



**Iniciativa Latinoamericana del Cerebro**

**LATBrain**

**Statutes and regulations**

## TABLE OF CONTENT

1. Introduction .....	4
1.2 Vision and Mission of LATBrain .....	4
1.2.1 Vision of LATBrain .....	4
1.2.2 Mission of LATBrain .....	5
1.3 Programmatic Focus .....	5
2. Organizational Documents.....	6
2.1 Statutes and Regulations of LATBrain: .....	6
2.1.1 Amendment of Statutes and Regulations: .....	6
2.2 Strategic Plan of LATBrain: .....	7
2.2.1 Adoption of the Strategic Plan:.....	7
2.3 LATBrain Rules: .....	7
2.3.1 Promulgation of LATBrain Rules: .....	7
2.4 Governance of LATBrain:.....	7
2.4.1 The Strategic Planning Committee (CoPEs): .....	7
2.4.2 Working Committees: .....	8
2.4.3 Assembly of the Collective of Participating Agents:.....	8
3. Membership in LATBrain.....	8
3.1 Categories of LATBrain Members.....	8
3.1.1 Country .....	8
3.1.2 Corporate Adherent Member .....	8
3.1.3 Adherent Agents' Collective Member .....	9
3.2 General Principles .....	9
3.2.1 Application for Adherent Membership .....	9
3.2.2 Membership Fee .....	10
3.2.3 Resignation of Members.....	10
3.2.4 Expulsion of Members .....	10
3.2.5 Member Obligations.....	10
4. The Strategic Planning Committee (CoPEs) .....	10
4.1 Specific Tasks of the CoPEs .....	10
4.2 CoPEs Meetings .....	11
4.2.1 Coordinator .....	11
4.2.2 Meeting Convocation .....	11
4.2.3 CoPEs Agenda .....	11
4.3 CoPEs Decisions.....	11
4.3.1 CoPEs Quorum.....	11

4.3.2 Voting Rights of CoPEs Members .....	11
4.3.3 Majority Definition of CoPEs .....	12
4.4 Responsibilities and Tasks of the CoPEs .....	12
4.5 Role and Responsibilities of the Coordinator .....	12
4.6.2 Role and Responsibilities of the General Secretary .....	13
5. Finance Committee and Treasurer .....	13
5.1 Term of the Finance Committee and Treasurer .....	13
5.2 Role and Responsibilities of the Treasurer .....	13
6. LATBrain Elections .....	14
6.1 Electoral Calendar .....	14
6.2 Eligibility .....	14
6.3 Electoral Procedures .....	14
7. LATBrain Finances .....	14
7.1 Annual Report .....	14
8. Voting Procedures .....	14
8.1 Voting Methods .....	14
8.2 Decisive Majority Voting.....	15
8.3 Remote Voting.....	15
8.4 Electoral Commission .....	15
8.4.1 Invalid Votes .....	15
8.4.2 Non-Nominal Voting.....	15

# LATBrain Regulations

## 1. Introduction

The idea of creating a Latin American Brain Initiative was established in 2019 with the purpose of integrating Latin American and Caribbean countries to promote brain research through a common project for the development of Brain Sciences that would integrate not only researchers from the region but also authorities and various agents of civil society interested in advancing in this field of science, promoting interdisciplinary work, basic-clinical integration, and the creation of consortia and networks that promote innovative research ideas and projects.

The intention to create the Latin American Brain Initiative (LATBrain) was formalized during a meeting organized by the Uruguayan Society of Neuroscience at the Clemente Estable Biological Research Institute in Montevideo, Uruguay, where researchers from different Latin American countries and beyond participated. Representatives from different institutions related to nervous system sciences from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, and Uruguay, along with FALAN (Federation of Neuroscience Societies of Latin America and the Caribbean), signed the intention declaration on August 31, 2019. In November 2020, during a second LATBrain symposium held within the annual meeting of the Argentine Society of Neuroscience Research, the foundational document was drafted and initially signed by members of organizations from 11 Latin American countries.

