員大會（每 2 年召開 1 次）；本會與 AAEA、A-WEB 及其會員國的互動往來，已非常密切頻繁，在處理國際事務方面，本會目前係由選務處科員 1 人辦理，並進用臨時人員 1 人協辦，為增加辦理國際選務交流業務能量，可考慮強化本會現職人員處理國際事務之專業能力，培養備援人力，協助國際交流之推動。

其他有關強化國際選務交流業務之作法，在語言能力方面，鼓勵本會同仁加強英語能力及增加與外國人對話經驗；在英語簡報能力方面，爾後倘有本會邀訪之重要外賓到會訪問時，或可考慮以口頭簡報取代影片 播放，除增進會場互動性外，亦可累積同仁英文簡報經驗，強化本會對外專業形象。此外，近年來 AAEA 或 A-WEB 均開辦選務人員能力建構課程，參訓者須於每堂課程中分享國內選舉實務，與講座、學員討論互動，除與各國交流選務經驗外，對參訓同仁而言，更有助於開拓國際視野、結識國際友人，並激勵同仁加強外語能力的動機，建議持續派員參與培訓課程。

Outcomes of the 6th Executive Board Meeting of A-WEB

I Overview

1. **Date and Time:** March 27th, 2018 (Tue.) 09:30 ~ 13:00
2. **Venue:** Senirosi Dua Hall, The Westin Denarau Island Resort & Spa
3. **Participants**

Position	Organization	Name
Chairperson (Deputy)	PEA of ROMANIA	Daniel Duță
Secretary General	Association of World Election Bodies	Yong-Hi Kim
Members of the Executive Board	Election Commission of BANGLADESH	K. M. Nurul Huda
	CENI of BURKINA FASO	Tasséré Savadogo
	State Election Commission of CROATIA	Janja Horvat Drobnjak
	JCE of the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Joel Lantigua
	TSE of EL SALVADOR	Julio Alfredo Olivo Granadino
	FIJIAN Elections Office	Mohammed Saneem
	CENI of GUINEA	Ramatoulaye Bah
	IEBC of KENYA	Consolata Maina
	MALAWI Electoral Commission	Jane Mayemu Ansah
	TSJE of PARAGUAY	Maria Elena Wapenka
	CEC of TAIWAN	In-Chin Chen
Oversight & Audit Committee	CEC of UZBEKISTAN	Temir Shirinov
	CEC of KOSOVO	Valdete Daka
Observers	NEC of the REPUBLIC of KOREA	Sehwan Kim
	A-WEB Advisor (IEC of SOUTH AFRICA)	Terry Tselane
	A-WEB Advisor (USA)	Paul DeGregorio

II Outcomes of the Meeting by Agenda Items

Minutes Adoption of Minutes of the Past Meetings

1. **Report:** Minutes of the 5th Executive Board Meeting and an Extraordinary Executive Board Meeting in Romania
2. **Discussion**
 - Board members did not have any objection to the contents of the minutes of the 5th Executive Board Meeting (held in El Salvador) and an extraordinary Executive Board Meeting (held in Romania) of which digital version was circulated among them beforehand.
3. **Outcome:** Minutes of the past Executive Board meetings are adopted

Agenda 1 2017 A-WEB Progress Report

1. **Report:** 2017 Major Projects and Financial Statements
(Appendix: 2017 Annual Report)
2. **Discussion**
 - Representative from the State Election Commission of Croatia raised an issue about Ana Maria Patru having been appointed as a senior advisor of A-WEB, saying that since she is currently undergoing prosecutor investigation for allegations of fraud and it is not good

for A-WEB's reputation to have her on the Advisory Board.

- Secretary General remarked his personal opinion that it might be too hasty to remove her from the Board now as it is advisable to assume the defendant's innocence until the final verdict on the case declares the person guilty.
- Representative from the CEC of Kosovo seconded the proposal of the State Election Commission of Croatia.
- A-WEB Advisor Terry Tselane and the representative from CENI of Burkina Faso commented that such issues need to be decided at the General Assembly, not in the Executive Board.
- Secretary General mentioned that there is no special provision for the appointment of advisors. As of now, the Secretariat appoints advisors and reports it to the Executive Board and the General Assembly of A-WEB.
- Representative from TSE of El Salvador affirmed that the Executive Board has the authority to make a decision on this matter independently.
- The members of the Executive Board took a vote by a show of hand and 7 members agreed that Ms. Patru is removed from the Advisory Board (Representative from Romania abstained his vote).
- Representative from the TSE of El Salvador asked for clarification

whether she is temporarily suspended from the Board or permanently removed from the Board.

- A-WEB Advisor Terry Tselane and the representative from the CENI of Burkina Faso pointed out that the A-WEB Executive Board should not make judgment on moral or ethical issues of an individual and that the members should wait until the General Assembly in 2019.
- Representative from Croatia pointed out that since a member of the Advisory Board does not represent a member organization and highlighted that this is not a matter of the mentioned person being proven guilty or not but rather a matter of protecting A-WEB's reputation and integrity.
- Representative from the Malawi Election Commission stated that it is honorable for the person to volitionally resign from the post when going through a trial; and the second best would be suspending the person from the Board until the trial is over.
- Representative from CENI Guinea supported representatives from Burkina Faso and the A-WEB Advisor Terry Tselane.
- Representative from the Election Commission of Bangladesh agreed that A-WEB should keep Ana Maria Patru suspended from her advisor position instead of expelling her from the advisory board.

