



DEMOCRATS ABROAD DELEGATE SELECTION AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLANS

FOR THE 2012 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

ISSUED BY DEMOCRATS ABROAD

JANUARY 19, 2012

**The Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans
For the 2012 Democratic National Convention**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section I4

Introduction & Description of Delegate Selection Process4

 A. Introduction4

 B. Description of Delegate Selection Process.....4

Section II5

 A. Ballot Access5

 B. Authorized Representatives.....5

 C. Affirmative Action Best Efforts.....5

Section III.....5

 A. Regional-level Delegates and Alternates6

 B. Unpledged Delegates8

 C. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegates9

 D. At-large Delegates And Alternates.....10

 E. Replacement of Delegates and Alternates12

Section IV14

 A. Introduction14

 B. Standing Committee Members14

Section V16

 A. Delegation Chair16

 B. Convention Page16

Section VI17

Section VII19

 A. Participation19

 B. Procedures for the Global Primary20

Section VIII.....24

Section IX.....28

Section X33

Section XI.....36

ATTACHMENTS TO THE DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN48

Section I

Introduction & Description of Delegate Selection Process

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Democrats Abroad has a total of 23 Delegates and 1 Alternate to the 2012 Democratic National Convention. (Call, I. & Appendix B.)
2. The Delegate selection process is governed by the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2012 Democratic National Convention (“Rules”), the Call for the 2012 Democratic National Convention (“Call”), the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2012 Democratic National Convention (“Regs”) and this Delegate Selection Plan. (Call, II.A.)
3. Following the adoption of this Delegate Selection Plan by the governing body of Democrats Abroad, the Democratic Party Committee Abroad (“DPCA”), it shall be submitted for review and approval by the Democratic National Committee Rules and Bylaws Committee (“Rules and Bylaws Committee”). The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall be empowered to make any technical revisions to this document as required by the Rules and Bylaws Committee to correct any omissions and/or deficiencies as found by the Rules and Bylaws Committee to ensure its full compliance with Party Rules. Such corrections shall be made by the Chair of Democrats Abroad and the Plan resubmitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee within 30 days of receipt of notice of the Rules and Bylaws Committee’s findings. (Regs. 2.5, 2.6 & 2.7)
4. Once this Plan has been found in compliance by the Rules and Bylaws Committee, any amendment to the Plan by the DPCA will be submitted to and approved by the Rules and Bylaws Committee before it becomes effective. (Reg. 2.9)

B. Description of Delegate Selection Process

1. Democrats Abroad will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the Global Primary conducted by Democrats Abroad for apportioning Delegates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention.
2. The “first determining step” of Democrats Abroad’s delegate selection process will occur on May 1 to 6, 2012, with a Global Primary (waiver to Rule 3.B requested).
3. Voter Participation in Process
 - a. Participation in Democrats Abroad’s Delegate selection process is open to all United States citizens residing outside the United States who will be 18 years of age or older on November 6, 2012 who wish to participate as Democrats.
 - b. Each individual participating in the Global Primary must sign a declaration to the effect of the preceding sentence in the form of the Declaration set forth as Exhibit B hereto and shall thereby become a participant in the Global Primary. A person who wishes to participate in the Global Primary and is not a member of Democrats Abroad must first

join Democrats Abroad by completing an online membership form prior to participating in the Global Primary or if joining Democrats Abroad at a Voting Center (defined below) on the date of the Global Primary, by completing a Declaration in the form of Exhibit B. (Rules 2.A. & 2.C. & Reg. 4.3.)

- c. At no stage of Democrats Abroad's delegate selection process shall any person be required, directly or indirectly, to pay a cost or fee as a condition for participating. Voluntary contributions to the Democrats Abroad may be made, but under no circumstances shall a contribution be mandatory for participation. (Rule 2.D. & Reg. 4.4.)
- d. No person shall participate or vote in the nominating process for the Democrats Abroad Global Primary who also participated in the nominating process of any other party for the corresponding elections. (Rule 2.E.)
- e. No person shall vote in the Democrats Abroad Global Primary if they have voted in the Presidential Primary or Caucus of their voting state.

Section II Presidential Candidates

A. Ballot Access

1. A presidential candidate gains access to the Democrats Abroad presidential preference Global Primary ballot, by filing a candidacy statement with the Chair of Democrats Abroad (PO Box 15130, Washington, D.C. 20003) no later than April 1, 2012 for the Global Primary on May 1-6, 2012.
2. The ballot for the Democrats Abroad Global Primary will include a category for "uncommitted" but write-in candidacies will not be permitted. (Rules 11.B., 14.A., 14.B., 14.D., 14.E., & 14.H.)

B. Authorized Representatives

Each presidential candidate shall certify in writing to the Chair of Democrats Abroad, the name(s) of her or his authorized representative(s) by March 15, 2012. (Rule 12.D.(1))

C. Affirmative Action Best Efforts

Each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) shall use her or his best efforts to ensure that her or his respective delegation within the Democrats Abroad Delegation achieves the affirmative action goals established by this Plan and is equally divided between men and women. (Rule 6.I.)

Section III Selection of Delegates and Alternates

Democrats Abroad is allocated a total of 14 At-large Delegates, one (1) Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (“PLEO”) Delegate and one (1) Alternate. [Rule 8.C., Call, I.B., I.I. & Appendix B.] Eleven (11) of the At-large Delegates shall be elected at the Regional Level and three (3) At-large Delegates, one (1) PLEO Delegate and 1 Alternate will be elected at the Democrats Abroad Global Convention on May 19-20, 2012.

A. Regional-level Delegates and Alternates

1. The Regional-level Delegates shall be elected by a Global Primary as provided in Section VII below.
2. The Global Primary will take place on May 1-6, 2012.
3. Apportionment of Regional-level Delegates and Alternates

Democrats Abroad’s Regional-level At-large Delegates are apportioned among the Regions of Democrats Abroad based on proportional voter participation in the Democrats Abroad Global Primary. [Rule 8.A.; Regs. 4.10., 4.11 & Appendix A]

Democrats Abroad’s total number of Regional-level Delegates will be equally divided between men and women, with an overall variance between men and women not exceeding one. Regional Delegates will be apportioned after the Global Primary results have been verified. [Rule 6.C.(1) & Reg. 4.8.]

4. Regional-level Delegate Filing Requirements

- a. A Regional-level Delegate candidate may run for election only within the Region in which he or she resides. (Rule 12.H.) Residency shall be determined as follows: if the candidate has one permanent residency or residences only within the same Region, his or her residency shall be based upon the residence in which she resides at the time of the election of delegates; if the candidate has two or more residential locations within different Regions, the primary residence to be used for this section shall be the one in which the candidate has resided for the greater amount of days within the 12 months prior to the election.
- b. An individual can qualify as a candidate for Regional-level Delegate to the 2012 Democratic National Convention by filing a statement of candidacy designating her or his presidential (or uncommitted) preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) with the Chair of Democrats Abroad by 24:00 o’clock GMT on March 28, 2012. (Rules 12.B. & 14.F.)

5. Presidential Candidate Right of Review for Regional-level Delegates

- a. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate’s authorized representative(s), not later than 24:00 o’clock GMT on April 1,

2012, a list of all persons who have filed for Regional-level Delegate pledged to that presidential candidate. (Rules 12.D. & 12.F.)

- b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the Chair of Democrats Abroad by 24:00 o'clock GMT on April 8, 2012, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved. (Rule 12.E.(1), Reg. 4.23.)
- c. The failure of a presidential candidate to respond will be deemed approval of all Delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate, or the authorized representative(s), signifies otherwise in writing to the Chair of Democrats Abroad not later than 24:00 o'clock GMT on April 10, 2012.
- d. National Convention Delegate candidates removed from the list of bona fide supporters by a presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), may not be elected as a Delegate at that level pledged to that presidential candidate (including uncommitted status). (Rule 12.E. & Reg. 4.23.)
- e. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the Democratic National Committee Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) has used her or his best efforts to ensure that her or his respective Regional-level Delegate candidates meet the affirmative action and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved Regional-level Delegate candidates as indicated in Section III.A.4.b of this Plan.

6. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference

- a. **Global Primary - Proportional Representation Plan** (Rules 13.A., 13.B. & 13.D.)
The Democrats Abroad Global Primary election is a "binding" primary. Accordingly, Delegate positions shall be allocated so as to fairly reflect the expressed presidential (or uncommitted) preference of the Global Primary voters in each Region. The National Convention Delegates selected at the Regional-level shall be allocated in proportion to the percentage of the Global Primary vote won in that Region by each preference, except that preferences falling below a 15% threshold shall not be awarded any Delegates.
- b. Within a Region, if no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be the percentage of the vote received in that district by the front-runner minus 10%. (Rule 13.F.)
- c. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee (Democratic National Committee) the election of the Democrats Abroad's Regional-level Delegates to the Democratic National Convention within ten (10) days after their election. (Rule 8.C. & Call, IV.A.)

7. Equal Division of Regional-level Delegates

- a. In order to ensure the Regional-level Delegates are equally divided between men and women, Delegate positions within each Region will be designated by presidential preference beginning with the highest vote-getting presidential preference. This assignment of Delegate positions, alternating by sex as mathematically practicable, will continue with the next highest vote-getting preferences in descending order until the gender of each position has been assigned. (Rule 6.C.(1) & Reg. 4.8.)
- b. In the event that the Regions are to elect odd numbers of Delegates, the highest vote-getting presidential preference in the larger Region shall assign the first Delegate position to a woman and the highest vote-getting presidential preference in the smaller Region shall assign the first Delegate position to a man.

B. Unpledged Delegates

1. Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials

- a. The following categories (if applicable) shall constitute the Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Official Delegate positions:
 - (1) Members of the Democratic National Committee representing Democrats Abroad; (Rule 9.A.(1), Call, I.F., J., & Reg. 4.13.)
 - (2) “Distinguished Party Leader” Delegates (if applicable): i.e., all former Democratic Presidents or Vice Presidents, all former Democratic Leaders of the U.S. Senate, all former Democratic Speakers of the U.S. House of Representatives and Democratic Minority Leaders, as applicable, and all former Chairs of the Democratic National Committee who legally reside outside the United States or its territories. (Rule 9.A.(5), Call I.G., and Reg. 4.13.)
- b. The certification process for the Unpledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates is as follows:
 - (1) Not later than March 1, 2012, the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee shall officially confirm to the Chair of Democrats Abroad the names of the unpledged Delegates who legally reside outside the United States or its territories. (Rule 9.A.)
 - (2) Official confirmation by the Secretary shall constitute verification of the unpledged Delegates from the categories indicated above. (Call, IV.B.1.)
 - (3) The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the

presidential preference of Democrats Abroad's unpledged Delegates 10 days after the completion of the Democrats Abroad's Delegate Selection Process. (Call, IV.B)

C. Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegates

1. Democrats Abroad is allotted one (1) pledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegate. (Call, I.D., E. & Appendix B)
2. Pledged PLEO Delegate Filing Requirements
 - a. Individuals shall be eligible for the pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegate position according to the following priority: International Officers and immediately past former International Officers of the DPCA; other former International Officers of the DPCA and former Democratic National Committee members; other former Democratic elected officials and party leaders.
 - b. An individual can qualify as a candidate for a position as a pledged PLEO Delegate by filing a statement of candidacy with the Chair of Democrats Abroad by no later than May 9, 2012 24:00 o'clock GMT. (Rules 9.B.(3), & 14.G., Reg. 4.16.)
3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review
 - a. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than May 10, 2012 24:00 o'clock GMT, a list of all persons who have filed for a PLEO Delegate pledged to that presidential candidate. (Rules 9.B.(3) & 12.D.)
 - b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must file with the Chair of Democrats Abroad, by 24:00 o'clock GMT on May 11, 2012, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, as long as approval is given to at least two (2) names for every position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (Rule 12.E.(2) & Reg. 4.23.)
 - c. The failure of a presidential candidate to respond will be deemed approval of all PLEO Delegate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the Chair of Democrats Abroad not later than 24:00 o'clock GMT on May 12, 2012.
 - d. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective pledged PLEO Delegate candidates meet the affirmative action and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved pledged PLEO candidates as indicated in Section III.C.3.b of this Plan.

4. Selection of Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates

- a. The pledged PLEO slot shall be allocated among presidential preferences on the same basis as the At-large Delegates. (Rule 9.B.(2), 10.C., 13.E. & F.)
- b. The PLEO Delegate will be selected by Democrats Abroad Global Convention. (Rule 9.C.)
- c. Selection of the pledged PLEO Delegate will occur at the Global Convention of Democrats Abroad on May 19-20, 2012, which is after the election of Regional-level Delegates and prior to the selection of At-large Delegates and Alternate. (Rule 9.B.)

5. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the Democrats Abroad's pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegate to the Democratic National Convention within ten (10) days after the election. (Rule 8.D. & Call, IV.A.)

D. At-large Delegates And Alternates

1. Democrats Abroad shall elect three (3) At-large Delegates and 1 Alternate at the Global Convention.

2. At-large Delegate and Alternate Filing Requirements

- a. Persons desiring to seek At-large Delegate or Alternate positions may file a statement of candidacy designating their presidential or uncommitted preference and a signed pledge of support for the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) with the Chair of Democrats Abroad by 24:00 o'clock GMT on May 9, 2012 (Rules 12.B. & 14.G.; Regs. 4.21. & 4.27.)
- b. The statement of candidacy for At-large Delegates and for the Alternate will be the same. After the At-large Delegates are elected by the Democrats Abroad Global Convention those persons not chosen will also then be considered candidates for the Alternate position unless they specify otherwise when filing. (Rule 18.A.)

3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review

- a. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall convey to the presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), not later than 24:00 o'clock GMT on May 10, 2012, a list of all persons who have filed for At-large Delegate or Alternate pledged to that presidential candidate. (Rule 12.D.) (Reg. 4.22. & 4.27.)
- b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must then file with the Chair of Democrats Abroad, by 24:00 o'clock GMT on May 11, 2012, a list of all such candidates he or she has approved, provided that, at a minimum, two

(2) names remains for every At-large Delegate or Alternate position to which the presidential candidate is entitled. (Rule 12.E.(2) & Reg. 4.23.)

- c. The failure of a presidential candidate to respond will be deemed approval of all At-large Delegate and Alternate candidates submitted to the presidential candidate unless the presidential candidate or the authorized representative(s) signifies otherwise in writing to the Chair of Democrats Abroad not later than 24:00 o'clock GMT on May 12, 2012.
- d. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify in writing to the Co-Chairs of the Rules and Bylaws Committee whether each presidential candidate (including uncommitted status) has used their best efforts to ensure that their respective At-large Delegate candidates and Alternate candidates meet the affirmative action and inclusion considerations and goals detailed in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan within three (3) business days of returning the list of approved At-large Delegate candidates and Alternate candidates as indicated in Section III.D.3.b of this Plan.