LATBrain represents the union of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to promote and strengthen regional integration in brain research, as described in our foundational document, mission, and vision.

### 1.1 Scope of Application

This LATBrain regulation encompasses all affiliated sub-entities and initiative committees. The regulation governs the organization, and any other norms of lower hierarchy must conform to this regulation, which regulates the operational structure of the organization in accordance with its original documents.

## 1.2 Vision and Mission of LATBrain

### 1.2.1 Vision of LATBrain

The vision is to achieve a deep and comprehensive understanding of the brain that leads to improving the quality of life for individuals and collectives in the region and worldwide, in various spheres of individual and collective life. The Latin American Brain Initiative will achieve its objectives by identifying common priorities among different countries and facilitating the exchange of ideas; recognizing opportunities and challenges in our region; building networks, consortia, and promoting collaborations involving its members, academics and industry scientists, educators, philanthropists, communicators, governments, civil society, and stakeholders from other areas of science; as well as promoting the creation of national brain science programs and/or projects.

Undoubtedly, in the region, we are in a position to establish reference centers in Brain Sciences, create cooperation platforms to optimize access to technology in the region, increase the flow of researchers and students among countries that form the different Brain Initiatives, incorporate cultural aspects and specific solutions from our region, work to improve ethical, bioethical, and gender equality aspects in science, and establish a strategic plan for the development of Brain Sciences that includes complementarity of needs and capacities of our countries. LATBrain adopts all these purposes with a sense of urgency so that all countries and collective agents that compose it can begin working towards finding the best paths to position Latin America and the Caribbean as an important node in the global Brain Initiatives plan.

LATBrain is expected to be recognized as a leader in international collaboration and in promoting innovative scientific excellence and rigor with significant impact.

### 1.2.2 Mission of LATBrain

The mission of LATBRAIN is to enhance and advance research and the promotion of brain-related activities through collaboration and knowledge exchange, uniting different approaches and focuses at the Latin American level to expand the scope of our research, and thus produce and disseminate new scientific knowledge and applications for the benefit of our countries and the world.

LATBrain promotes international collaboration and the exchange of scientific knowledge in the region and around the world, as well as the dissemination of information related to brain research.

## 1.3 Programmatic Focus

To fulfill its mission, LATBrain:

- Promotes and supports the dissemination of knowledge in neuroscience and promotes regional and international cooperation in all disciplines contributing to the generation of scientific knowledge about the nervous system;
- Acts as a regional conglomerate of Brain Scientists, representing the interests of its adherent collective;
- Works through and with its stakeholders to promote its objectives;
- Collaborates with national, regional, and international organizations with goals consistent with this initiative;
- Supports the collaboration of scientists from different disciplines and regions of Latin America and the Caribbean;
- Maintains a strong emphasis on implementing the values of ethics, diversity, equity, and inclusion;
- Places special emphasis on Latin American and Caribbean regions and countries with fewer resources to develop activities related to neuroscience.

-Assists and collaborates with governments, institutions, or organizations seeking advice on any issue related to Brain Sciences to contact and provide the best solutions regionally or internationally.

-Implements its objectives through a series of programmatic actions and initiatives defined by its mission:

- Integrative Latin American Conference:

In collaboration with its adherent collective, LATBrain promotes and supports periodic regional and international meetings related to Brain Sciences;

- Professional Development:

Promotes access to training and education in Brain Sciences in priority areas by requesting support from funding agencies and governments for practical training, courses, schools, workshops, and seminars in specific areas needed in Latin America.

- Promotes Brain Sciences in the region.

- Sets research and development priorities in the region for Brain Sciences development

Denounces and legally acts to prevent any type of discriminatory behavior in sciences (geographical, ethnic/cultural, gender, religious, etc.).

## 2. Organizational Documents

LATBrain is governed by governance documents that, at different levels, specify the rules and mechanisms by which this initiative is governed.