- Advisor Terry Tselane suggested that the Secretary General makes the decision in consultation with Ana Maria Patru.
 - Representative from the IEBC of Kenya commented that A-WEB should ask her to step down as an Advisor.
 - Secretary General mentioned that he himself is currently being investigated due to allegations made against him. He commented that it would be unreasonable if he were to be suspended from his duty as the Secretary General simply because of the fact that an investigation is going on. Emphasizing that all cases should be considered on case by case, he asked the Executive Board to grant him the authority to speak with Ana Maria Patru and give her a chance to step down from the advisor position herself.
 - Representative of the Fijian Elections Office stated that it would be wise to ensure that A-WEB functions unaffected by the private matter taking place in Romania and therefore to advise Ana Maria Patru to step down from the advisor position.
 - Members voted and all were in agreement that the Secretary General speaks to Ana Maria Patru to decide her resignation from the advisory board herself.
3. **Outcome:** The 2017 A-WEB Progress Report is approved as proposed

Agenda 2**2017 Audit Report****1. Report: Audited Details of Income and Expenditures in 2017**

(presented by the President of Central Election Commission of Kosovo, member of the Oversight and Audit Committee)

2. Discussion

- The Oversight and Audit Committee had no objection to the audit report and commended the Secretariat for the transparent and efficient execution of its budget.

3. Outcome: The 2017 Audit Report is approved as reported**Agenda 3****2018 Work and Budget Plan****1. Proposal: 2018 Work and Budget Plan****2. Discussion**

- Representatives from the Fijina Elections Office, Bangladesh Election Commission, and A-WEB advisor Paul Degregorio commended A-WEB's projects being undertaken in various regions.
- After mentioning that the majority of the budget for the projects comes from the Korean government and that the NEC of the Republic of Korea suggested that A-WEB suspends projects with

component of introduction of ICT into elections, the Secretary General asked the members what their opinions were on this.

- Representatives from Fijian Elections Office, CENI Guinea, Malawi Election Commission, and CENI Burkina Faso expressed their appreciation of A-WEB's initiatives in carrying out ODA projects in the field of election ICT and commented positively on the outcomes of the A-WEB programs.
- Representative from the National Election Commission of the Republic of Korea explained the NEC's rationale behind suggesting suspension of the electoral ICT component in A-WEB's programs: The ODA grants come from Korean tax payers' money and using such money for the ICT projects needs to be temporarily suspended until some allegations of irregularities in implementation of the projects are resolved.
- The Secretary General gave background information about the allegations against him (Refer to the Minutes of the 6th Executive Board meeting for details) and stated that it is not appropriate time to discuss a domestic matter.

3. Outcome: The 2018 Work and Budget Plan is approved as proposed

1. Proposal: At the request made by the National Election Commission of the Republic of Korea, the A-WEB Secretariat proposed Charter Amendments as summarized in the following
- Point 1: Allowing members absent at the General Assembly to vote directly on agenda items by means of submitting physical or electronic documents, instead of delegating their right to vote to a member present or the Secretary General as stipulated in the current Charter;
 - Point 2: Granting a permanent membership in the Executive Board to the member EMB of the host country of the Secretariat and removing the right of the Secretary General to become an ex-officio member of the Executive Board;
 - Point 3: Abolition of the screening by the Secretariat in the process of nominating candidates for the Secretary General;
 - Point 4: Reintroduction of the term limit for the office of the Secretary General which had been repealed in the previous amendment of the Charter;
 - Point 5: Introduction of a provision on dismissal of the Secretary General.

2. Discussion

- Secretary General explained his position on the proposed amendments as summarized in the following
 - ▷ Point 1: The purpose of the provision allowing members who cannot attend the meeting in person to delegate their voting right to other members present or the Secretary General is a technical one; to facilitate a way to have a quorum for the meeting with more ease. I would like to clarify that I, as the Secretary General, do not intend to vote on behalf of the members absent. In order to prevent any misunderstanding, I agree with the proposed amendment.
 - ▷ Point 2: It was suggested that the Secretary General is removed from the Executive Board; however, if the Secretary General is to be removed from the Executive Board, the Secretary General needs to be allowed to report to the Executive Board and speak on behalf of the Secretariat during Executive Board meetings. There is an alternative way of enabling the Secretary General to remain in the Executive Board without giving him or her the right to vote.
 - ▷ Point 3: No specific comment;
 - ▷ Point 4: The removal of the term limit for the office of the

Secretary General was discussed during the 5th Executive Board meeting and was approved at the 3rd General Assembly. Although this was deemed to be for the stability of this young organization, if it may pose any possibility of appearing undemocratic, as the NEC suggested. I am not opposed to the NEC's proposal. Please feel free to discuss this issue.