4. Fair Reflection of Presidential Preference

- a. At-large Delegate and Alternate positions shall be allocated among presidential preferences according to results of the Democrats Abroad Global Primary vote. (Rule 10.C.)
- b. Preferences which have not attained a 15% threshold on a Democrats Abroad-wide basis shall not be entitled to any At-large Delegates. (Rule 13.E.)
- c. If no presidential preference reaches a 15% threshold, the threshold shall be the percentage of the Democrats Abroad world-wide vote received by the front-runner, minus 10%. (Rule 13.F.)
- d. If a presidential candidate is no longer a candidate at the time of selection of the At-large Delegates, then those At-large Delegate slots that would have been allocated to the candidate will be proportionally divided among the remaining preferences entitled to an allocation. (Rule 10.C.)
- e. If a given presidential preference is entitled to one or more At-large Delegate positions but would not otherwise be entitled to an Alternate position, that preference shall be allotted nevertheless one (1) Alternate position. (Rule 18.B., Call, I.I. & Reg. 4.30.& 4.33.)

5. Selection of At-large Delegates and Alternates

- a. The selection of the At-Large Delegates and the Alternate will occur at the Democrats Abroad Global Convention on May 19-20, 2012, which is after the Pledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates have been selected; the procedures for such selection are set out in Section IX.2 below. (Rule 8.D. & Call, III.) (Rules 10.B. & 8.E.)
- b. Priority of Consideration

(1) In the selection of the At-Large Delegates and the Alternate priority of consideration shall be given, in no particular order, to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders and women. (Rule 6.A.)

(2) In order to continue the Democratic Party's ongoing efforts to include groups historically under-represented in the Democratic Party's affairs and to assist in the achievement of full participation by these groups, priority of consideration shall be given other groups by virtue of race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation or disability. (Rules 5.C., 6.A.(3), & Reg. 4.7.)

(3) The election of At-Large Delegates and the Alternate shall be used, if necessary, to achieve the equal division of positions between men and women, and may be used to achieve the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action section of this Plan. (Rule 6.A. & 6.C.)

(4) The Delegates and the Alternate are to be considered separate groups for this purpose. (Rules 6.A.(3), 10.A. & Regs. 4.8 & 4.19.)

6. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the election of the Democrats Abroad's At-large Delegates and the Alternate to the Democratic National Convention within ten (10) days after their election. (Rule 8.C. & Call, IV.A.)

E. Replacement of Delegates and Alternates

1. A pledged Delegate or Alternate may be replaced according to the following guidelines:

a. Permanent Replacement of a Delegate: (Rule 18.D.(2))

(1) A permanent replacement occurs when a Delegate resigns or dies prior to or during the National Convention and the Alternate replaces the Delegate for the remainder of the National Convention.

(2) Any Alternate permanently replacing a Delegate shall be of the same presidential preference (including uncommitted status) and sex (if possible) of the Delegate he or she replaces, and (if possible) shall be from the same Region of Democrats Abroad as the Delegate.

(a) In the case where the presidential candidate has only one Alternate, that Alternate shall become the certified Delegate.

(b) If an Alternate permanently replaces a Delegate of the opposite sex, thereby causing the Delegation to no longer be equally divided, the Delegation shall not be considered in violation of Rule 6.C. In such a case, notwithstanding Rule 18.D.(2), the

Delegation shall, at the time of a subsequent permanent replacement, replace a Delegate with a person of the opposite sex, in order to return the Delegation to equal division of men and women. (Reg. 4.32.)

- b. Temporary Replacement of a Delegate: (Rule 18.D.(3))
 - (1) A temporary replacement occurs when a Delegate is to be absent for a limited period of time during the convention and an Alternate temporarily acts in the Delegate's place.
 - (2) Any Alternate who temporarily replaces a Delegate must be of the same presidential preference (including uncommitted status) as the Delegate he or she replaces, and to the extent possible shall be of the same sex and from the same Region of Democrats Abroad as the Delegate.
- c. Since Democrats Abroad only has one Alternate per presidential candidate, the Alternate automatically replaces any Delegate of the Alternate's same presidential preference who is either temporarily or permanently absent.
- d. Certification of Replacements
 - (1) Any Alternate who permanently replaces a Delegate shall be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee by the Chair of Democrats Abroad. (Rule 18.D.(2))
 - (2) Permanent replacement of a Delegate (as specified above) by an Alternate and replacement of a vacant Alternate position shall be certified in writing by the Chair of Democrats Abroad to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the replacement is selected. (Call, IV.D.1.)
 - (3) Certification of permanent replacements will be accepted by the Secretary up to 48 hours before the first official session of the Convention is scheduled to convene. (Call, IV.D.1. & Reg. 4.31.)
 - (4) In the case where a pledged Delegate is permanently replaced after 48 hours before the time the first session is scheduled to convene or, in the case where a pledged Delegate is not on the floor of the Convention Hall at the time a roll call vote is taken, an Alternate may be designated (as specified above) to cast the Delegate's vote. In such case, the Delegation Chair shall indicate the name of the Alternate casting the respective Delegate's vote on the Delegation tally sheet. (Call, VIII.F.3.d., VIII.F.3.b. & Reg. 5.5.)
- e. A vacant Alternate position shall be filled by the Delegation. The replacement shall be of the same presidential preference (or uncommitted status), of the same sex and, to the extent possible, from the same Region of Democrats Abroad Alternate being replaced. (Rule 18.E.)

2. Unpledged Delegates shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall Democrats Abroad be entitled to a replacement, except under the following circumstances: (Rule 18.E. & Reg. 4.33.)
 - a. Members of the Democratic National Committee shall not be entitled to a replacement, nor shall Democrats Abroad be entitled to a replacement, except in the case of death of such Delegates. In the case where Democrats Abroad's Democratic National Committee membership changes following the Democratic National Committee Secretary's official confirmation, but prior to the commencement of the 2012 Democratic National Convention, acknowledgment by the Secretary of the new Democratic National Committee member certification shall constitute verification of the corresponding change of unpledged Delegates. (Call, IV.D.2.b.)
 - b. Unpledged Distinguished Party Leader Delegates allocated to Democrats Abroad pursuant to Rule 9.A.(5), shall not be entitled to name a replacement, nor shall Democrats Abroad be entitled to name a replacement. (Call, IV.C.2.c.)
 - c. In no case may an Alternate cast a vote on behalf of an unpledged Delegate. (Call, VIII.F.3.d.)

Section IV

Convention Standing Committee Members

A. Introduction

1. Democrats Abroad has been allocated three (3) standing committee members for the 2012 Democratic National Convention. (Call, VII.A. & Appendix D.)
2. The members of the Convention Standing Committees need not be Delegates or Alternates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention. (Call, VII.A.3.)
3. This member will be selected in accordance with the procedures indicated below. (Rule 1.G.)

B. Standing Committee Members

1. Selection Meeting

- a. The members of the Standing Committees shall be elected by a quorum of Democrats Abroad's National Convention Delegates, at a meeting to be held on May 19-20, 2012. (Call, VII.B.1.)
- b. All members of the Delegation shall receive adequate notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the standing committee member. (Call, VII.B.1.)
- c. Participation in the meeting of Democrats Abroad's National Convention Delegation may be by telephone, video-conference or similar means permitting all participants to hear and speak to the other participants.

2. Allocation of Members

- a. The presidential preference of each candidate receiving the applicable percentage or more within the delegation shall be multiplied by the total number of standing committee positions allocated to Democrats Abroad. If the result of such multiplication does not equal 0.455 or above, the presidential preference in question is not entitled to representation on the standing committee. If the result of such multiplication is 0.455 but less than 1.455, the presidential preference is entitled to one (1) position. Those preferences securing more than 1.455 but less than 2.455 are entitled to two (2) positions, etc. (Call, VII.C.2.)
- b. Where the application of this formula results in the total allocation exceeding the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is farthest from its eventual rounded-off total shall be denied that one (1) additional position. Where the application formula results in the total allocation fall short of the total number of committee positions, the presidential candidate whose original figure of representation is closest to the next rounding level shall be allocated an additional committee person. (Call, VIIC.)
- c. Standing committee positions allocated to a presidential candidate shall be proportionately allocated, to the extent practicable, to each of the three standing committees. When such allocation results in unequal distribution of standing committee positions by candidate preference, a drawing shall be conducted to distribute the additional positions. (Call, VII.C.4)
- d. The positions allocated to each presidential candidate on each committee shall be voted on separately, and the winners shall be the highest vote-getter(s) of the appropriate sex.

3. Presidential Candidate Right of Review

- a. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), shall be given adequate notice of the date, time and location of the meeting of the Democrats Abroad's Delegation authorized to elect the Standing Committee member. (Call, VII.D.1.)
- b. Each presidential candidate, or that candidate's authorized representative(s), must submit to the Chair of Democrats Abroad, by 24:00 o'clock on May 2, 2012, a minimum of one (1) name for each slot awarded to that candidate for the member of the Standing Committees. The Delegation shall select the Standing Committee member from among the candidates submitted by the presidential candidates (including uncommitted status). Presidential candidates shall not be required to

submit the name of more than one person for the member of Standing Committees. (Call, VII.D.2.)

4. Certification and Substitution

- a. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify the Standing Committee members in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the member's selection. (Call, VII.B.3.)
- b. No substitutions will be permitted in the case of Standing Committee members, except in the case of resignation or death. A substitution must be made in accordance with the rules and the election procedures specified in this section, and must be certified in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the substitute member is selected. (Call, VII.B.4.)

Section V The Delegation

- A. Democrats Abroad will select one (1) person to serve as Delegation Chair and one (1) to serve as Convention Page. (Call, IV.E., F.1. & Appendix C.)

B. Delegation Chair

1. Selection Meeting

- c. The Delegation Chair shall be selected from within the Delegation by a quorum of the Democrats Abroad's National Convention Delegates, at a meeting to be held on May 19-20, 2012. (Call, IV.E.)
 - d. All members of the Delegation shall receive timely notice of the time, date and place of the meeting to select the Delegation Chair. (Rule 3.C.)
 - e. Participation in the meeting of Democrats Abroad's National Convention Delegation may be by telephone, video-conference or similar means permitting all participants to hear and speak to the other participants.
2. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify the Delegation Chair in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after her or his selection. (Call, IV.E.)

C. Convention Pages

1. One (1) person will be selected to serve as Democrats Abroad's Convention Page by the Chair of Democrats Abroad in consultation with the members of the Democratic National Committee from Democrats Abroad. This selection will take place immediately prior to the selection of the Standing Committee members. (Call, IV.F.3., Appendix C & Reg. 5.6.)

2. The Convention Page shall reflect as much as possible, the Affirmative Action guidelines in the Affirmative Action Plan. (Reg. 5.6.A.)
3. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall certify the person to serve as Convention Page in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee within three (3) days after the selection. This certification shall be made not later than the time the Democrats Abroad certifies its Standing Committee member. (Call, IV.F.3. & Reg. 5.6.B.)

Section VI

General Provisions and Procedural Guarantees

- A. Democrats Abroad reaffirms its commitment to an open party by incorporating the “six basic elements” as listed below. These provisions demonstrate the intention of the Democratic Party to ensure a full opportunity for all minority group members to participate in the Delegate selection process. (Rules 4.A. & C.)
 1. All public meetings at all levels of Democrats Abroad should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status or physical disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as “status”). (Rule 4.B.(1))
 2. No test for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to Democrats Abroad should be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination based on “status.” (Rule 4.B.(2))
 3. The time and place for all public meetings of Democrats Abroad on all levels should be publicized fully and in such manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons. (Rule 4.B.(3))
 4. Democrats Abroad should support on all levels the broadest possible registration without discrimination based on “status.” (Rule 4.B.(4))
 5. Democrats Abroad should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of Democratic Party officers and representatives on all levels. Publication of these procedures should be done in such fashion that all prospective and current members of Democrats Abroad will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedures in time to participate in each selection procedure at all levels of the Democratic Party organization. (Rule 4.B.(5))
 6. Democrats Abroad should publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties, a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications of all

positions as officers and representatives of Democrats Abroad. Such publication should be done in timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within each Democrats Abroad Democratic Party will have full and adequate opportunity to compete for office. (Rule 4.B.(6))

- B. Discrimination on the basis of “status” in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (Rule 5.B.)
- C. Democrats Abroad’s Delegation shall be equally divided between Delegate men and Delegate women, and Alternate men and Alternate women. Such goal applies to the entire Delegation, which includes all pledged Delegates and Alternates and all unpledged Delegates. Delegates and Alternates shall be considered separate groups for purposes of achieving equal division. (Rule 6.C.)
- D. All Delegate and Alternate candidates must be identified as to presidential preference or uncommitted status at all levels which determine presidential preference. (Rule 12.A.)
- E. No Delegate at any level of the Delegate selection process shall be mandated by law or Party rules to vote contrary to that person’s presidential choice as expressed at the time the Delegate is elected. (Rule 12.I.)
- F. Delegates elected to the National Convention pledged to a presidential candidate shall in all good conscience reflect the sentiments of those who elected them. (Rule 12.J.)
- G. All Delegates, Alternates and Standing Committee Members must be bona fide Democrats who have the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States at heart, who subscribe to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States, and who will participate in the Convention in good faith. (Rule 12.H. & Reg. 4.24.)
- H. Forty percent (40 %) of the members of any Party body above the first level of the delegate selection process shall constitute a quorum for any business pertaining to the selection of National Convention Delegates, Alternates, Standing Committee Members, and other official Convention participants. (Rule 15)
- I. There shall be no voting by proxy at any stage of the delegate selection process.
- J. The unit rule, or any rule or practice whereby all members of a Party unit or Delegation may be required to cast their votes in accordance with the will of a majority of the body, shall not be used at any stage of the Delegate selection process. (Rule 17.A.)
- K. Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a slate of candidates for convention Delegates. But no slate may, by virtue of such endorsement, receive a preferential place on a Delegate selection ballot or be publicly identified on the ballot as the official Democratic Party organization slate, and all slates must meet identical qualifying requirements for appearing on a ballot at all levels of the Delegate selection process. (Rule 17.B.)

- L. All steps in the Delegate selection process, including the filing of presidential candidates, must take place within the calendar year of the Democratic National Convention, except with respect to the implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan. (Rules 1.F. & 11.B.)
- M. In electing and certifying Delegates and Alternates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention, Democrats Abroad thereby undertakes to assure all Democratic voters residing outside the United States and its territories full, timely and equal opportunity to participate in the Delegate selection process and in all Party affairs and to implement affirmative action programs toward that end, and that the Delegates and Alternates to the Convention shall be selected in accordance with the Delegate Selection Rules for the 2012 Democratic National Convention, and that voters residing outside the United States and its territories will have the opportunity to cast their election ballots for the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees selected by said Convention, and for electors pledged formally and in good conscience to the election of these Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees, under the label and designation of the Democratic Party of the United States, and that the Delegates certified will not publicly support or campaign for any candidate for President or Vice President other than the nominees for the Democratic National Convention. (Call, II.B.)
- N. In any calculation required hereunder except as otherwise indicated, any number that may require to be rounded shall be rounded upwards to the nearest round number if it is equal to or greater than 0.5000 and shall be rounded downwards to the nearest round number if it is equal or lesser than 0.4999.

Section VII

The Presidential Preference Vote

A. Participation

1. Participation (whether by voting in person or by mail/fax/email ballot) in the Global Primary shall be open to any person who (i) is a member of Democrats Abroad, (ii) who has the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad at heart and who subscribes to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and the Charter of Democrats Abroad and will participate in the Global Primary in good faith and who wishes to participate as a Democrat, (iii) who will be 18 years of age or older on or before November 6, 2012.
2. Participation in Countries without a Democrats Abroad Country Committee
 - a. Persons wishing to participate in the Democrats Abroad Global Primary and who reside in countries where there is neither a voting center nor voting Country Committee of Democrats Abroad may do so by voting by mail/fax/email ballot. Such persons must meet the participation requirements of Section VII.A.1 and may vote by mail/fax/email ballot, in accordance with Section VII.B.4.