### 2.1 Statutes and Regulations of LATBrain:

The Statutes and Regulations represent the legal documentation of the organization. They describe all legally required aspects of the entity according to the jurisdiction of its constitution. These documents define the rules of good governance and operation of the organization in all areas related to its management. The Statutes and Regulations of LATBrain take precedence in all cases where subordinate documents are contradictory.

#### 2.1.1 Amendment of Statutes and Regulations:

The Statutes and Regulations are under the authority of the CoPEs of LATBrain (see point 2.4.2). Proposals for amending the Statutes and Regulations will be announced to the CoPEs and Stakeholders via email with a minimum notice of 30 days. The notification will include a detailed description of the proposed amendments. Amendments and adoption of new editions of the Statutes and Regulations will be approved by a vote of the CoPEs. The adoption of the Regulations will be clearly indicated on the agenda of the CoPEs meeting. Supporting documents for the collective of agents and the CoPEs will include a detailed description of the proposed amendments, and the voting on amendments will be preceded by an oral introduction and overview by the representative of the Statutes and Regulations committee or the coordinator.

Proposed amendments will be discussed and voted on in a specific session of the CoPEs. To approve amendments to the Statutes and Regulations, a qualified absolute majority of

60% of the total votes present or virtually active countries (see point 3.1.1) at the time is required. LATBrain voting procedures are specified in Section 7 of the Regulations.

## 2.2 Strategic Plan of LATBrain:

The LATBrain Strategic Plan defines the adopted strategic direction and formal implementation of LATBrain's mission over a defined period of time. The document shall be reviewed every five years.

### 2.2.1 Adoption of the Strategic Plan:

New editions of the existing Strategic Plan shall be produced every five years as defined by the LATBrain Coordinator in collaboration with the CoPEs. This strategic plan may be exceptionally revised earlier than 5 years upon request of the absolute majority of the CoPEs.

New and updated versions of the Strategic Plan shall be promulgated by the Stakeholders upon recommendation of the CoPEs. Adoption of the new Strategic Plan requires a vote by ordinary majority among the collected votes. LATBrain voting procedures are specified in Section 7 of the Regulations.

## 2.3 LATBrain Rules:

LATBrain rules documents define rules for transparent and coherent management of LATBrain matters on behalf of, and by its members, leaders, administration, staff, partners, and other structures and individuals participating in the organization. LATBrain regulatory documents will define precise standards for clear and transparent management regarding a specific issue relevant to the management and governance of the organization.

### 2.3.1 Promulgation of LATBrain Rules:

LATBrain policies are under the authority of the CoPEs and are applied and/or amended by ordinary majority vote of the CoPEs.

## 2.4 Governance of LATBrain:

The governance and work of LATBrain shall be led by the following bodies:

The Strategic Planning Committee (CoPEs);

Working Committees;

Assembly of the Collective of Adherent Agents.

### 2.4.1 The Strategic Planning Committee (CoPEs):

The Strategic Planning Committee is the highest decision-making body of the organization and is composed of one representative from each country. The role, composition, functions, and competencies of the CoPEs are described in sections 3.1.1 and 4.1 of the Regulations.

### 2.4.2 Working Committees:

Working Committees are working groups appointed by the CoPEs to support different activities and tasks. They are created ad hoc and may be modified or established by the CoPEs according to needs. Examples include Academic, Outreach, Education, Ethics, and Regulations committees. Committees are composed of individuals from member countries (minimum 3 members), proposed by the titular representation of each country. The tasks of each committee shall be defined by the CoPEs. Committee members may propose new tasks or assignments to the CoPEs.

### 2.4.3 Assembly of the Collective of Participating Agents:

The assembly of the collective of adherent agents shall be convened annually and serves as a tool to communicate and receive proposals for activities and organization of LATBrain. It does not have decision-making capacity since decisions are made in the CoPEs where all countries are represented. However, this assembly is crucial for receiving and discussing proposals.

