Guidelines: Voting for regional representatives of the WFSA Council, and protected seats within the regions of ‘Africa and the Middle East’ and ‘Asia’.

Background

During the 2024 General Assembly on Sunday 3 March, in addition to electing officers of the WFSA Board, General Assembly Delegates will elect Regional Representatives to the WFSA Council for the period 2024-2026.

This cover note provides additional guidance on how Regional Representatives to the Council will be elected, and how seats will be allocated during these elections.

WFSA geographical regions and regional voting

There are 15 places available for the representatives from the six WFSA geographical regions. Each region is allocated a certain number of seats, as outlined below:

- Africa and the Middle East (3 seats)
- Asia (4 seats)
- Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands (1 seat)
- Central and South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean Islands (2 seats)
- Europe (3 seats)
- North America (2 seats)

Nominees for Council Regional Representative positions will first be elected by Delegates representing Member Societies from within their own geographical regions. Please see here which region your country is included in for the purposes of Council elections. The results of the regional voting will be confirmed in real time during the General Assembly.

Protected seats – ‘Africa and the Middle East’ and ‘Asia’

Please note that some seats within the ‘Africa and the Middle East’ and ‘Asia’ regions are protected for candidates from particular sub-regions. Protected seats are designed to ensure that there is good geographical representation and inclusion within these regions.

‘Africa and the Middle East’ have (3) seats available; two (2) seats are reserved for the highest-ranking candidates in Africa and one (1) seat is reserved for candidate(s) in the ‘Middle East’ region.

‘Asia’ has (4) seats available. One (1) seat is reserved for the highest-ranking candidate in ‘East Asia’, one (1) seat is reserved for the highest-ranking candidate in ‘South Asia’, and (1) seat is
reserved for the highest-ranking candidate from the ‘South-East Asia’ region. The 4th seat will be reserved for the next highest-ranking candidate from Asia regardless of sub-region.

Please see here how these rules regarding protected seats relate to the 2024 ballot.

**All Delegates ratify regional voting**

Once the results of the regional voting have been confirmed, candidates elected during the regional voting will be presented to all General Assembly delegates who will be asked to ratify the results of the regional pre-voting.