- b. In the case of voting by mail/fax/email, such person's ballot shall be returned to the D.C. Office of Democrats Abroad (P.O. Box 15130, Washington, D.C. 20003, fax number: +1 202 350 6043) by no later than 24:00 o'clock GMT on May 6, 2012.
- c. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall ensure that all such mail/fax/email ballots are tabulated and accounted for country by country in the worldwide tabulation of votes cast during the Global Primary. Such mail/fax/email ballots shall be used for the purposes of calculating the proportional voter participation of each presidential candidate.

B. Procedures for the Global Primary

1. All members of Democrats Abroad as at 24:00 o'clock (GMT) on April 30, 2012 are presumed qualified to vote in the Global Primary unless proof can be established to the contrary. Those participants in the Global Primary who join Democrats Abroad after that date and who wish to vote in the Global Primary and who provide proper identification (with, for example, a passport, driver's license, resident's card or registration card, college or university identification card) shall be presumed qualified to vote unless positive proof can be established to the contrary. Positive proof of this kind could include, but would not be limited to documents which indicate that a person attempting to vote is not a US citizen, is not a member of Democrats Abroad, is a member of a Country Committee of Democrats Abroad other than the one in which the voter is participating or records indicate that the person attempting to vote, voted in another Country Committee or in another State delegation's delegate selection process or in the corresponding elections of another political party. In case of challenge, the person may cast a provisional ballot. The Democrats Abroad Executive Committee shall establish procedures to prevent multiple voting by any person whether in person, by mail/fax/email.
2. Voting in the Global Primary and the Ballot Design
 - a. Voting in the Global Primary shall require completion of a ballot by those seeking to vote.
 - b. The ballots shall require that each voter wishing to vote provide all of the following :
 - (1) Full name of person voting
 - (2) Street and mailing address abroad
 - (3) Telephone number (if a person has one)
 - (4) Email address (if a person has one)
 - (5) Date of birth
 - (6) A Statement in the form of Exhibit B hereto confirming that the person is voting as a Democrat
 - (7) Presidential candidate preference
 - (8) US voting address (if known)
 - (9) Signature of voter attesting to the truth of the information provided

- c. Provisional ballots shall contain all of the same information required under the previous sub-section but shall be clearly marked as provisional ballots.
- d. Those not providing all of the information listed above shall not be permitted to vote; if a ballot is nevertheless cast, it shall be invalid.
- e. The ballot shall set forth the names of the presidential candidates (including uncommitted) and of the candidates for Delegate pledged to such candidate to be elected from the Region. All listings of candidates shall be in alphabetical order of the person's family name.

3. Voting Center Rules

- a. The Country Committees shall set up Voting Centers at which the presidential preference vote shall be conducted. Each Country Committee shall have at least as many Voting Centers as it has recognized Chapters, but may establish additional Voting Centers. No Country Committee shall have fewer Voting Centers than it had in the 2008 delegate selection process. The votes of members of Democrats Abroad using mailed/faxed ballots shall not be invalidated for the sole reason of the failure of the Country Committee to open Voting Centers.
- b. Each Voting Center shall be managed by a Voting Center Manager, who shall be the Chapter or Country Committee Chair or her or his designee. If the Chapter or Country Committee Chair is designating someone other than herself or himself to serve as Voting Center Manager, a letter, fax or email which designates the Voting Center Manager must be directed to the Chair of Democrats Abroad so that it is received no later than 24:00 o'clock GMT on March 31, 2012. Replacement of Voting Center Managers after 24:00 o'clock GMT on March 31, 2012 shall be by letter, fax or email from the Chapter or Country Committee Chair to the Chair of Democrats Abroad.
- c. The Voting Center Manager shall take all steps necessary to make certain that only persons who are eligible are allowed to vote, ballots are completed and tabulated, results are reported to the Chair of Democrats Abroad and the ballots are sent to the Chair of Democrats Abroad. Specifically he or she shall:
 - (1) not allow any voting by proxy;
 - (2) terminate voting at the time the Voting Center is closed those in line at the time the Voting Center closes being nevertheless allowed to vote.
 - (3) see the ballots are accurately tabulated by two (2) tellers designated in writing in advance and make note of any challenges and any provisional ballots cast;
 - (4) after tabulation, secure and seal all ballots and send them immediately by special courier to Democrats Abroad; also included in this package shall be the results of the tabulation and a statement that the tabulation is an accurate reflection of the votes cast in the Global Primary for that Chapter or Country Committee signed by the Voting Center Manager and the tellers;
 - (5) report the results of the tabulation to the Chair of Democrats Abroad immediately upon completion of tabulation in scanned format to the Chair of Democrats Abroad

by email at:chair@democratsabroad.org, with a copy sent to the Executive Director at ed@democratsabroad.org.

(6) or by fax to +1 202 350 6043.

(7) appoint any persons or committees necessary for the smooth operation of the Voting Center.

d. On the date on which the Voting Center is open for voting in the Global Primary, or if open on more than one date then on the date designated by the Country Committee or Chapter, the Voting Center Manager may also organize at the Voting Center the adoption of resolutions on issues affecting United States citizens living outside the United States to be submitted to the Platform Committee of the Democrats Abroad Global Convention. The discussion and adoption of such resolutions shall be organized in such a fashion as not to disrupt voting at the Voting Center.

4. Establishment of Voting Centers

a. Members of Democrats Abroad may vote in person at the Voting Center of a Chapter or Country Committee.

b. Before March 1, 2012, each Country Committee shall determine the number of Voting Centers where voting in person will be held which will be established by the Country Committee and notify the number of centers and their address to the Chair of Democrats Abroad. The number of Voting Centers should be at least the same as the number that the Country Committee had for the 2008 Global Primary.

c. In every Country Committee:

(1) The Voting Centers shall be readily accessible; any building may be used as a site for a Voting Center with the exception of a private home; provided however that a private home may be used if a request for an exemption therefore is made in writing before March 1, 2012 to the Chair of Democrats Abroad and good cause for the exemption is shown.

(2) In each Country Committee, the Country Committee shall be responsible for locating, staffing and paying for Voting Centers.

(3) Before March 1, 2012, the Country Committee shall determine the location of Voting Centers and determining the date on which such Voting Centers shall be opened for voting and shall immediately forward that determination to the Chair of Democrats Abroad.

(4) After the adoption of the final voting centers list, in the event of an unpreventable change in one or more locations, the Chair of Democrats Abroad shall be empowered to act, after consultation with the Country Committee where the change must occur, to undertake a reasonable effort at public notification. No change may be made in any voting center location without the written agreement of the Chair of Democrats Abroad.

5. Voting by Mail / Fax/Email

- a. Individuals may request a vote-by-mail/fax/email ballot (for themselves only) on Democrats Abroad's website or by mail, fax, or e-mail, and a ballot will be provided to them if they qualify. Only individuals may apply for a ballot. Mass applications for ballots and applications by organizations for ballots shall not be granted. Applications must be received by the Country Committee Chair at the location(s) designated by the Country Committee chair by 6 P.M. (local time) on April 30, 2012. Mail/fax/email ballots shall be transmitted to applicants through the Democrats Abroad website or by mail, email or fax by no earlier than May 1, 2012 and no later than May 6, 2012.
 - b. The ballots shall be in a form prescribed by the Chair of Democrats Abroad and shall include the same information as required for voting in person under Section VII.B.1.b above.
 - c. Anyone who votes by mail/fax/email cannot vote again at a Voting Center.
 - d. Vote by mail/fax/email ballots must be returned to the place(s) prescribed by the Chair of the Country Committee by no later than May 6, 2012.
 - e. The Country Committee Chair shall see that all mail/fax/email ballots received by the deadline are accurately tabulated by two (2) tellers designated by writing in advance and, after tabulation, shall secure and seal all ballots and send them immediately by special courier to the Chair of Democrats Abroad; also included in this package shall be the results of the tabulation and statement that the tabulation is an accurate reflection of the votes cast in the Global Primary for that Country Committee signed by the Country Committee Chair and the tellers.
 - f. The Country Committee will pay all costs of the vote by mail/fax/email program except postage or delivery charges for the return of ballots by voters which shall be borne by the voters.
6. Uniform Rules and Equal Access By Campaigns
- a. Presidential candidates shall be allowed to have present at each Voting Center a representative who shall be allowed to observe processing of voters and tabulation of ballots. Those representatives may not observe the act of voting by a voter.
 - b. A representative of a presidential candidate shall be allowed reasonable access to any site where the vote by mail/fax/email ballots are prepared, mail/faxed, tabulated, or stored to observe those operations.
 - c. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall establish uniform rules and regulations for "campaigning" of any nature at any Voting Centers. No preferential treatment shall be accorded to any campaign. Voting Center Managers shall post these uniform rules and enforce them.

7. Tabulation of Global Results
 - a. All ballots of any voter attempting to vote more than once will be invalid.
 - b. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall see that the results of voting in person at the Voting Centers and all votes by mail/fax/email ballot are tabulated.
 - c. The tabulation shall be handled with reference to the provisions of Rule 13(D) of the 2012 Delegate Selection Rules for the Democratic National Convention.

Section VIII

Democrats Abroad Global Convention

A. Introduction

1. Democrats Abroad will hold its Global Convention on May 19-20, 2012.
2. Participants to the Global Convention shall be the National Convention Delegates elected in the Global Primary, incumbent Democratic National Committee Members, members of the DPCA and any Distinguished Party Leaders designated by the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee.
3. The Global Convention shall further elect three (3) Delegates to the National Convention and one (1) Pledged PLEO Delegate. The At-Large National Convention Delegates elected by the Global Convention and the Pledged PLEO Delegate shall be chosen, if necessary, to achieve the equal divisions of positions between men and women and the representation goals established in the Democrats Abroad Affirmative Action Plan. The Global Convention shall also elect one (1) Alternate to the National Convention for each of the presidential preference entitled to elect Delegates to the National Convention.

B. Procedure for the Election of Delegates by the Global Convention

1. The Global Convention shall be chaired by the International Chair of Democrats Abroad or the International Chair's designee.
2. A quorum shall be 40% of those eligible to vote present in person.
3. There shall be no voting by proxy.
4. Participants in the Global Convention who are members of the Democratic Party Committee Abroad ("DPCA") shall, if representing a Country Committee in such capacity, shall have voting rights within the Global Convention in proportion to their Country Committee's turnout in the Global Primary, relative to the total number of participants of other Country Committees' members in the Global Primary. Other participants in the Global Convention (e.g., Delegates elected to the National Convention directly through the Global Primary, Unpledged PLEO Delegates) shall have one vote each. Participants may cast their votes in

accordance with all means allowed by the Democrats Abroad Charter, except no proxies will be allowed as noted above.

5. The Chair will inform the Global Convention of the gender balance of the members of the Delegation to the National Convention elected directly in the Global Primary and the gender balance of the At-Large Delegates to be elected at the Global Convention, as well as the breakdown of the Delegation for the purposes of attaining the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action Plan. For the purposes of the election of the Pledged PLEO and At-Large Delegates and Alternate to the National Convention, the Global Convention will then divide into Presidential preference group (“PPG”), following the rules and procedures.
6. The PPG representing the largest presidential preference in the Global Primary shall proceed first with the election of the Pledged PLEO Delegate to the National Convention and shall then report the results of the election to the Chair.
7. The Chair will inform the Global Convention of the gender balance of the At-Large Delegates to be elected, as well as the breakdown of the Delegation for the purposes of attaining the representation goals established in the Affirmative Action Plan. The PPGs shall then proceed to elect the At-Large Delegates. If necessary, the Chair may require a PPG to refrain from electing one or more of its At-Large Delegates until the permissible gender of such At-Large Delegates is determined based on the elections by the other PPGs; in such a case the PPGs shall proceed seriatim with the election of their allotted Delegates proceeding from the PPG representing the largest presidential preference in the Global Primary to the smallest. The PPGs shall then proceed with the election of the Alternates to the National Convention on the same basis.
8. The names and full contact information and Presidential preference of National Convention Delegates and Alternates elected at the Global Convention, as well as the names and full contact information of the Democratic National Committee Members elected by the Global Primary, shall be certified by the International Chair of Democrats Abroad to the Secretary to the Democratic National Committee within three (3) calendar days of Global Convention.

C. Procedures for the PPGs

The rules for each PPG shall provide as a minimum that:

1. No proxies may be used; Participants in the Global Convention who are members of the Democratic Party Committee Abroad (“DPCA”) shall, if representing a Country Committee in such capacity, shall have voting rights within the in proportion to their Country Committee’s turnout in the Global Primary, relative to the total number of participants of other Country Committees’ members in the Global Primary.
2. The unit rule, or any rules or practice whereby all members of a party unit, delegation or caucus may be required to cast their votes in accordance with the will of a majority of the body, shall not be permitted;

3. Any individual or group of Democrats may sponsor or endorse a slate of candidates for National Convention Delegates. However no slate may by virtue of such endorsement, receive preferential place on a delegate selection ballot or be publicly identified as the “official” slate, and all slates must meet identical qualifying requirements for appearing on the ballot;
4. Election for National Convention Delegate shall in all cases be by absolute majority vote. All votes shall be by written signed ballot. Representatives of the presidential candidate for which a PPG has been formed may inform the PPG Chair of candidates for National Convention Delegate who are unacceptable for the Presidential Candidate. The PPG chair shall make this known to the PPG. However, if such unacceptability has not been timely made known to the Chair of Democrats Abroad pursuant to Section III.B, such unacceptability shall not be a bar to such candidate’s running for the position of National Convention Delegate.
5. If no candidate receives an absolute majority vote on any ballot, the lowest 15 % of the candidates in terms of votes will be eliminated until a National Convention Delegate has been elected.
6. On second and subsequent ballots, a candidate for At-Large National Convention Delegate failing to receive fifteen percent (15%) of the total vote for such candidate’s gender on any ballot will be eliminated. The rule set out in the foregoing sentence shall not apply to PPGs which are to elect only 1 At-Large National Convention Delegate.
7. A candidate who has been eliminated may be reconsidered and stand again if it is necessary to obtain a balance from the PPG as to gender, racial or ethnic minority representation, with consideration for habitually under-represented groups.
8. If an even number of National Convention Delegates is to be elected by the PPG, each participant in the PPG shall vote for an equal number of candidates of each gender.
9. If an odd number of National Convention Delegates is to be elected, each participant in the PPG shall be requested to vote for the total number of National Convention Delegates to be elected by the PPG less one, divided equally between gender. Once gender has been balanced, all remaining candidates will be placed on a single ballot listed in alphabetical order, to elect the remaining At-Large National Convention Delegates by absolute majority vote.
10. Each presidential candidate (or designee) shall appoint a temporary chair of the PPG for the purpose of calling the PPG to order and presiding during the election of a permanent PPG chair.
11. Election of delegates and alternates
 - a. The Chair of Democrats Abroad shall provide each PPG with a list of those individuals approved by its presidential candidate for nomination as National Convention Delegates (or in the case of uncommitted, those who have submitted their candidacy). All such individuals’ names shall be read to the PPG by the duly elected PPG chair and shall be considered nominated when their names are read. No names other than those that have

been previously approved by the presidential candidate or her/his representative (or in the case of uncommitted, those who have submitted their candidacy) shall be accepted.