## 3. Membership in LATBrain

### 3.1 Categories of LATBrain Members

#### 3.1.1 Country

All countries in Latin America and the Caribbean can be represented in the CoPEs and become members of LATBrain. To do this, they must appoint three representatives who alternate and present the country's stance to the organization.

**Eligibility:** All Latin American countries are eligible and will join LATBrain through three representatives. To be an active member, each country must have a research group, scientific society, center, or institution adhering to LATBrain. Countries without adherents to LATBrain may participate as associates but will not have voting rights. To maintain active membership, a country must participate in at least 5 of the annual CoPEs meetings; otherwise, it will automatically become an associate member without voting rights for the remainder of the year.

LATBrain recommends conducting elections for country representatives from proposals that emerge from different adherent agents. Two-thirds of adherent groups from a country can request the removal of a representative and the election of a new one. In case of resignation of representatives, countries have 1 month to elect their candidate without affecting their active member status during that month. If there is only one adherent institution, the authority or highest hierarchy of that institution may remove or change representatives at any time. Each country is solely responsible for choosing its members and maintaining its active member status. The CoPEs will not influence or intervene in the election of each country's representatives in any case.

#### 3.1.2 Corporate Adherent Member

Funding agencies, companies, foundations, and agents in general that fund science can apply to be part of the agents' collective. No financial support is required to be part of



LATBrain. However, the CoPEs may suggest voluntary contributions of certain minimum amounts for LATBrain's operation.

#### Eligibility:

Corporate members must be legally constituted entities for profit or funding agencies.

Non-profit entities are not eligible for LATBrain Corporate Membership and will be considered to join the Agents' Collective.

#### Membership Fee:

Corporate membership may be requested to pay LATBrain according to the level of involvement or interest of the company within the structure. Membership fees, eligibility rules, and accompanying rights for corporate membership are decided by the CoPEs.

#### Representation:

A Corporate Member has the right to appoint a representative to the LATBrain Assembly who may attend the assembly on behalf of the member. Corporate members have the right to voice but do not have voting rights.

### 3.1.3 Adherent Agents' Collective Member

Universities, academies, centers, institutes, scientific societies, foundations, civil associations, and all conglomerates of people (e.g., research groups) working to promote, conduct, or manage brain science research and sharing the initiative's mission and vision may join LATBrain.

The agents' collective will be the main support of the CoPEs to propose activities and outline the implementation of LATBrain's objectives in countries.

#### Representation:

An Adherent Agents' Collective Member has the right to appoint a representative to the LATBrain Assembly who may attend the assembly on behalf of the member. Adherent agents' members have the right to voice but do not have voting rights.

## 3.2 General Principles

### 3.2.1 Application for Adherent Membership

A formal membership application to LATBrain must be sent to the CoPEs via the LATBrain email account, accompanied by documentation such as proof of constitution status, membership category requested for section 3.1, and other relevant supporting materials deemed necessary for fair and transparent evaluation of eligibility for organization membership.

Following the CoPEs evaluation, the final decision on the eligibility of organizations and entities is made by ordinary majority vote of the CoPEs.

### 3.2.2 Membership Fee

The adherent agents' collective does not require any monetary contribution to belong to it. Invitations for voluntary donations may be implemented by the CoPEs.

### 3.2.3 Resignation of Members

LATBrain members may freely resign their membership in LATBrain. Resignation by a member will require the member to send a formal letter to the LATBrain CoPEs using the official email account stating the reasons for the request. The resignation takes effect three months after receipt of the resignation letter.

### 3.2.4 Expulsion of Members

The CoPEs may take measures to expel its members when it is considered that the membership conditions have been severely and irreparably compromised. This may include one of the following conditions:

- Serious misconduct or breach of confidentiality with LATBrain;
- Taking actions, whether public or private, that are clearly contrary to the interests and mission of LATBrain;
- When a corporate adherent goes bankrupt;
- When the mission of LATBrain and that of the member are fundamentally misaligned.

