



Election Procedures

for the Election of Senators

*- adopted by the General Meeting of the Members of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft
on 23 June 1965 -*

I. Electoral Committee

§ 1

An Electoral Committee to prepare for the election of Senators shall be formed in advance of each General Meeting at which such election may take place.

§ 2

The Electoral Committee shall comprise one member from each of the Sections of the Wissenschaftlicher Rat and an equal number appointed by the Verwaltungsrat. A member may belong to the Electoral Committee on a maximum of three consecutive occasions.

§ 3

The Electoral Committee shall be chaired by the President of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft who may be represented by one of the Vice Presidents. Should the term of office of the President end with the General Meeting in question, the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall be appointed by the Verwaltungsrat.

§ 4

The Chairperson shall direct the work of the Electoral Committee; however, he or she shall have no right to vote.

§ 5

The Chairperson and members of the Electoral Committee are not bound by instruction. Nor can they be proposed as candidates for election.

II. Nomination of Candidates

§ 6

The Chairperson shall call upon the Senators, the remaining Members of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft and the Sections of the Wissenschaftlicher Rat to propose candidates to the Electoral Committee within a time limit to be set.

§ 7

The Electoral Committee shall decide upon the number of Senators to be proposed to the General Meeting for election.

§ 8

The Electoral Committee shall endeavour by unanimous agreement to draw up a list of as many candidates as there are Senators to be elected. Should the Committee not succeed in doing so, it shall decide upon the list to be drawn up by a two-thirds majority.

§ 9

In drawing up the list of candidates, it must be borne in mind that appropriate representation must be accorded to the various elements by which the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft is maintained.

§ 10

The Chairperson shall inform the Members of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft of the proposed number of Senators to be elected and the list of proposed candidates. Each candidate proposal must be accompanied by a brief supporting statement.

§ 11

The Chairperson shall set a reasonable time limit within which the Members of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft may propose further candidates to the Chair; these proposals too must be accompanied by a brief supporting statement. Upon expiry of this time limit, the Chairperson shall inform the Members of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft of these proposals and their supporting statements.

III. Conduct of the Election

§ 12

The Electoral Officer is the President. The President may be represented by one of the Vice Presidents.

§ 13

The General Meeting shall first resolve upon the number of Senators to be elected. In the event that the proposal by the Committee is not accepted by acclamation, the Meeting must vote in writing. The number permissible by the Statutes which receives more than one half of the votes cast is deemed to be decided upon, whereby the votes for the next higher numbers receiving fewer votes shall be added to the votes for the next lower number.

§ 14

The ballot papers required for the election of Senators shall include the names of the candidates listed by the Electoral Committee and those other candidates proposed within the time limit. It is permissible to identify to which of these groups each candidate belongs. The ballot papers shall include sufficient space for other names to be entered by voters.

§ 15

Each voter shall have as many votes as there are Senators to be elected. Only one vote may be cast per candidate.

§ 16

Votes are cast by secret ballot, whereby voters shall mark the names of their preferred candidates with a cross, insofar as these are listed on the ballot paper, or by writing the name on the ballot paper.

IV. Determination of the Election Results

§ 17

The Electoral Officer with the consent of the General Meeting shall appoint Members of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft to count the ballot papers and determine the results of the election.

§ 18

Votes which do not unambiguously convey the intention of the voter or which are cast for persons who, in accordance with the Statutes of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, are not eligible for election or who have declared to the General Meeting that they would not accept election are invalid.

§ 19

The entirety of votes cast by a voter shall be invalid if he or she casts more than the permissible number of otherwise valid votes.

§ 20

The number of candidates elected shall be equal to the number of Senators for election, in the order of valid votes cast for them, subject to the proviso that the number of votes they receive exceeds one half of the number of voters.

§ 21

The Electoral Officer shall ask the elected candidates present whether they accept election. Should an elected candidate decline, the votes cast for him or her shall be invalid.

§ 22

In case of § 21 Sentence 2, the procedure as per §§ 20 and 21 must be repeated.

§ 23

If fewer Senators are elected than was resolved as per § 13, a second ballot shall be held in accordance with the stipulations for the first ballot (§§ 15 - 22). The requirement for an absolute majority as provided for in § 20 shall however no longer apply.

The General Meeting may nevertheless resolve to deviate from its previous decision regarding the number of Senators to be elected.

V. Election of Honorary Senators

§ 24

A proposal for the election of an Honorary Senator may only be made to the Chairperson of the Electoral Committee with the consent of all the Electoral Committee members. The proposed candidate shall be elected if he or she receives the votes of a two-thirds majority of voters. In other respects, the stipulations for the election of Senators shall apply correspondingly.