- b. The PPG shall then proceed with the election of the National Convention Delegates allocated to it from among the previously approved list of candidates.

12. Reconvening of the Global Convention

- a. At the conclusion of each of the PPG caucuses, each PPG chair shall report the results of the election to the Chair of Democrats Abroad.
- b. The results of the election shall be read to the Convention as a whole and any challenge to those results shall be announced at the same time either by the Chair of Democrats Abroad or by a member of the PPG whose results are being challenged.

D. Election of Democratic National Committee Member

1. After the Global Convention has reconvened it will proceed with the election of members of the Democratic National Committee to take office at the fall of the closing gavel at the National Convention. Election shall be by absolute majority.
2. The Global Convention shall divide into Regions and each Region shall elect one (1) member of the Democratic National Committee. The voting rights within the Regional votes shall be in proportion to their Country Committee's voting rights under the Democrats Abroad Charter, under which calculations of Country Committee voting rights round all fractions up to the next whole number. Other participants in the Global Convention (e.g., Delegates elected to the National Convention directly through the Global Primary, Unpledged PLEO Delegates) shall have one vote each. Participants may cast their votes in accordance with all means allowed by the Democrats Abroad Charter, except no proxies will be allowed.
3. The Global Convention shall thereupon reconvene and the Chair shall determine the gender balance of Democratic National Committee members to be elected by the Global Convention as a whole and the Global Convention shall proceed with their election by absolute majority. Participants in the Global Convention who are members of the Democratic Party Committee Abroad ("DPCA") shall, if representing a Country Committee in such capacity, shall have voting rights within the Global Convention in proportion to their Country Committee's turnout in the Global Primary, relative to the total number of participants of other Country Committees' members in the Global Primary. Other participants in the Global Convention (e.g., Delegates elected to the National Convention directly through the Global Primary, Unpledged PLEO Delegates) shall have one vote each. Participants may cast their votes in accordance with all means allowed by the Democrats Abroad Charter, except no proxies will be allowed.
4. Following the election of the members of Democratic National Committee, the Global

Convention may debate and adopt a Platform and conduct other appropriate business.

E. Unpledged Delegates, Unpledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials (PLEO) Delegates

1. The following categories (if applicable) shall constitute the Unpledged PLEO Delegate position:
 - a. Members of the Democratic National Committee representing Democrats Abroad.
 - b. “Distinguished Party Leader” Delegates who legally reside outside the United States (if any). Persons who qualify as “Distinguished Party Leader” Delegates are: all former Democratic Presidents or Vice Presidents; all former Democratic Leaders of the U.S. Senate; all former Democratic Speakers of the U.S. House of Representatives; all former Democratic Minority Leaders of the U.S. Senate; all former Democratic Minority Leaders of the U.S. House of Representatives; and all former Chairs of the Democratic National Committee.
2. The certification process for the Unpledged PLEO and Distinguished Party Leader Delegates is as follows:

Not later than March 1, 2012, the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee shall officially confirm to the Chair of Democrats Abroad the names of the Unpledged PLEO and Distinguished Party Leader Delegates who legally reside outside the United States.

3. No later than May 29, 2012, the Unpledged PLEO Delegates (i.e., members of the Democratic National Committee) and the Distinguished Party Leaders Delegates shall make their presidential preference known to the Chair of Democrats Abroad and the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee.

Section IX Affirmative Action, Outreach and Inclusion Plan

A. Statement of Purpose and Organization

1. Purpose and Objectives
 - a. In order that the Democratic Party at all levels be an open Party which includes rather than excludes people from participation, a program of effective affirmative action is hereby adopted by Democrats Abroad. (Rule 5.A.)
 - b. Discrimination on the basis of “status” in the conduct of Democratic Party affairs is prohibited. (Rule 5.B.)

- c. All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in Democrats Abroad should be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status or physical disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as “status”). (Rule 4.B.(1))
- d. Consistent with the Democratic Party’s commitment to including groups historically under-represented in the Democratic Party’s affairs, by virtue of race/ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, or disability, Democrats Abroad shall develop Party outreach programs. Such programs shall include recruitment, education and training, in order to achieve full participation by such groups and diversity in the delegate selection process and at all levels of Party affairs for 2012. (Rule 5.C & Reg. 4.7.)

These programs shall pro-actively reach out to the Democrats Abroad’s various Democratic constituencies including groups such as African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, women, ethnics, youth, persons over 65 years of age, lesbians and gay men, workers, persons with disabilities, to heighten the awareness of these groups and the Democratic Party’s desire to have them fully participate.

- e. In order to encourage full participation by all Democrats in the delegate selection process and in all Party affairs, Democrats Abroad shall adopt and will implement programs with specific goals and timetables for African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and women. (Rule 6.A.)
 - (1) The goal of the programs shall be to encourage participation in the delegate selection process and in Party organizations at all levels by the aforementioned groups as indicated by their presence in the Democratic electorate. (Rule 6.A.(1))
 - (2) This goal shall not be accomplished either directly or indirectly by the Party’s imposition of mandatory quotas at any level of the Delegate selection process or in any other Party affairs. (Rule 6.A.(2))
- f. In order to achieve full participation of other groups that may be under-represented in Party affairs, including members of the LGBT community, people with disabilities and youth, the Democrats Abroad has adopted and will implement Inclusion Programs. (Rule 7)

2. Organizational Structure

- a. An Affirmative Action Committee was appointed by the Chair of Democrats Abroad on March 1, 2011. (Rule 6.F.)
- b. The Chair of Democrats Abroad has certified in writing to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the Democratic National Committee the compliance of the Democrats Abroad’s Affirmative Action Committee with Rules 5.C, 6.A and 7, and submitted the names, demographic data and contact information of the Committee on March 15, 2011. (Reg. 2.2.K)

- c. The Committee shall consist of members from each Region of Democrats Abroad representing the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the Introduction to the Affirmative Action Plan.
 - d. The Affirmative Action Committee shall be responsible for:
 - (1) Reviewing the proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans and making recommendations to the Chair of Democrats Abroad.
 - (2) Reviewing the proposed Inclusion Programs and making recommendations to the Chair of Democrats Abroad.
 - (3) Directing the implementation of all requirements of the Affirmative Action section of this Plan.
 - (4) Implementing a financial assistance program for Delegates and Alternates. (Rule 6.G.)
 - e. Financial and staff support for the Affirmative Action Committee shall be provided by Democrats Abroad to the greatest extent feasible, including, but not limited to, making available on a priority basis, the Democrats Abroad staff and volunteers and covering all reasonable costs incurred in carrying out this Plan.
3. Implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan shall begin on no later than September 16, 2011, with the distribution of the press kits, and will continue through the end of the Delegate selection process. (Rule 1.F.)

B. Efforts to Educate on the Delegate Selection Process

1. Well publicized educational workshops will be conducted in each Democrats Abroad Country Committee beginning in September 2011. These workshops will be designed to encourage participation in the delegate selection process, including apprising potential delegate candidates of the availability of financial assistance. These workshops will be held in places which are easily accessible to persons with physical disabilities. The times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of all education workshops, meetings and other events involved in the delegate selection process shall be effectively publicized by the party organization and include mail/faxes to various organizations representative of the Democratic voting populace. (Rules 3.A., 3.C. & 3.D.)
2. A speakers bureau of volunteers from the Affirmative Action Committee comprised of individuals who are fully familiar with the process, will be organized to appear before groups, as needed, to provide information concerning the process.
3. Democrats Abroad's education efforts will include outreach to community leaders within the Democratic Party's constituencies and making sure that information about the Delegate selection process is available to Democratic clubs and Party caucuses representing specific constituencies.

4. Democrats Abroad will publish and make available at no cost: a clear and concise explanation of how Democratic voters can participate in the delegate selection process and an explanation of how, where and when persons can register to vote. As well, Democrats Abroad shall also make available copies of the Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection Plan (and its attachments) and the Affirmative Action Plan. Copies of documents related to Democrats Abroad's Delegate selection process will be prepared and the Affirmative Action Committee will distribute them in the various Country Committees not later than March 1, 2012. (Rule 1.H.)
5. Democrats Abroad shall take all feasible steps to encourage persons to register and to vote as Democrats and will seek to ensure simple and easy registration procedures. (Rule 2.C.)

C. Efforts to Publicize the Delegate Selection Process

1. Special attention shall be directed at publicizing the delegate selection process to United States citizens residing outside the United States. Such publicity shall include information on eligibility to vote and how to become a candidate for Delegate, the time and location of each stage of the delegate selection process and where to get additional information. The foregoing information will also be published on Democrats Abroad website, www.democratsabroad.org. The Party organization, and any official, candidate, or member calling a meeting or scheduling an event, shall effectively publicize the role that such meeting or event plays in the selection of Delegates and Alternates to the Democratic National Convention. (Rules 3.C. and 3.D.)
2. Newspapers, radio, television, on-line and social networking media including email broadcasts will be utilized to inform the general public how, when and where to participate in the delegate selection process. Specifically, this information should provide details as to how to qualify to run as a Delegate candidate. Special effort shall be directed to the major daily newspapers, radio and television stations by the Chair of Democrats Abroad, Affirmative Action Committee members and staff. Regular releases during the delegate selection process to all other media sources, weekly newspapers, and wire services should complete timely coverage. (Rules 4.B.(3) & 6.D.)
3. A priority effort shall be directed at publicity among the Democratic Party's constituencies.
 - a. Information about the delegate selection process will be provided to minority newspapers and radio stations, ethnic press, Native American, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Spanish-speaking and other non-English press, radio stations and publications, and women's organizations, student newspapers, gay and lesbian press, disability press, and any other specialty media that is likely to reach United states citizens residing abroad in the Democratic constituency groups set forth in the Introduction of this Affirmative Action Plan.
 - b. Democrats Abroad shall be responsible for the implementation of this publicity effort. For purposes of providing adequate notice of the delegate selection process, the times, dates, places and rules for the conduct of the Global Primary and the Global Convention shall be effectively publicized, multilingually where necessary, to encourage the participation of minority groups. (Rule 6.D.)

4. Not later than March 1, 2012, a press kit shall be made and provided to each daily and weekly newspaper as well as to the electronic media. The press kit will include:
 - a. a summary of all pertinent rules related to the Democrats Abroad’s delegate selection process;
 - b. a summary explaining the operation and importance of the 2012 Convention; and
 - c. materials designed to encourage participation by prospective Delegate candidates.

D. Representation Goals

1. Democrats Abroad has determined that the demographic composition of African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the Democrats Abroad’s Democratic electorate is consistent with the demographic composition of the United States nationwide. After reviewing party support in demographic areas in key Democrats Abroad states (Virginia, New York, California, Texas, Pennsylvania, Florida), the 2012 goals would increase to match that support as well as reflect the demographic data collected about Americans living abroad through our organization’s website. The constituency percentages shall be established as binding or compulsory goals for representation of the above-mentioned groups in the Democrats Abroad’s Convention Delegation. (Rule 6.A.)
2. Democrats Abroad has determined the demographic composition of members of the LGBT community, people with disabilities, and youth in the Democrats Abroad’s Democratic electorate and furthermore, Democrats Abroad has chosen to establish these percentages as non-binding goals for representation in the Democrats Abroad’s convention Delegation.

	African Americans	Hispanics	Native Americans	Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders	LGBT Americans	People with Disabilities	Youth
% in Democratic Electorate	[12%]	[12%]	[1%]	[4%]	[8%]	[8%]	[12%]
Numeric Goals for Delegation	[3]	[3]	[0]	[1]	[2]	[2]	[3]

3. When selecting the Delegates at the Global Convention, the demographic composition of the other Delegates (Regional-level, pledged PLEO, and unpledged) shall be compared with the Democrats Abroad’s goals in order to achieve a delegate selection process which helps to bring about a representative balance.
4. Use of the At-large Delegation selected at the Global Convention to achieve the affirmative action goals established by this Plan does not obviate the need for the Democrats Abroad to conduct outreach activities such as recruitment, education and training. (Rule 6.A.(3))

E. Obligations of Presidential Candidates to Maximize Participation

1. Presidential candidates shall assist the Democrats Abroad in meeting the demographic representation goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan. (Rule 6.H.)
2. Each presidential candidate must submit a written statement to the Chair of Democrats Abroad by September 30, 2011 which indicates the specific steps he or she will take to encourage full participation in Democrats Abroad's delegate selection process, including, but not limited to, procedures by which persons may file as candidates for Delegate or Alternate. (Rule 6.H.(1))
3. Each presidential candidate must submit demographic information with respect to all candidates for Delegate and Alternate pledged to them. Such information shall be submitted in conjunction with the list of names approved for consideration as Delegate and Alternate candidates pledged to the presidential candidate. (Rule 6.H.(2))
4. Presidential candidates (including uncommitted status) shall use their best effort to ensure that their respective Delegations within the Democrats Abroad's Delegate, Alternate and Standing Committee Delegations shall achieve the affirmative action goals reflected in the Affirmative Action Plan and that the respective Delegations of each presidential candidate shall be equally divided between men and women. Furthermore, presidential candidates shall use their best efforts to approve Delegate and Alternate candidates who meet applicable equal division and affirmative action considerations in order to achieve the affirmative action goals and equal division for their respective Delegations. (Rule 6.I. & Reg. 4.9.)

Section X Challenges

A. Jurisdiction & Standing

1. Challenges related to the delegate selection process are governed by the *Regulations of the Democratic National Committee Rules and Bylaws Committee for the 2012 Democratic National Convention* (Reg., Sec. 3.), and the *Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2012 Democratic National Convention*. (Call, Appendix A.)
2. Under Rule 20.B. of the *2012 Delegate Selection Rules*, the Democratic National Committee Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction over challenges pertaining to the submission, non-implementation and violation of Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans. (Rule 20.B. & Call Appendix A.)
3. The Rules and Bylaws Committee has jurisdiction to hear and decide any challenge provided it is initiated before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the 2012 Democratic National Convention. (Call, Appendix A. & Reg., 3.1.)
4. Challenges to the credentials of Delegates and Alternates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention initiated on or after the 56th day preceding the date of commencement of the

Democratic National Convention shall be processed in accordance with the *Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee of the 2012 Democratic National Convention*. (Call, Appendix A)

5. Any challenge to the credentials of a standing committee member shall be considered and resolved by the affected standing committee in accordance with Appendix A of the *Call for the 2012 Democratic National Convention*. The Rules and Bylaws Committee shall have jurisdiction over challenges brought before the 56th day preceding the date of the commencement of the Democratic National Convention. (Call, VII.B.5.)
6. Copies of the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee and/or the Call for the 2012 Democratic National Convention, including the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee (Appendix A), shall be made available by Democrats Abroad on its website upon reasonable request.
7. Any group of fifteen Democrats with standing to challenge as defined in Reg. 3.2 or the Call (Appendix A, Sec. 2.A.), may bring a challenge to this Plan or to the implementation of this Plan, including its Affirmative Action provisions.