The expulsion of a LATBrain member will be decided by a CoPEs vote. Formal communication with the member will be conducted as needed to clarify the situation and provide context supporting an expulsion.

### 3.2.5 Member Obligations

Members are obligated to:

- follow and respect LATBrain rules as defined in the Regulations;
- immediately inform LATBrain about significant changes in its constitution, status, and structure and composition of the board;
- be responsible for paying their fees on time if established;
- inform the LATBrain CoPEs of changes in contact addresses and other administrative contact information;
- actively align with LATBrain's mission and support promotional measures adopted by the initiative to implement this mission.

## 4. The Strategic Planning Committee (CoPEs)

### 4.1 Specific Tasks of the CoPEs

The CoPEs will have the following functions:

- Election of the CoPEs Coordinator, General Secretary, and working groups or committees;

- Approval of amendments to the Statutes and Regulations of LATBrain;
- Adoption of LATBrain's Strategic Plan;
- Consideration of membership applications from adherent entities;
- Approval of LATBrain's annual reports.

## 4.2 CoPEs Meetings

### 4.2.1 Coordinator

The LATBrain Coordinator must chair the CoPEs meetings. When the CoPEs Coordinator cannot preside over the meeting, the General Secretary will act as temporary coordinator of the meeting. In cases where the LATBrain Coordinator is absent, the General Secretary must be present, and quorum must be achieved.

### 4.2.2 Meeting Convocation

CoPEs meetings will be convened monthly by the Coordinator. CoPEs meetings can be held in physical, hybrid, or virtual formats. The meeting format will be decided by the CoPEs and communicated to the members by the secretariat. All forms of attendance, virtual or physical, at CoPEs meetings will be considered equal.

A group representing at least 30% of the voting rights of active member countries of the CoPEs may request an extraordinary CoPEs meeting. Upon receiving such a request, the General Secretary will organize an online vote where, if a simple majority of those present votes in favor, an extraordinary CoPEs meeting must be held within fifteen days of the voting date.

### 4.2.3 CoPEs Agenda

The Secretary and Coordinator establish the agenda for the CoPEs meeting or Assembly and ensure that all delegated members receive the agenda at least five days before the meeting. Proposals for the agenda from Member Organizations must be sent to the General Secretary at least 30 days before the CoPEs or Assembly meeting for approval by LATBrain's CoPEs. Member Organizations may propose additional agenda items during an Assembly, subject to majority approval by the Assembly.

## 4.3 CoPEs Decisions

### 4.3.1 CoPEs Quorum

The quorum for the CoPEs has a specific requirement: half of all Active Member Countries with voting rights must be represented at the meeting.

### 4.3.2 Voting Rights of CoPEs Members

Each titular representative of a country may vote on matters before the CoPEs. Each of these elected members will have a single vote. Absentee voting (by proxy or authorizing another colleague) is not allowed for elected CoPEs members.

### 4.3.3 Majority Definition of CoPEs

CoPEs decisions will be made by voting of attending members with voting rights. CoPEs decisions are normally made by simple majority vote. In cases where different decision rules are explicitly stipulated in the LATBrain Statutes or Regulations, these rules prevail when quantifying CoPEs decisions. In case of a tied vote in the CoPEs, the Coordinator's vote decides the outcome of the voted issue.

CoPEs decisions may be made by open or closed voting, as specified for voting in the Statutes and Regulations or, in the absence of a definition, as decided by the CoPEs Coordinator. Closed voting will be mandatory for all decisions involving individuals such as the election of officials and new members of LATBrain committees or working groups. The same rules for decision-making apply to CoPEs voting, regardless of the meeting format.