▷ Point 5: It is my opinion that it is unusual to include a provision designed for dismissal of a certain post while the term is not over in the Charter of an organization. However, I am not against the proposal and I ask you to freely discuss this topic.

○ The Election Commission of India has submitted its opinions regarding the proposed amendments to the Charter. The position of the ECI is summarized in the following

▷ The ECI does not support the proposal to include the member organization of the State where the Secretariat is located as a permanent member of the Executive Board, as it would be discriminatory in nature. However, the ECI acknowledges the substantial contribution made by the Korean government, and the NEC may be considered for the membership in the Executive Board in view of Article 15.2.3.

▷ The ECI thinks that the Secretary General should remain an

ex-officio member of the Executive Board.

- ▷ The ECI is in agreement with the rest of the proposed amendments to the Charter.
- ▷ However, the ECI suggests dealing with the amendments not at the 6th Executive Board meeting but at the forthcoming Executive Board meeting in order to give members enough time to consider each provision of the Charter.
- Representative of the JCE of the Dominican Republic expressed that it is a good initiative to consider revising the current Charter; however, it needs to be done more comprehensively with enough time. He proposed that a technical Committee on the revision of the Charter be formed in order to look into this matter more thoroughly.
- Members were in agreement with the proposal that a sub-committee is formed within the Executive Board with the aim of studying the Charter and proposing a more comprehensive amendments that incorporate opinions of as many members as possible.
- The Secretary General suggested that, like the case with the working group for the establishment of A-WEB, the sub-committee will be composed of one member (whether present or absent during the 6th Executive Board meeting) from each continent. For African continent, there will be two seats assigned, given the large

number of Francophone countries in Africa.

- The members of the Executive Board discussed amongst themselves to inform the Secretariat of their decisions on who shall be in the committee to review the Charter.

3. **Outcome:** The original proposal is not approved; Instead, the Executive Board members decided that some members of the Executive Board will form a sub-committee to review and revise the current A-WEB Charter, incorporating members' suggestions and in the view of converting A-WEB into an Intergovernmental Organization. It was agreed that there will be one representative from each region, except for the case of African continent. Members from Fiji, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Dominican Republic, Taiwan informed the Secretary General that they were appointed as representatives of each region for the committee. The duration of the activities of this committee will be until the committee submits the outcome of their review of the Charter, reflecting the amendments proposed by the NEC of Korea as well as other members' suggestions, to the Executive Board meeting. The scope of the revision shall be the entire

Charter. The A-WEB Secretariat is waiting for the last member of the committee to be appointed among the Executive Board members from the European continent.

Composition of the Special Committee for Charter Amendments

- ❖ Africa : Commission Électorale Nationale Indépendante of Burkina Faso and Malawi Electoral Commission of Malawi
- ❖ Americas : Junta Central Electoral of the Dominican Republic
- ❖ Asia : Central Election Commission of Taiwan
- ❖ Europe : To Be Decided
- ❖ Oceania : Fijian Elections Office of Fiji

Agenda 5 Holding an Extraordinary General Assembly

1. **Proposal:** If the Executive Board members agrees to table the proposed amendments to the Charter of A-WEB, there will be an extraordinary General Assembly in June 2018
2. **Discussion**
 - Since the proposed amendments to the Charter were not approved and the Executive Board members have agreed to form a special committee to review and revise the current Charter before the 4th General Assembly scheduled for 2019, there is no need to hold the suggested extraordinary General Assembly in June 2018.
3. **Outcome:** The original proposal is not approved

Agenda 6**Progress on the Conversion of A-WEB into an IGO**

1. **Report:** Summary of the Progress on the Conversion of A-WEB into and International Governmental Organization (A total of 16 members have agreed to sign the Convention on the Establishment of the Association of World Election Bodies as an International Governmental Organization)
2. Discussion
 - No further question or objection to the agenda item
3. **Outcome:** The Report on Progress on the Conversion of A-WEB into and International Governmental Organization is approved

Agenda 7**Hosting the 7th Executive Board Meeting**

1. **Description:** Discussion on the Host of the next Executive Board Meeting and Related Articles in the Charter
2. Discussion
 - The Secretary General suggested that notifications from member organizations expressing their intent to host the 7th Executive Board meeting to be held in 2019 are to be sent to the Secretariat by the end of this year. If there is no applicant, the

meeting shall be held in Korea, at the Secretariat office.

3. **Outcomes:** The proposal of the Secretary General was approved. In case there is an applicant by the end of year 2018, the A-WEB Secretariat will inform the Executive Board members of the venue of the 7th Executive Board meeting accordingly.

Agenda 8

New Membership Applications

1. **Description:** The National Election Committee of Cambodia and the Central Election Commission of Ukraine have applied to become new members of A-WEB. The Secretariat reported their membership applications to the Executive Board in order to grant them an interim membership until the 4th General Assembly, through which they will enjoy all rights and benefits of a full member.
2. **Discussion**
 - The two organizations (NEC of Cambodia and CEC of Ukraine) were welcomed by the Executive Board to become new members of A-WEB.
3. **Outcomes:** The new membership applications are approved