C. Challenges to the Status of the Democrats Abroad and Challenges to the Plan

1. A challenge to the status of the Democrats Abroad as the body entitled to sponsor a Delegation from that Democrats Abroad shall be filed with the Rules and Bylaws Committee no later than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the initiation of the Democrats Abroad's delegate selection process. (Rule 20.A. & Reg. 3.4.A.)
2. A challenge to the Democrats Abroad's Delegate Selection Plan shall be filed with the Chair of the Democrats Abroad and the Co-Chairs of the Rules and Bylaws Committee within fifteen (15) calendar days after the adoption of the Plan by the Democrats Abroad. (Reg. 3.4.B.)
3. A challenge to a Plan must be brought in conformity with the Rules and the Regs., which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

C. Challenges to Implementation

1. A challenge may be brought alleging that a specific requirement of an approved Plan has not been properly implemented. Jurisdiction over all challenges initiated in a timely fashion shall reside with either the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Credentials Committee of the National Convention. However, the Rules and Bylaws Committee may provide advice, assistance or interpretations of the Delegate Selection Rules at any stage of the delegate selection process. (Reg. 3.1.C.)
2. An implementation challenge brought before the Rules and Bylaws Committee is initiated by filing a written challenge with Democrats Abroad and with the Rules and Bylaws Committee not later than fifteen (15) days after the alleged violation occurred. Democrats Abroad has twenty-one (21) days to render a decision. Within ten (10) days of the decision, any party to the challenge may appeal it to the Rules and Bylaws Committee. If in fact, Democrats Abroad

renders no decision, any party to the challenge may request the Rules and Bylaws Committee to process it. The request must be made within ten (10) days after expiration of the above twenty-one (21) day period. (Regs. 3.4.C., E., & H.)

3. Performance under an approved Affirmative Action Plan and composition of the National Convention Delegation shall be considered relevant evidence in the challenge to any Democrats Abroad Delegation. If Democrats Abroad has adopted and implemented an approved affirmative action program, Democrats Abroad shall not be subject to challenge based solely on Delegation composition or Global Primary results. (Rule 6.B.) The procedures are the same for challenges alleging failure to properly implement the Affirmative Action section of a Plan, except that such challenges must be filed not later than thirty (30) days prior to the initiation of the Democrats Abroad's Delegate selection process. (Reg. 3.4.C.)
4. Depending on the appropriate jurisdiction, implementation challenges must be brought in conformity with the Regulations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee or the Rules of Procedure of the Credentials Committee, which should be consulted for a detailed explanation of challenge procedures.

Section XI Summary of Plan

A. Selection of Delegates and Alternates

Democrats Abroad will use a proportional representation system based on the results of the Democrats Abroad Global Primary apportioning its Delegates to the 2012 Democratic National Convention.

The “first determining step” of Democrats Abroad’s delegate selection process will occur on May 1 to 6, 2012, with a Global Primary.

Delegates and the Alternate will be selected as summarized on the following chart:

Type	Delegates	Alternates	Date of Selection	Selecting Body
				Filing Requirements and Deadlines
Regional-level Delegates	11	0	May 1-6, 2012	Selecting Body: The Democrats Abroad Global Primary
Regional-level Alternates				<i>Candidates must file a candidacy statement using Form C attached hereto with the Chair of Democrats Abroad no later than March 28, 2012.</i>
Unpledged Party Leader and Elected Official Delegates*	8		n/a	Automatic by virtue of respective public or Party office as provided in Rule 8.A. of the 2012 Delegate Selection Rules.
Pledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials (PLEOs)	1		May 19-20, 2012	Selecting Body: The Democrats Abroad Global Convention
At-large Delegates				<i>Candidates must file a candidacy statement using form C attached hereto with the Chair of Democrats Abroad no later than May 9, 2012.</i>
At-large Alternates	3	1	May 19-20, 2012	Selecting Body: The Democrats Abroad Global Convention
				<i>Candidates must file a candidacy statement using form C attached hereto with the Chair of Democrats Abroad no later than May 9, 2012.</i>
TOTAL Delegates and Alternates	23	1		

* Unpledged Party Leader and Elected Official (PLEO) Delegates includes the following categories, if applicable, who legally reside in the Democrats Abroad: the Democratic National Committee Members, the Democratic President, the Democratic Vice President, all Democratic Members of Congress, the Democratic Governor, and any other Distinguished Party Leader as specified in Rule 9.A. of the 2012 *Delegate Selection Rules*. The exact number of Unpledged PLEO Delegates is subject to change due to possible deaths, resignations, elections or special elections.

B. Selection of Standing Committee Members (For the Credentials, Platform and Rules Committees)

Standing committee members will be selected by the Democrats Abroad’s National Convention Delegates as summarized below:

Members Per Committee	Total Members	Selection Date	Filing Requirements and Deadlines
1	3	May 19-20, 2012	<i>Presidential candidates must submit names for Standing Committee positions by May 2, 2012.</i>

C. Selection of Delegation Chair and Convention Pages

The Delegation Chair will be selected by the National Convention Delegates on May 19-20, 2012.

One (1) Convention Page will be selected by the Chair of Democrats Abroad on May 19-20, 2012.

D. Presidential Candidate Filing Deadline

Each presidential candidate must file a candidacy statement by April 1, 2012 to appear on the ballot for the May 1-6, 2012 Global Primary.

Presidential candidates must certify the name of their authorized representative(s) to the Chair of Democrats Abroad by March 15, 2012.

E. Timetable

Date	Activity
2011	
March 1	Delegate Selection Affirmative Action Committee members are appointed by the Chair of Democrats Abroad.
March 15	Affirmative Action Committee meets to draft proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans.
March 29	Proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans are tentatively approved for public comment by Democrats Abroad.
March 29	Public comments are solicited on the proposed Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans. Press releases are emailed/mailed/faxed announcing the public comment period.
April 20	Delegate Selection Affirmative Action Committee members must be submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee including names, contact information and demographic data.

Date	Activity
April 28	Period for public comment on Democrats Abroad Plan is concluded. Responses are compiled for review by the Democrats Abroad.
April 25 to 29	Democrats Abroad reviews public comments and adopts revised Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans for submission to Democratic National Committee Rules and Bylaws Committee. Press releases are emailed/mailed/faxed announcing the approval of the Plan.
May 2	Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans are forwarded to the Democratic National Committee Rules and Bylaws Committee.
September 16	Democrats Abroad begins implementation of the Affirmative Action Plan. Press kits, as described in the Affirmative Action Plan, are sent to all Democrats Abroad media.
September 30	Deadline for each announced presidential candidate to submit a statement specifying steps the candidate will take to encourage full participation in the Delegate selection process. (Individuals who announce their candidacy after this date must provide this full participation statement to the Democrats Abroad not later than 30 days after their announcement.)
2012	
January 1	Delegate and Alternate candidates may obtain the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms and filing instructions from Democrats Abroad Committee Headquarters, in person, by mail/fax/email, or from Democrats Abroad's web site at [www.democratsabroad.org].
March 15	Presidential candidate deadline for certifying the name(s) of their authorized representative(s) to the Democrats Abroad.
April 1	Presidential candidate deadline for filing the petition of candidacy with the Secretary of Democrats Abroad.
March 28	Regional-level Delegate and Alternate deadline for filing the statement of candidacy and pledge of support forms with Democrats Abroad.
April 1	Democrats Abroad provides list of Regional-level Delegate and Alternate candidates to the respective Presidential candidates.
April 8	Presidential candidates provide list of approved Regional-level Delegate and Alternate candidates to Democrats Abroad.
May 1-6	Global Primary.
May 2	Presidential candidates submit lists of candidates for standing committee members to Democrats Abroad.
May 9	Filing deadline for PLEO, At-large Delegate, Alternate candidates
May 10	Democrats Abroad provides list of PLEO and At-large Delegate and Alternate candidates to the respective Presidential candidates.
May 11	Presidential candidates provide approved list of PLEO, At-large Delegate and Alternate candidates to Democrats Abroad.
May 16	Secretary of Democrats Abroad certifies results of Global Primary

Date	Activity
May 16	Democrats Abroad certifies elected Regional-level Delegates and Alternates to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee.
May 19-20	Democrats Abroad Convention convenes. Pledged PLEO Delegates selected. Following selection of PLEO Delegates, presidential candidates provide approved list of At-large Delegate and Alternate candidates to Democrats Abroad. Democrats Abroad Convention selects At-large Delegates and Alternates.
May 19-20	National Convention Delegation meeting. Delegates select National Convention Standing Committee Member and Delegation Chair. Chair of Democrats Abroad names Convention Page.
May 19-20	Democrats Abroad certifies remainder of elected Delegates and Alternates (PLEOs and At-large), along with Standing Committee Members, Delegation chair, and Convention Pages.
May 19-20	Chair of Democrats Abroad certifies in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the Democrats Abroad's Delegation Chair, Convention Pages and Standing Committee Members.
May 19-20	Democrats Abroad certifies in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the presidential preference of Pledged PLEOs and At-large Delegates and Alternates.
May 29	Democrats Abroad certifies in writing to the Secretary of the Democratic National Committee the presidential preference (including uncommitted) of the Democrats Abroad's Unpledged Delegates.

Exhibit A: List of Country Committees and Regions of Democrats Abroad

Americas Region:

Argentina
Brazil
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Dominican Republic
Guatemala
Mexico
Panama

Asia-Pacific Region:

Afghanistan
Australia
Cambodia
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Japan
New Zealand
Philippines
Singapore
South Korea
Taiwan
Thailand
Vietnam

Europe-Middle East-Africa Region:

Austria
Belgium
Czech Republic
Denmark
Egypt
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Lebanon
Luxembourg
Netherlands
Norway
Portugal
South Africa
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom
Zambia

Exhibit B: Form of Registration for Global Primary

Party Pledge of Support and Certification Slip

I hereby register for this Global Primary and do certify that I am a U.S. citizen residing temporarily or permanently outside the United States, and that I possess the qualifications required to vote in this Global Primary in that I will be an eligible voter on November 6, 2012. I am a member of Democrats Abroad or have joined Democrats Abroad today. I have the interest, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad at heart and subscribe to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and the Bylaws of Democrats Abroad. I have not participated and will not participate in the delegate selection process (caucus, primary or other method) of any other delegation to the 2012 Democratic National Convention or in the nominating process of any other political party for the corresponding elections, nor voted in any other manner in the Democrats Abroad Global Primary.

_____	_____
Name (Please Print)	Email Address
_____	_____
Address Abroad	City
_____	_____
Country	Postal Code
_____	_____
Telephone Number	Voting State and District (if known)
_____	_____
Signature	Date

Exhibit C: Form for Candidacy for National Convention Delegate, PLEO Delegate, Alternate and Standing Committee Member

Individuals wishing to run for Regional At-Large National Convention Delegates, pledged PLEO Delegate, At-Large National Convention Delegate and/or National Convention Alternate must notify the International Chair of Democrats Abroad by the following dates:

Regional At-Large Delegate - March 28, 2012

PLEO/At-Large Delegate & Alternate - May 9, 2012

The election of Regional At-Large National Convention Delegates will take place during the Democrats Abroad Global Primary on May 1 to 6, 2012. The election of At-Large National Convention Delegates, Pledged PLEO Delegate, National Convention Alternate and Standing Committee Members will take place at the Global Convention on May 19-20, 2012.

Name (Please Print)

Designate All Positions Sought

All Positions

<input type="checkbox"/> Regional At-Large National Convention Delegate	<input type="checkbox"/> Pledged PLEO Delegate
<input type="checkbox"/> At-Large National Convention Delegate	
<input type="checkbox"/> National Convention Alternate	

I hereby certify that I am a United States citizen who will be 18 years or older on or before November 6, 2012 who resides temporarily or permanently outside the United States and will so reside on the date of the National Convention. I certify that I have the interests, welfare and success of the Democratic Party of the United States and of Democrats Abroad at heart and subscribe to the substance, intent and principles of the Charter and Bylaws of the Democratic Party of the United States and the Charter of Democrats Abroad.

Address

City

Post Code

Country

Email

Tel

Fax

My candidate statement of 150 words or less is attached hereto.

Signature

Date

This form and candidate statement must be completed and emailed (with hard copy to follow by mail) **no later than the deadline listed above.**

International Chair
Democrats Abroad
P.O Box 15130, Washington, D.C. 20003
E-mail: Chair@democratsabroad.org
CC: ED@democratsabroad.org

Schedule 1: List of Affirmative Action Committee Members

Larry Rousseau, Chair -- Canada

rouslar@gmail.com

Phone: 613-565-1915

Tel: +1 613-327-0879

Ellen McCoy -- UK

ellenimccoy@gmail.com

Tel: +44 020 7435 5815

Kass Thomas Corbelli -- Italy

kass.corbelli@gmail.com

Tel: +39 338 721 4459

Emily Daniels -- Switzerland

emilymdaniels@gmail.com

Tel: + 41 (0)76 716 4528

Amreeta Regmi -- Indonesia

amreeta_regmi@hotmail.com

Tel: + 62-21-7656154

Francisco Robles -- Colombia

fjrobles70@hotmail.com

Tel: +57 315 8974985

Joseph Smallhoover -- France

Tel: +33 608 371 412

joe.smallhoover@gmail.com

Schedule 2: Media Outlets to be Contacted

Democrats Abroad's unique demographic requires a media plan that will reach Democrats living around the world.

The Media

To encourage the widest participation, media plans will include coverage in as many forms of communications as possible.

The media will be given press kits with the standard information on eligibility of U.S. citizens living abroad (both uniformed and civilian) to vote, how to become a candidate for National Convention Delegate or Alternate position, how to participate in the Global Primary, and the time, date and place of the Global Convention. In addition, with a view to reaching embedded U. S. nationals with little access to U. S. media, foreign media will have the opportunity to be given briefings about the delegate selection system.

Each media communiqué will also have a brief abstract of how the selection works and what will happen at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, in September 2012.

The promotion of the plan will be divided into two parts, internal promotion within Democrats Abroad and externally to other Democratic voters.

Internal promotion will include the use of the international and country websites, the international e-newsletter, the country newsletters and messages on the Democrats Abroad list serves (for leadership and members) and blogs.

Externally, television and radio stations, print media and Internet outlets will be contacted. Low-tech communication vehicles such as brochures and posters will be used where appropriate and effective.

The Democrats Abroad Communications Director will work with the Affirmative Action Committee, the local Country Committee media contacts, Country Committee and Chapter chairs to further develop the lists of media in their countries. These lists will be in place by August 1, 2011. Among the media to be contacted are the following:

Print Media:

Agencia EFE	The Guardian/Observer	Newsweek
Amsterdam Weekly	Ha'aretz	The New York Times
Attitude	The Independent	El Pais
Clave	The International Herald	The Paris Times
The Copenhagen Post	Tribune	Pink Paper
The Daily Yomiuri	The Irish Times	The Scotsman
O Estado de Sao Paulo	The Local (Sweden)	The South China
Gay Times	The Miami Herald	Morning Post

Stars and Stripes
El Tiempo
Time

USA Today
The Toronto Globe
The Wall Street Journal

What's On

News Agencies:

Agence France-Presse
Agencia EFE

AP
The Press Association

Reuters
Bloomberg

Television:

ABC
ABC (Australia)
BBC

Bloomberg
CBC
CNN

ITN
MSNBC
Sky

Radio:

BBC (especially the
World Service)

CBC

NPR

Websites and Other Media:

Daily Kos
Truthout

Expatica
NativeWeb.org

Special Media Outlets

To be designated by each Country Committee in coordination with the Affirmative Action Committee.

Schedule

The media will be approached in two stages. Press kits will go out on or prior to September 16, 2011; this will be followed up by promotion of the Global Primary closer to the time of each event.