## 4.4 Responsibilities and Tasks of the CoPEs

The CoPEs will be responsible for the following decisions and actions on behalf of LATBrain:

- Decisions related to LATBrain membership;
- Decisions related to the structure and operation of working groups or committees;
- Approval of LATBrain reports;
- Approval of meeting agendas and minutes;
- Decisions on the location and venue of Congresses or Symposia and approval of the Program Committee;
- Management of all contractual obligations linked to the production of LATBrain;
- Establishment or cessation of the operation of committees, working groups, and ad hoc networks;
- Approval of the composition of the Finance Committee;
- Approval of LATBrain policies.

## 4.5 Role and Responsibilities of the Coordinator

The LATBrain Coordinator is responsible for leading the initiative in defining the organization's strategic direction. The Coordinator will act as the primary spokesperson for LATBrain on all matters, including externally to the community and other stakeholders, and internally to members, committees, the LATBrain Secretariat, and elected officials. In collaboration with the Secretary, the Coordinator is responsible for promoting the implementation of priorities and policies determined by the CoPEs and will perform or delegate other functions such as fundraising and any other tasks that may be necessary or desirable for fulfilling LATBrain's purposes. The Coordinator ensures that LATBrain's working groups and committees, in all their activities, adhere to LATBrain's mission and objectives. In the event of a permanent vacancy in the Coordinator position, the General Secretary will temporarily assume the Coordinator's position until the CoPEs conducts a new Coordinator election.

#### 4.6.2 Role and Responsibilities of the General Secretary

The General Secretary will be elected by the CoPEs upon proposal from member countries and will serve as General Secretary-elect for a term of three years. The term as General Secretary-elect officially begins on January 1 of the year following an election and ends on December 31 of the third year of the term. In case of a vacancy in the General Secretary position, the CoPEs will appoint a temporary substitute until the election of a new General Secretary.

The General Secretary supports the Coordinator in their role, including, upon request, as designated representative of LATBrain when the Coordinator is unavailable. On behalf of LATBrain representatives, the General Secretary is responsible for ensuring the proper implementation of administrative processes and procedures (e.g., preparation of minutes) in accordance with LATBrain's formal documentation.

On behalf of the Coordinator, the General Secretary may convene regular and ad hoc CoPEs meetings and distribute the agenda for these meetings at least five days before each regularly scheduled meeting. Agendas for ad hoc meetings generally may be distributed no later than one day before the meeting. The General Secretary will review, in advance, and then approve all relevant materials for each meeting (proposed agendas, minutes of previous meetings, relevant documents, etc.). The General Secretary also supports the Coordinator in overseeing that LATBrain's committees and working groups, in all their activities, follow internal guidelines and transparency principles in their decisions related to LATBrain.

### 5. Finance Committee and Treasurer

LATBrain is a nonprofit organization. Fundraising is conducted with the aim of financing activities proposed within the framework of the Strategic Plan, and cannot provide benefits on distributable surplus to any individual or its members. The finance committee will be responsible for seeking financing and managing the organization's funds. The Treasurer will be responsible for handling funds and quarterly reporting on the organization's accounts. While acquiring legal status, the Treasurer will be in charge of frequently contacting the temporary fund administrator, whether it be a legal entity, a university, or a research center.

#### 5.1 Term of the Finance Committee and Treasurer

The Finance Committee will consist of three persons and will be elected by the CoPEs following nominations from the countries. It may be renewed every three years or continue with partial or total integration for a maximum of 6 years. The Treasurer will be elected by the CoPEs following nominations from the countries and must be part of the finance committee. The term of the Treasurer cannot exceed the term assigned to the LATBrain Coordinator. In the absence of the Treasurer, a member of the finance committee or the Coordinator may act as alternate Treasurer with the approval of the CoPEs.

#### 5.2 Role and Responsibilities of the Treasurer

The Treasurer is responsible for overseeing the transparent use of funds in accordance with LATBrain's mission and values. In this capacity and advised by the Finance Committee, the Treasurer is responsible for ensuring that LATBrain complies with legal requirements

regarding its management. As Chair of the Finance Committee and on behalf of LATBrain, the Treasurer acts as a liaison between the business collective and banks or organizations where funds are held and LATBrain.

