Motions to change the IFSW constitution:

1. Motion to replace the current article 14 f) with a new 14 f).

Background:

The Current Article 14 f) of the IFSW Constitution states:
“There shall be established a Steering Committee which shall comprise the Global president, the Treasurer, the Vice-president and the Secretary General as an ex-officio member.”

Both the Constitution and the By-laws are silent on the purpose, roles and responsibilities of the ‘Steering committee’. This amendment is intended to ensure that the work of the standing committee is properly mandated, transparent, does not exclude elected regional representatives from decision making and ensure that the work of the Steering Committee is not ultra vires.

The current wording does not ensure that the Steering committee is inclusive of more than one region or one perspective. This does not foster inclusive, collaborative participation.

Proposed new Article 14 f)
“There shall be established a Steering Committee which shall comprise the Global President, the Treasurer and one other member of the Executive Committee such that at least two regions and both practitioner and educator perspectives are included in the Steering group. The Secretary General is an ex-officio member of the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee is not a decision making body but is able to be consulted on matters requiring attention between Executive committee meetings. The Steering Committee makes recommendations to the Executive Committee who will vote electronically on matters requiring a decision between Executive committee meetings.”

Moved: Aotearoa New Zealand.

Motion to amend Article 10 regarding a Global Treasurer within the Executive Committee.

Background:

In the past 4 years for various reasons there have been 3 different persons in the role of Global Treasurer. With the growth in numbers and complexity of the IFSW, it is increasingly important that the governance body has, as one of its members, someone with strong, demonstrated financial competencies. Acknowledging that all members of the Executive committee are equally responsible, the Global Treasurer should be able to provide sound financial advice, commentary and recommendations to the Executive committee on financial matters. Usual global political election processes have not been able to provide the expertise and stability required for an effective and contemporary governance body. Appointing someone with the necessary expertise, experience and skills onto the Executive committee would enable a robust selection process to fill this position.

Current wording of Article 10 d):
“The General meeting shall elect the Executive Committee Members by direct election of the Global President & Treasurer and shall ratify….”
The proposed amendments relate only to the position of Global Treasurer and proposes deleting the words “& Treasurer” from 10 d) and inserting a new clause under article 14 (Executive Committee).

It is proposed as article 14 c) and if passed the subsequent lettering of article 14 would need to be changed.

Proposed 14 c):
“The Executive Committee shall appoint a person with demonstrated financial expertise, experience and skills to the position of Global Treasurer.” The term of appointment shall be the same as for elected positions.

Moved: Aotearoa New Zealand.