Languages

Democrats Abroad has reached out to Spanish speaking citizens with the Spanish version of our voting wizard www.VoteFromAbroad.org. This practice will continue when promoting the Affirmative Action Plan. As well as Spanish language press, the French, German, Chinese, and Italian press will be targeted in their native languages. If Country Committees find other communities of American citizens that are more comfortable in a language other than English, media using these languages will be targeted as well.

Minority Communities

Specialty media will be included in the media plan. This will be used to find those minority groups that can be identified. Realistically, some groups may not be represented outside the United States.

Documentation

Records will be kept of efforts to contact the media as well as a list of coverage about the Affirmative Action Plan.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE DELEGATE SELECTION PLAN

1. **Resolution adopting draft Delegate Selection Plan** and submitting for vote by DPCA.
2. **A statement from the International Chair** of Democrats Abroad certifying the Plan as submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee of the DNC was approved by Democrats Abroad.
3. **A statement from the International Chair** of Democrats Abroad certifying compliance with Rule 1.C., which requires a 30-day public comment period prior to the adoption of the Plan by Democrats Abroad.
4. **A copy of the press release** distributed by the Democrats Abroad Committee announcing its adoption of the Plan and summarizing the major components of the Plan. (Reg. 2.2.D.)
5. **A copy of all written public and online comments** submitted through the process provided above on the Plan. (Reg. 2.2.G.)
6. **A statement from the Chair of the Affirmative Action Committee certifying compliance with Rule 6.F.**, which requires that the Affirmative Action Committee has reviewed the proposed Affirmative Action outreach plan, including any numerical goals established. (Reg. 2.2.I.)
7. **A statement from Chair of Democrats Abroad outlining the reliable data** and source used for numerical goals established under Rules 5.C., 6.A., and 7. (Reg. 2.2.J.)
8. **A statement from the Chair of Democrats Abroad certifying that the Democrats Abroad Affirmative Action Committee composition complies with Rules 5.C, 6.A., and 7** and that the names, demographic data and contact information of members was submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee 15 days after their appointment. (Reg. 2.2.K.)
9. **Copies of all Democrats Abroad statutes reasonably related to the Delegate Selection Process** (Reg. 2.2.L.)
10. **A copy of all qualifying forms to be filed with the Democrats Abroad or the Democrats Abroad by presidential candidates.** (Reg. 2.2.M.)

**ATTACHMENT 1: RESOLUTION ADOPTING DRAFT DELEGATE
SELECTION AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLANS**

Whereas, after consultation with the Affirmative Action Committee of Democrats Abroad and with the DPCA, on March 29, 2011 the Executive Committee of Democrats Abroad adopted a draft Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan for the 2012 National Convention.

Whereas on March 29, 2011 the draft Democrats Abroad 2011 Delegate Selection Plan was made available to the public generally for comment for a thirty-day period and whereas appropriate measures were taken to publicize the public comment period.

Whereas such period for public comment has now expired.

Whereas the comments received from the public are appended to the revised draft of the Democrats Abroad 2012 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan appended to this Resolution.

Whereas the Executive Committee of Democrats Abroad has examined the comments made by the public with care.

Now therefore, be it resolved that the draft Democrats Abroad 2012 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plan appended hereto be approved by the Executive Committee of Democrats Abroad and submitted to a vote of the DPCA under the Bylaws of Democrats Abroad.

April 28, 2011

**ATTACHMENT 2: REGULATION 2.2 (C) CERTIFICATION BY CHAIR OF
APPROVAL OF BY COMMITTEE**

I, Kenneth Sherman, International Chair of Democrats Abroad, hereby certify that the Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans as submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee were approved by the Democratic Party Committee Abroad in accordance with its bylaws and voting procedure.

April 28, 2011

Kenneth Sherman, International Chair
Democrats Abroad
P.O. Box 15130, Washington, D.C. 20003, USA
Tel: +1 202 863 8109 /Fax: +1 202 350 6043
E-mail: chair@democratsabroad.org

**ATTACHMENT 3: REGULATION 2.2 (E) CERTIFICATION BY
CHAIR OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

I, Kenneth Sherman, International Chair of Democrats Abroad, hereby certify that the Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee have been subject to a thirty (30) day public comment period which began on March 29, 2011 and ended on April 28, 2011 prior to the adoption of the Plans by the Democratic Party Committee Abroad.

April 28, 2011

Kenneth Sherman, International Chair
Democrats Abroad
P.O. Box 15130, Washington, D.C. 20003, USA
Tel: +1 202 863 8109 / Fax: +1 202 350 6043
E-mail: chair@democratsabroad.org

**ATTACHMENT 4: PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING ADOPTION OF
DELEGATE SELECTION AND AFFIRMATIVE
ACTION PLANS**

Media Contact: Jody Couser, Press Officer
pressofficer@democratsabroad.org

Press Release

For Immediate Release
April 5, 2011

**American Democrats Living Abroad Encouraged to Get Involved in Primary
Process**
Also Makes Push for Minority Delegates

Washington, DC - The official arm of the Democratic Party for Americans living outside of the United States, Democrats Abroad, is encouraging eligible Democrats to get involved in the primary process. Democrats living outside of the United States can participate in Democrats Abroad's Global Primary in 2012.

Democrats Abroad has provided information on how Democrats living outside of the United States can participate in the primary process through the Delegate Selection Plan. This information can be found on the organization's web site [here](#).

Under party rules of diversity, Democrats Abroad is working to ensure inclusion of African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans and Asian-Pacific Americans, as well as members for the LGBT community, youth and people with disabilities.

"It is important to Democrats Abroad members to ensure we match the spirit of diversity and inclusiveness of the Party as a whole. This is a core value to us," says Larry Rousseau, of Democrats Abroad Canada, who also serves as Chair of the Democrats Abroad Affirmative Action Committee.

"Democrats Abroad includes an incredibly diverse membership of Americans," says Ken Sherman, International Chair of Democrats Abroad. "Through our Global Primary, we are able to reach more voters in more locations around the world. We plan to have a convention delegation that is the most diverse ever."

American Democrats living outside of the United States may participate but must first join Democrats Abroad. The online membership form is located on the web site [here](#). Members will receive information on how they may participate in the Democrats Abroad Global Primary.

The worldwide election results will determine the delegates who will join eight DNC members in Democrats Abroad's delegation to the Democratic National Convention. These delegates will be elected in early 2012.

Any American citizen who will be 18 by the November 2012 election who lives temporarily or permanently outside the United States is eligible to vote in the Democratic Global Primary and run for election as a Convention Delegate.

To vote in the Democratic Global Primary and/or run for Delegate to the Democratic National Convention, overseas Americans should contact Democrats Abroad online at www.democratsabroad.org

To vote in the U.S. Presidential Election in November, American voters abroad must request a ballot from the local voting authorities in the place where they last resided in the U.S. This process is explained and automated at Democrats Abroad's voter registration website, VoteFromAbroad.org.

The Democrats Abroad Global Primary will take place in May 2012.
The Democrats Abroad Global Convention will take place in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico in May 2012.

The Democratic National Convention will take place in Charlotte, North Carolina, September 3-6, 2012.

The U.S. Presidential Election will take place on November 6, 2012. Deadlines for requesting overseas absentee ballots vary per state.

**ATTACHMENT 5: A COPY OF ALL WRITTEN AND ONLINE COMMENTS
FROM THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD REGARDING THE
DELEGATE SELECTION AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PLANS**

From: wjkellpro@aol.com [mailto:wjkellpro@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 6:39 PM
Subject: Voting in the 2012 Primary

Dear Mr. Sherman:

Congratulations on your election as our new DA Chair. I just received the email about voting in the Democratic Party primary. I have one question.

Will DA have the same kind of voting on the website as we have had in the past? I think that is a really convenient way to vote, and I don't worry much about security - as long as professionals are handling the technical aspects.

I tried reading the pdf that your email links to, but I couldn't find a clear answer to my question. Sec VII B, part 4. a. mentions applying for a ballot on the website, but doesn't come out and say you can vote there, too.

Thanks for letting me know.

Yours,

Bill Kelleher

Cc:
DA website form

From: Christine Marques [mailto:csmarques@bluewin.ch]
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2011 12:04 PM
Subject: Comment on Draft Plans for 2012

These comments cover three areas of the draft Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Plans for 2012: internet voting, the calendar and affirmative action goals and outreach.

The draft Plan does not include internet voting -- nor should it. It was therefore surprising to see this option available in a global message to Democrats Abroad "The proposed primary is to be held in as many places and countries as we had voting centers in the 2008 elections along with internet voting."

The 2008 Global Primary provided in-person, mail, fax and internet voting -

greatly expanding access. Incorporating internet voting was groundbreaking for our state party. It was also justified. The landscape in 2012 may be significantly different, and indeed, the costs of internet voting in what may very well be a single-candidate primary appear to outweigh the benefits of an internet primary this cycle.

The draft Plan does not include specific dates but refers to a May primary and June convention. This would allow for bonus delegates, clearly of benefit to our small delegation. Those dates must be selected as soon as possible, finding a late window where the Democrats Abroad primary is not overshadowed by the results of some of the larger states back home. In addition, these tentative dates should be publicized on www.democratsabroad.org.

The affirmative action goals set forth in the draft are significantly higher than in 2008, using census demographics which are difficult to apply to Americans residing overseas. It may be worth exploring other data, if available.

As a number of regional conference calls are taking place with regard to the Plans, I recommend that members of the constituency groups be invited to these calls as it appears that no provision has been made for separate constituency calls. Later in the calendar, these groups, along with the members of the Affirmative Action Committee, should be the springboard for workshops.

Thank you for your consideration,

Christine Schon Marques
Immediate Past Chair
Democrats Abroad

From: Brian Alan Lang [mailto:bal10@columbia.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 6:41 AM
Subject: RE: On the road to 2012 - A Message From International Chair Ken Sherman

Change the by-laws on the day of the election?
I guess we have no democratic principles and DA has become a banana republic. We might as well become Republicans and support FEC v Citizens United.

From: David S. Miller <david@dotmiller.com>
To: John EASTWOOD <john.eastwood@eigerlaw.com>; John Eastwood <chair-tw@democratsabroad.org>
Cc: Ken Sherman <k_e_sherman@yahoo.ca>; Vicki Hansen-Thackray <vickithackray@democratsabroad.org>; Vicki Thackray <vicki4da@gmail.com>; Lou Hureston <lsh2008@aol.com>; Susan Haug

<susan.haug@sitglobal.net>
Sent: Fri, April 15, 2011 8:28:39 PM
Subject: DSP comments/corrections

Dear John, et al.

I've read through the latest draft of the DSP (29 March 2011), and I have a number of comments as well as corrections (typos, etc.).

My main comment has to do with the Affirmative Action Committee's media campaign. I assume it's based on similar media campaigns for regular State Party Committees. However, as currently described in the DA DSP, the Affirmative Action media campaign would be ineffective and a waste of money.

For all intents and purposes, we have all of DA's members' e-mail addresses. The case is different in a regular State Party Committee, which would not have the e-mail address of every registered Democrat in their respective state. That's why they have to advertise in print media and use broadcast media, etc., to get people's interest in running for a delegate slot as an affirmative action candidate.

For DA, all we have to do is send out an e-mail. We don't need print media, we don't need broadcast media, and much of this media would be ineffective, because DA's members do not live in one "media market" - we live all over the world, the farthest thing you can get to a specific media market (like the Minnesota press).

Therefore, I suggest that we strike the passages about advertising in media, sending out press releases, etc. Yet instead of an e-mail going out centrally from our DPCA Chair, it may be prudent that an e-mail template be sent out to the individual CC Chairs, who then tweak the message and send it out themselves. (RVC's can send out a message to members not enrolled in a CC.)

If we were to advertise and send out press releases, then it should be to promote the Global Primary. The more members we get for the Global Primary, the larger the affirmative action pool for the subsequent selection of delegates.

Below are my comments and corrections to the DSP:

I A 1. Number of delegates should be changed from 23 to 15 (?) (ref. III intro).

I B 3. b. . . . by completing an online or paper membership form. . . (add "or paper").

III A. 3. §3 . . . with an overall variance between men and women not exceeding

one. (correct to "not exceeding").

III B. 1. a. (2) . . . who legally reside outside the United States or its territories. (add "or its territories").

III B. 1. b. (1) . . . who legally reside outside the United States or its territories. (delete "Democrats" and add "or its territories").

III C. 2. b. Formatting: increase point size of "b."

Also, immediately following, there's a kind of header "Presidential Candidate Right of Review" that's too far to the left, and the numbering after this is not consistent with the preceding sections, making it impossible to refer to this section using numbers. Also check for similar formatting errors in the rest of the document.

D. Selection of At-Large Delegates and Alternates b. (1) (p. 12), I would like to see LGBT added to this section rather than just be mentioned in the following section (2). LGBT is an important and significant group among DA members, with its own issues (e.g., ability of non-U.S. partners to emigrate to the U.S.).

III E. b. (2) (p. 13) . . . from the same Region of Democrats Abroad as the Delegate. (add "as").

III E. 2. b. (p. 14) . . . nor shall the Democrats Abroad be entitled to name a replacement." (word missing after "Democrats Abroad", not sure what it is).

VI A. 5. . . in such fashion that all prospective and current members of each Democrats Abroad will be fully and adequately informed. . . (word missing after "Democrats Abroad", probably "Country Committee". However, we also have over 5,000 members who are not members of a CC, so what about them? They should be included here as well).

VI M. . . . and that voters residing outside the United States or its territories will have the opportunity. . . (delete "the" between "that" and "voters", and add "or its territories").

VII B. Delete second instance of "to prevent" in last sentence.

VII B. 1. b. (ii) Street mailing address abroad (add "abroad" for clarity).

VII B. 1. b. (ix) Correct "(iv)" to "(ix)"
Add after (ix) a (x) with Date of signature.

Also for this section, what about voting via e-mail and via the Internet. Are only paper ballots allowed?

VII B. 2. a. I think we should make the case to the DNC that when it comes to DA, we should not be required to maintain the same number of physical polling stations as the previous primary (but required to have at least one in a CC if there were one or more physical polling stations in the CC during the previous primary). The reason is that unlike regular State Party Committees, far from everyone in a CC is an American citizen capable of voting, so it's a tremendous burden to maintain a large number of polling stations each time, all depending on the circumstances of each presidential election.

VII B. 2. b. Minimum hours open should be mentioned.

VII B. 3. a. If voting by e-mail or Internet is not allowed, then we are disenfranchising our members, including compared to the previous primary. E-mail voting is free, and for instance either a scanned ballot (PDF) can be sent to the CC Secretary, or a regular e-mail ballot (no scanning) can be sent to the CC Secretary, with the acknowledgement that although the Secretary and tellers will keep the ballot confidential, the voter gives up the right to a secret ballot. (E-mail and Internet ballots are mentioned in VII B. 4. a., with subsequent references in b., c., d., etc., but not mentioned here, and in general lacks clarity.)

VII B. 4. a. How do we know who is voting, that the ballot is legitimate when we receive it?

VIII B. b. Electronic presence should be explicit.

IX A. 1. d. I don't like the use of the words "ethnics" and "workers". Do we have better alternatives for these words?

IX B. 3. Outreach to "community leaders within the Democratic Party's constituencies"? Doesn't make sense for DA. In general, the entire Affirmative Action section should be edited with the reality of DA in mind.