Additionally, the acting Treasurer will supervise and ensure that funds are disbursed only for specified purposes. The Treasurer reports to the CoPEs and seeks their decisions when required.

## 6. LATBrain Elections

LATBrain elections will be held every 3 years, with positions for Coordinator, General Secretary, and Treasurer made available. Candidates may change or remain for a second term according to the candidates' willingness and election results.

### 6.1 Electoral Calendar

Elections will be held in September of the last year of the term of office.

### 6.2 Eligibility

All titular members of countries can be candidates for Coordinator, General Secretary, or Treasurer.

### 6.3 Electoral Procedures

The election of Coordinator, General Secretary, and Treasurer positions will follow the voting procedure in section 8.

## 7. LATBrain Finances

LATBrain funds, regardless of their origin, may be used for purposes that objectively support the organization's mission. This includes symposia and scientific conferences, outreach activities, among others. Administrative and representation expenses reasonably related to LATBrain activities may also be supported. Approval of expenses must be made by a majority of those present in the CoPEs. In cases where the sums are less than \$100, the Treasurer may approve them without prior consultation, subsequently informing the CoPEs.

### 7.1 Annual Report

With the support of the Finance Committee and LATBrain Coordinator, the Treasurer must prepare an annual report to be approved by the CoPEs and delivered to adherents. The finance committee must ensure that the approved accounting complies with the regulations and laws of the country where the account is present.

## 8. Voting Procedures

### 8.1 Voting Methods

All countries, through their titular members, may use the following methods for voting and decision-making: paper voting, manual voting, electronic voting, and mail voting.

The election of Coordinator, General Secretary, and Treasurer will be by secret ballot. The CoPEs may resolve secret ballot voting under other conditions as it considers most convenient. Candidates must receive a minimum of 40% of the total votes cast to occupy the position. If no candidate achieves a simple majority of votes assigned to them, a second vote will be held between the two most voted candidates, or in case of a tie, the vote will be repeated with all candidates involved in the tie. If again no simple majority is reached, the outgoing Coordinator will have a decisive vote.

## 8.2 Decisive Majority Voting

### Regular or Simple

Regular or simple majority voting corresponds to a situation where two or more options are voted on. The option receiving the highest number of votes will be chosen. In the case of more than two options, if no option reaches a majority, the two options with the most votes are selected and submitted to a new vote. In the event of a tie between two options, the Coordinator's vote will be decisive. Invalid votes and blank votes will be discounted from the count.

### Absolute

Majority refers to decisions where the Regulation stipulates that the vote will be decided by an absolute majority. In these cases, the option receiving more than 50% of the votes will be accepted. Invalid votes and blank votes will be discounted from the count. In these cases, the CoPEs may set the required majority threshold higher than 50%.

## 8.3 Remote Voting

The CoPEs may decide to defer the decision to an online vote if proposed as a motion at its meeting. In these cases, precise instructions for voting will be sent, and the vote will take place within one month from the meeting decision. The instructions will define the type of majority to be applied for the vote.

## 8.4 Electoral Commission

The CoPEs has the authority to create an Electoral Commission with a minimum of three members if deemed appropriate. This commission must be elected by an absolute majority of the CoPEs.

### 8.4.1 Invalid Votes

Votes may be considered invalid if the voting sheet contains more selections than required. Similarly, if the voting sheet contains additional messages or is altered.

### 8.4.2 Non-Nominal Voting

Non-nominal voting refers to voting among multiple options or candidates requiring an absolute majority. When an absolute majority is not achieved in the first round, the two highest-ranked options or candidates are preselected for a new round of voting involving only those two candidates.

In case of a tie between two candidates, the decision will be made by draw.

If the threshold is not reached in a second round in a vote involving an option (i.e., not a decision about candidates), the proposal is rejected.