IX C. 1. first sentence: Delete "the" before "United States citizens".

IX C. 2. & 3. Delete these paragraphs as per my comments at the top of this e-mail, or at least come up with something relevant to communications with our members via e-mail and meetings.

IX D. 2. In the table, LGBT is at 8%. Are these U.S. or DA statistics? I would suspect that DA has a relatively larger number of LGBT members than the general U.S. population, because many U.S. LGBT expats cannot move back to the U.S. with their non-U.S. partners. If DA has a higher number of LGBT members, then it should be reflected in a higher number for the Numeric Goals for Delegation.

XI Challenges. Shouldn't this be "Section X"? There is no "Section X" in the document. (And thus any subsequent Section numbers.)

XI A. 6. . . shall be made available by Democrats Abroad on its website and upon reasonable request. (Delete "the" before "Democrats Abroad", and insert "on its website" after "Democrats Abroad").

XI C. 3. I don't understand the sentence, "If Democrats Abroad has adopted and implemented an approved affirmative action program, Democrats Abroad shall not be subject to challenge based solely on Delegation composition or primary results." Can someone clarify?

XII A. Are the numbers under "Delegates" in the table correct?

Exhibit B: Missing address lines for City and for Country.

Schedule 2: If this media plan is to be used to promote the Global Primary, then for the list of Print Media, it should include a general statement of "Local English language press in individual Country Committees" (e.g., The Copenhagen Post, or The Local in Sweden). Also, The New York Times is not mentioned. Many of our members read U.S. newspapers online. Therefore, all major (and non-major) U.S. papers should also be targeted, as our members will often read the online version of the U.S. newspaper from their hometown.

That's all for now, folks!

Best regards, -David

David S. Miller
Chair/formand, Democrats Abroad Denmark

From: Katie Solon <katiesolon@yahoo.com>
To: John Eastwood <chair-tw@democratsabroad.org>;
counsel@democratsabroad.org
Cc: Ken Sherman <k_e_sherman@yahoo.ca>; Vicki Thackray
<vicki4da@gmail.com>; Susan Haug <susan.haug@sitglobal.net>; Merrill Oates
<merrill@policy.hu>; Benjamin Wright <benjamin.n.wright@gmail.com>;
Robert Muller <rjmuller4@yahoo.com>; secretary@democratsabroad.org
Sent: Wed, April 20, 2011 1:56:52 PM
Subject: comments on DSP
Hi John and all,

Benjamin Wright, new DA Austria Counsel and I have a few suggestions re: the DSP.

First, we've both seen David Miller's 3 pages of comments sent April 15th and agree with almost all. Particularly that there needs to be clarification throughout the document about electronic voting (esp. in Section VII), we need to more accurately describe the overseas American demographic and we should rethink how best to advertise to overseas voters.

We should emphasize free media. Re: paid media: in Austria and perhaps other countries we should also look to advertise in the (less expensive) local German-language press. Probably as many of our members read the local press as read the IHT.

Our other suggestions:

* spell out exactly how many of what kind of delegates we have in the first sentence, which now reads "Democrats Abroad has a total of 23 Delegates and 1 Alternate to the 2012 Democratic National Convention. (Section I.A.1.) Don't we have 24 Delegates (10 + 8 + 1 + 5)? (Summary of Plan XII.A.)

* be consistent in how the document refers to the Global Primary (sometimes it's Global Primary, sometimes Presidential preference primary, sometimes Global Presidential Primary)

* extend Global Primary dates to May 6, include that Sunday as many in Europe are used to going to vote on Sundays (I.B.2.)

* re: selecting Alternates: perhaps we should elect more Alternates, as it seems over the past few conventions considerably more DA members have shown up at the conventions and have been able to sit with the delegation at least once? (III.E.)

*** let's ask the presidential campaigns to approve more than one candidate for each of the standing committees so that we have a choice. If I remember correctly, in 2008 the Clinton campaign approved only one candidate--Lynn Rothschild. We then had no choice but to send her (a rather unknown quantity) as part of our delegation...which ended up quite damaging to DA. (IV.B.3.b..... and VI.G.)

* delete "of each" in the last sentence (VI.A.5.)

* in third line, delete "Democrats" btwn "United" and "States" (VI. M.)

* shouldn't it be spelled out that the Delegation Chair is elected from among the Delegates, or is that understood? (V.B.1.a.)

* replace "National" with "Citizen" in 9th line (VII.B.)

* language explaining how candidates with fewest numbers of votes will be dropped if voting goes to second and subsequent ballots is unclear (VIII.C.e. and f.)

* substitute "low-income individuals" for "workers" (IX.A.1.d.)

* substitute "other ethnic group" for "ethnics" (IX. A.1.d.)

* how do we define "youth?" (IX. A.1.d.)

* who is on our Affirmative Action Committee??? (IX.A.2.a.)

* who is designing the "well publicized DSP education workshops" to be held in each CC? (IX.B.1.)

* what is the "district level" in the 6th line? (IX. E.4.)

* add "Abroad" after "Address" in the lines at the bottom (Exhibit B)

* numbering is off in some sections and proofreading needed

I/we volunteer to proofread a revised DSP.

cheers,
Katie Solon
Chair, Austria

from Joe Smallhoover <joe.smallhoover@gmail.com>
to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org

date Fri, Apr 22, 2011 at 11:48 AM
subject Comments on the draft 2012 Delegate Selection Plan for
Democrats Abroad
signed-by gmail.com

hide details 11:48 AM (2 hours ago)

The following are my comments on the draft Delegate Selection Plan ("DSP") of Democrats Abroad.

1. Although a press release was apparently made and a general announcement to all the current members of Democrats Abroad was also made, the copy of the draft DSP dropped from easy sight on the Democrats Abroad website, making it difficult for someone not already in the know to understand that the

Democrats Abroad draft DSP is available for public comment. I do not know how long it has been missing from the first page of the website, but it seems as of this writing to have been restored following my complaint on April 18, 2011.

2. Section VII.B of the draft DSP deals with the procedures for the Global Primary.

Although Rule 13(D) of the Rules for the 2012 Democratic National Convention would apply with respect to the tabulation of the results of the Global Primary, there is no clear statement on how to go about tabulating the results of the Global Primary and Section VII.B.6 would be greatly improved if it were to refer to Rule 13(D) of the DNC Rules for the 2012 National Convention, or alternatively, include language that is identical to Rule 13(D).

3. Section VIII of the draft DSP deals with the Global Convention of Democrats Abroad.

Section VIII.B of the draft DSP implies that participation in the Global Convention requires physical presence in the Convention meeting room and not participation by telephone or other electronic means. This should be clearly spelled out in the DSP.

Mere participation by telephone or electronic means does not provide for an adequate chance for the participants in the Global Convention to get the full impact of the moment, to fully appreciate the qualities of the candidates for the Delegate and DNC memberships being filled at the Global Convention and does not provide for adequate debate and is hence antithetical to our Democratic ideals.

The same comment applies to Sections VIII.C and VIII.D of the draft DSP.

4. Section VIII.B.d states that each participant in the Global Convention shall be entitled to one vote.

This rule must be changed at the very least to provide that the participants in the Global Convention who are members of the Democratic Party Committee Abroad ("DPCA") shall have the same number of votes that they would be entitled to under the Charter of Democrats Abroad, with the other participants at the Global Convention (e.g., Delegates elected to the National Convention directly through the Global Primary, Unpledged PLEO Delegates) having one vote.

However, even that is undemocratic and hence unacceptable since it would result in an unfair and unproportional distribution of votes as a result of the unfair and unproportional rules of the Democrats Abroad Charter. Under the Charter, less than 70% of the votes on the DPCA are attributed based on

Democratic strength of the various Country Committees and the Charter also provides that any vote taken under the Charter also requires a second super-majority of one third of the Country Committees, unfairly weighting the voting in favor of the smallest Country Committees (which could represent a miniscule percentage of the overall membership of the DPCA)

Thus, giving each participant in the Global Convention one vote would have the result of favoring the representatives on the DPCA from tiny Country Committees (as little as 50 members), with a disproportionately greater weight than those representing large Country Committees. Giving each DPCA member participant in the Global Convention the same number of votes that s/he would be entitled to under the Democrats Abroad Charter would be slightly fairer and slightly more proportional, but does not go far enough.

Each Country Committee should have representation at the Global Convention in direct proportion to the results of the voter turn out at the Global Primary in order for the DSP to be fair and proportional.

Sections VIII.B and VIII.C must be amended in order to be fair and proportional.

5. Given the fact that the Charter of Democrats Abroad does not provide for a fair and proportional voting system (see comment 4 above), I do not see how it is possible under the draft DSP for the Pledged PLEO Delegates to the National Convention to be elected in accordance with the Call, Rules and Regulations for the 2012 Democratic National Convention.

6. Given the fact that the Charter of Democrats Abroad does not provide for a fair and proportional voting system (see comment 4 above), I do not see how the DPCA can ever validly adopt the draft DSP or any DSP that would be in accordance with the Call, Rules and Regulations for the 2012 Democratic National Convention.

Accordingly, before the DSP can be validly adopted, the Charter of Democrats Abroad must be changed to provide for a fair and proportional system of representation on the DPCA from the Country Committees.

Respectfully submitted.

--

Joe Smallhoover
+33.608.371.412

from Prager Kevin <prager.kevin@hq.nato.int>
to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org

date Wed, Apr 27, 2011 at 7:51 PM
subject Comments on DSP from Chair, DAB

hide details 7:51 PM (13 hours ago)

To whom it may concern:

As an active, voting member of DPCA of long standing (continuously since 1998, minus a 3 year hiatus starting in 2000);
as an appointed member of the Bylaws Committee (BLC), which hammered out a compromise draft for the 2011 DPCA Charter over the course of a year;
as a Chair of a medium-sized, healthy DA Country Committee;
as a political moderate within the DPCA constellation (and in general); and
as a member of Democrats Abroad,

I would like to express my support for the DPCA DSP draft on the basis that it reflects a process that is both fair and proportionate, as required by the DNC. Having served both DA Belgium's members and the members of the DPCA in the capacities listed above, I would like to state that I supported throughout the process and continue to admire the successful effort made by the BLC to massively increase the proportionality of the organization's decision-making process.

The BLC's draft Charter was brought before the DPCA membership at a global meeting for amendment and eventual approval in March 2011. The draft was amended by the members and was passed unanimously by the members. The unanimous support for the amended charter came from small, medium and even the largest countries. This overwhelming support for compromise was nothing short of a miracle, given the rancor between and hardened positions of the various factions only months before. It should also be noted that as Country Chairs and Vice Chairs all DPCA members who voted for the DPCA Charter (with the obvious exception of DPCA's DNC members and officers) were democratically elected by the direct votes of DA's base members -- the members in the countries.

I support the DPCA DSP draft because reflects the fair and proportionate process that is embodied in the recently and unanimously adopted DPCA Charter.

Thanks,

Kevin L. Prager
Chair
DA Belgium

Quaide Williams <Quaide.Williams@golanguagepress.com>

to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org

date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 1:54 AM

subject Support for DSP 1:54 AM

Dear DPCA Delegate Selection Team,

Though I was not a supporter of the initial drafts of the BLC and worked hard on the alternative Unity Draft Charter, the spirit of compromise in Seoul and the final result, our new DPCA by-laws, represent the fairest and most proportional way to organize the DPCA.

The DSP, as presented to the DPCA within the past month, is basically the same - the fairest and most proportional way to go about the business of selecting our Delegates for 2012.

As a new DPCA member, and as a member of Democrats Abroad who has worked hard to understand this complex subject, I wholeheartedly support the DSP.

Best wishes from Munich,

Quaide Williams, Democrats Abroad Germany, Vice Chair

from Carmelan Polce <cpolce@tpg.com.au>

to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org

cc Carmelan Polce <cpolce@tpg.com.au>

date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 5:30 AM

subject Comments on the DA DSP 5:30 AM

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the 2012 DA DSP.

Section II

D At-Large Delegate and Alternates

Selection of At Large Delegates and Alternates

B Priority of Consideration

In full support of the ambition of giving priority consideration to African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders and women , it should perhaps be a feature of the ballot for both THE REGIONAL-LEVEL DELEGATES AND THE (GLOBAL-LEVEL) AT-LARGE DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES that the name of the delegate candidates be succeeded by the candidates identification, if any, in these minority groups plus any relevant identification of race, color, creed, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status or physical disability requested by the candidate.

This provision would likely be included in Section VII B Procedures for the Primary, 1 Voting in the Primary and the Ballot Design (rather than in the Priority of Consideration section).

Section VI

A3

Section VI A3 suggests that “meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members ... to accommodate all interested persons”. In order to fully pursue the accessibility of meetings to all party members I would like to see video access to the meeting by Party Members interested in participating - as either a candidate or a (n eligible) voter - in the Selection of At large Delegates

and Alternates. To that end we should ensure notice to all interested parties of a full description of the legal and practical procedures for video participation in the selection of At Large Delegates and Alternates.

Section VI C

Procedures for the PPGs d suggests that all votes shall be by written signed ballots. This provision impedes video participation by eligible voters. We could instead require a voice vote by video participants on all ballots for At Large delegates.

Section VIII.B.d states that each participant in the Global Convention shall be entitled to one vote. This is perplexing, given the tremendous amount of work and effort the DPCA has just put into negotiating and agreeing a compromise position on how to allocate votes amongst DA Country Committees on a basis that pursues proportionality yet also strives for fairness to committees that are small and in relatively remote locations on the globe. The DPCA has invested a huge amount of time, expended considerable effort and experienced considerable emotional duress in discussions occurring over the last year on the topic of voting strength. We made our way, democratically, to an imperfect but optimising and agreed formula that recognises both the strength of country committees with large member numbers AND the rights of country committees in small (and remote) countries which have small member numbers. We are proud of the rigorous process we undertook and the result we achieved and we should be happy to see the vote allocation formula in our new Charter applied to the Global Convention. One voter one vote would probably be particularly troubling to DPCA members from large country committees who worked very hard to see a proportional voting structure put in place, to which one voter one vote is antithetical.

Another word on the process Democrats Abroad went through to establish the vote allocation methodology in our newly adopted Charter. To say the process of agreeing the amendments to the By Laws (now known as DA Charter) was arduous would be a great understatement. The vote allocation provision was the most fiercely, emotionally, passionately debated. The fact that we reached unanimous agreement on the new Charter is a testament to the strength of the individual and collective commitment of the DPCA voting members to keeping Democrats Abroad a powerful organising, vote-generating and fundraising tool for the Democratic Party.

We have reached agreement, but we are in a delicate state. Compromise, by its nature, involves some wins and some losses for both sides. Many of us are hurting. All of us are exhausted. Our wounds will take time to heal but we are confident that, though relationships have been severely strained, they are not broken and our organisation will grow stronger for having survived this fracture.

We have a plan for monitoring the impacts of the new voting structure that we believe will tell us over the next couple of years how well our compromise structure is supporting our organisation, our Party, our President, our candidates. We anticipate that the DNC will trust us to work our way through this period and make adjustments, if necessary, to ensure we remain a critical

contributor to the Democratic Party.
Thank you.
Respectfully and democratically yours,
Carmelan Polce
Vice Chair, DA Australia
Ex Regional Vice Chair, Asia Pacific Region (2009-2011)

from Margie Bernard <margiebernard@eircom.net>
to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org
date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 5:16 AM
subject DPCA Delegate Selection Draft 5:16 AM
To whom it may concern:

I am a long-time Democratic Party activist, former member of the California Democratic Party Executive Board, current Vice Chair, Ireland Democratic Party Abroad who was actively engaged in process to devise a fair and proportionate revised DPCA Charter and one who voted to adopt this Charter at the Seoul Meeting in March 2011.

I am now writing to give my unconditional support for the Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action Draft Plan of 29 March 2011 and urge its acceptance by the DNC.
Margie Bernard, Vice Chair, DA Ireland

from lauren shannon <lauren.shannon@gmail.com>
to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org
date Wed, Apr 27, 2011 at 8:02 PM
subject i support of the DSP and Charter 8:02 PM

I wanted to use the comment period to just express how proud I am of the charter that was voted on in Seoul and to acknowledge that with compromise on all sides we voted Unanimously to pass the charter. This is huge news for the DPCA and the DSP that we are working on now is the next exciting step in the process.

Bravo to all of us for getting this important work done and moving on to the even more important work of registering voters and supporting the democratic party.

I hope those not yet 100% satisfied with our charter realize that these are living documents that can be amend in the the future but now is not the time for further amendments, now is the time to celebrate our vote and move on to the work of the 2011-2012 election cycle!

I hope everyone can work together to move forward
Lauren Shannon
DAJ chair, DNC member

from Jeff Watkins <jeffrey.watkins@gmail.com>
to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org
date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 5:00 AM
subject Dems Abroad DSP Comments 5:00 AM

Dear DNC,

I'd like to send a short note re: "Fair and Proportional" as some may feel that Dems Abroad's new bylaws are not fair and proportional and therefore any DSP approved thereunder would be invalid.

My view is that the new Dems Abroad bylaws are fair and proportional. A few points:

- The new bylaws were adopted unanimously after a great deal of deliberation and expounding of views.
- Dems Abroad bylaws and the organization are founded on each Country Committee being the "Constituent Members" of the Dems Abroad organization - put simply this means Hong Kong is as important as the United Kingdom, or, Rhode Island is as important as Texas. That is the "Fair" portion and necessary to encourage new member countries joining. The logical conclusion of this would be a U.S. Senate like approach with 50% of all Country Committees approval for any measure passed, but, instead we've compromised with 1/3 approval needed in order to gain "proportionality".
- The bylaws are both fair and proportional - and in any event received unanimous consent - a rare thing indeed for such a fundamental and grantedly controversial issue.

Best,

Jeff Watkins

Chair, Democrats Abroad Lion City Committee (Singapore)

marquescs@blackberry.orange.ch

to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org

date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 12:27 PM

subject Comment on Adoption of Democrats Abroad 2012 Plans 12:27 PM

Although significant strides have been made in bringing our internal voting structure closer to a proportional system based on democratic strength, two items should be addressed:

- the Charter currently mandates that in addition to simple majority vote, at least one third of country committees must also be in the majority. This requirement should be stricken.
- the proposed method for adopting the 2012 Plans by electronic ballot precludes fully proportional voting.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Schon Marques

Immediate Past Chair

Democrats Abroad

from aschankler@aol.com

to delegateselection@democratsabroad.org

date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 11:03 AM

subject Delegate Selection Plan 11:03 AM

I have the following comments to make about the DSP for Democrats Abroad:
Section II

A. Why is there an outside limit of 75 days to get on the ballot? What purpose does this serve?

Section III

A. 4. b. Why is the date of February 28 used? Candidates have to declare no less than 30 days. So this deadline seems to be before the candidate declaration deadline which makes no sense if delegate candidates are supposed to declare an allegiance to a candidate. The alternative is to make the deadline for candidates to be on the ballot should be earlier, i.e., more than the currently proposed 30-75 days before the election.

A. 5 e. Presumably reference should be to Section III A. 5. b.

A.6.b. Presumably you need a minimum percentage as potentially this could end up being less than 0%.

A.6 -- I may be missing something, but there does not seem to be a description of how the delegates are actually selected once the number for each candidate is determined by the Presidential Preference in the Global Primary. How does one get from the candidate-approved list of three times the total number to the actual delegates?

C.2.b. Presumably bracketed language should be "no less" than 30 days.

C. 4. a. How can they be allocated if there is only one?

D.3.a. Given the small number of delegates and the necessity to divide regional delegates by region, it is likely that rounding will lead to unproportional results (if there is more than one candidate). Would it not be better to use the At large delegate allocation to offset the negative effect of this rounding rather than simply repeating it.

D.5.b.(1) Should this preference be the case even if Affirmative action objectives have already been met in the regional delegate selection process?

Section VII

A.2.b. Cannot we include email of scanned ballots in this methodology. More people have access to scanners in this day and age than they do to fax machines.

B. Are people expected to have more than one form of ID. One proof of citizenship and the second proof of residence? Otherwise, it would seem that in all cases a passport would be necessary and sufficient.

Is there not some way to provide for a secret ballot? The absence of such would seem to deter participation.

Section VIII. (number/letter outline system seems to have changed in this Section)

A.b. Why are delegates who have already been elected voting to elect further delegates. Some how this seems like double representation and unfair.

B. c. There is no clear statement that voting by telephone will be allowed. If that is in fact the case, then not allowing proxies seems discriminatory to those

who cannot afford to travel to the global convention -- the cost of which is significantly higher for DPCA members than for the delegates to a normal State convention.

One final note. I understand that there has been some concern that the representation of DPCA members as determined in its new bylaws is less than proportional. I would point out that, in its system for apportionment of members/votes to country committee, it follows closely the system that the DNC, itself, uses for apportionment of DNC membership to State committees. In fact, on this basis, the DPCA allocation of votes is more "proportional" than the DNC itself. The fact that this apportionment received unanimous approval by the DPCA at its recent annual meeting is an indication that this apportionment methodology is reasonable, fair and representative of the DPCA membership at large.

Best regards,
Art Schankler
Czech Republic

Constance Borde <constance@cborde.com>
to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org
cc Greg Voss <gvoss@free.fr>
date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 3:33 PM
subject From France, Chair & Executive Vice Chair 3:33 PM

To whom it may concern:

As the new Chair and Vice-Chair of France, the DPCA's third largest country committee, with a history of national and chapter leadership, we feel it is important to contribute to the discussion on the DPCA Delegate Selection Plan (DSP). This follows our participation in the successful adoption of the new consensus DPCA Charter, in favor of which we both voted. In our view that new DPCA Charter greatly increases the proportionality of DPCA's decision-making process, while at the same time satisfying the concerns of large country committees, such as our own, and small country committees alike.

We would like to express our support for the DPCA DSP draft on the basis that it reflects wide consultation and a process that is both fair and proportionate as embodied by the new consensus DPCA Charter, which was unanimously adopted in Seoul, Korea, in March 2011.

Very truly yours,
Connie Borde
Chair, Democrats Abroad France
Greg Voss
Vice-Chair, Democrats Abroad France

from Willem Bakker <willbakker@gmail.com>
to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org
date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 3:02 PM
subject Comment on 2011 Delegate Selection and Affirmative Action

Plans 3:02 PM

To whom it may concern,

I am a member of the Democratic Party who lives abroad, and I am Secretary of Democrats Abroad Luxembourg. I have reviewed the March 29 draft of the Democrats Abroad Delegate Selection Plan and Affirmative Action Plan.

These Plans are positive steps in the ongoing process of representing Democrats living abroad within the Democratic Party. The DPCA continues to grow and adapt to the needs of American citizens abroad, and it is a more energetic, fair, and responsive organization than ever.

In particular, I am eager to help attain the worthy goals of the Affirmative Action Plan, as they appear in the current draft.

I am especially pleased that the delegate selection process will be governed by the DPCA and its Executive Committee under a new set of bylaws. These bylaws fairly represent the entire membership of Democrats Abroad and unite the many contributors to the organization in an equitable way.

Willem Bakker, Democrats Abroad Luxembourg, Secretary

from Dennis Desmond <desmond.daireland@gmail.com>

to DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org

date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 1:09 PM

subject DPCA Delegate Selection Plan 1:09 PM

Dear Delegate Selection Officer:

Please accept this short letter in support of the DPCA Delegate Selection Plan.

This DSP is the product of a year long effort by the DPCA Bylaws Committee and the membership at large to hammer out bylaws revisions that are both fair and proportional. The commitment shown by all has been remarkable and the end result is testimony to integrity, compromise, and above all, hard work. It should be pointed out that this DSP comes from a decision making process that is far more proportional than that which had been in place prior to this year.

The DNC may be confident that this Delegate Selection Plan meets all requirements of fairness and proportionality. As the two-term Chair of Democrats Abroad Ireland, I am proud to see the DPCA and its recently adopted Charter progress to new heights of fairness and proportionality. This process was not without debate and rancor but at the end of the day, it was concluded with a unanimous vote. The resulting Delegate Selection Plan is a superior achievement by an outstanding body, and I wholeheartedly support it.

Yours truly,

Dennis Desmond, Chair Democrats Abroad Ireland

from Wayne Weightman <wayne_weightman@yahoo.com>

to "DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org"

<DelegateSelection@democratsabroad.org>

date Thu, Apr 28, 2011 at 11:38 PM

subject DSP - comments Apr 28

Dear DSP Drafters,

I hope that we can participate in the delegate selection process by phone and

other electronic means.

As someone that lives in a small developing country where our income, though proportionately similar based on our cost of living, is significantly less than the US, and where it is both expensive and time consuming to travel to any destination DEMS Abroad has met in in the past 10 years, it was heartening that we adopted our new bylaws with explicit language stating electronic attendance counts towards quorum -- (even Seoul travel costs from here were more than a ticket from Europe, and my trip to Florence took 54 hours to get there and 38 to return).

Participation via our new tool - webex audio video conferencing - was very effective during our recent Seoul global meeting. Any tech difficulties could have been prevented or better managed if we had allowed more advance prep time. This should be addressed on the future.

Really, we already conduct all of our important business by conducting phone conferences.

Additionally, I think our compromise on proportionality was reasonable and considered acceptable by all as it passed unanimously.

And, there was considerable compromise.

For myself, I was always of the opinion that everyone sitting at the table should have equal voting strength. I never liked the old system (some had 4 times the votes of others), and the new system, as originally presented was even worse: one individual would carry as much voting strength as any 20 individuals like myself travelling great distances, at great expense, or staying on a call for 3 days from 8 at night until 7 in the morning due to time zone issues.

Does it make sense to expend all the financial and time expense to attend a meeting that asks your opinion, but, in the end, ultimately does not consider it as the vote always rests with a very few select individuals (I think as little as 5 out of 50)?

I did not to me nor to most all of our membership.

There was an easy fix - one that would have been more proportional. Have elected delegates carry the additional votes. Thus, if a country had 20 times the membership (which was the only measure chosen to evaluate and determine allocation of votes (voting strength)), the country members should elect 20 voting delegates to carry the additional votes.

A few argued the burden this would place on large countries - interestingly some of the largest countries did not consider it an undue burden. Really, if you have 20 times the members. It makes sense that you have 20 times the structure, 20 times the resources, and 20 times the need to develop new leaders.

In the end, we compromised. Some individuals will still carry more votes than others... But not 20 or more times the number. And minimal protections were built in for small countries to offset the fact that some would be able to carry more votes - 1/3 of all countries must vote in favor of any issue.

What was really wonderful, was that DPCA as a whole came together to support this in unanimity.

Kind Regards,

Wayne Weightman, Past International Treasurer, Chair - Cambodia

**ATTACHMENT 6: RULE 6F CERTIFICATION BY CHAIR OF
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE**

I, Larry Rousseau, Chair of the Democrats Abroad Affirmative Action Committee, hereby confirm that the Affirmative Action Committee reviewed the Delegate Selection Plan and its Affirmative Action Plan, including any numerical goals established.

April 28, 2011

Larry Rousseau
Democrats Abroad Affirmative Action Committee
250 Range Road, Ottawa, Canada, K1N 8J8
Tel: +1 613 565 1915/Cell: +1 613 327 0879/Fax: +1 613 560 1915
E-mail: rousLAR@gmail.com

**ATTACHMENT 7: RULES 5.C, 6.A AND 7 STATEMENT BY CHAIR
OUTLINING RELIABLE DATA AND SOURCE FOR
NUMERICAL GOALS ESTABLISHED**

I, Kenneth Sherman, International Chair of Democrats Abroad, state that the Democrats Abroad 2012 Affirmative Action Representation Goals were established as follows:

- The 2012 proposed goals used the 2008 goals as a baseline. After reviewing voter turnout in demographic areas in key Democrats Abroad states (Virginia, New York, California, Texas, Pennsylvania and Florida), the 2012 goals were increased to try to match that support and reflect the demographic data collected about Americans living abroad through our organization's website.

- The membership of Democrats Abroad is tracked through the organization's database, whose data is collected via the organization's website. The data shows that a large share of our members come from the above-mentioned states. The organization also tracks the groups that members elect to join (e.g., African American, Hispanic, APIA, LGBT, Youth, etc.), which give some further knowledge as to who our members include.

- Research was conducted regarding data about the relevant makeup of the United States population, that of the identified states, our own organization, Democratic supporters, as well as other demographic data. Such research was taken from the following sources beyond our own organizational data:

<http://edition.cnn.com/ELECTION/2008/results/polls/>, CNN

<http://www.advocate.com/article.aspx?id=41389>, **The Advocate, 11/7/2008**

<http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/gay/lesbian/news/ARTICLE.php?AID=19735>, **Windy City Media Group, 11/5/2008**

<http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/~perspy/2009/02/why-asian-americans-voted-for-obama/> **2/26/2009**

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1209/racial-ethnic-voters-presidential-election> **Pew Research Center**

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/us_elections_2008/7709852.stm **BBC News, 11/5/2008**

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1031/young-voters-in-the-2008-election>, Pew Research Center for the People & the Press Research, 11/12/2008)

<http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2008/11/05/exit-polls-young-voters/>, (CNN Political Ticker, 11/5/2008)

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1209/racial-ethnic-voters-presidential-election> Pew 4/30/2009.

<http://pewhispanic.org/reports/report.php?ReportID=108>, Pew Hispanic Center, 4.30.2009

<http://www.fec.gov/pubrec/fe2008/2008presgeresults.pdf>, Federal Election Commission 2008 Results, January 22, 2009

http://www.statemaster.com/graph/peo_tot_bla_pop-people-total-black-population, State Master

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/hhmcensus1.html>, US Census Bureau

http://www.statemaster.com/graph/peo_tot_his_pop-people-total-hispanic-population, State Master

<http://www.asian-nation.org/population.shtml>

April 28, 2011

Kenneth Sherman, International Chair
Democrats Abroad
P.O. Box 15130, Washington, D.C. 20003, USA
Tel: +1 202 863 8109 /Fax: +1 202 350 6043
E-mail: chair@democratsabroad.org

**ATTACHMENT 8: RULES 5.C, 6.A, AND 7 CERTIFICATION FROM
CHAIR THAT AAC COMPOSITION AND REPORTING
WAS COMPLIANT**

I, Kenneth Sherman, International Chair of Democrats Abroad, hereby certify that the Democrats Abroad Affirmative Action Committee composition complies with the requirements of Rules 5.C, 6.A, and 7 with regards to representatives therein and that the names, demographic data and contact information of the Affirmative Action Committee members was submitted to the Rules and Bylaws Committee on March 15, 2011, 15 days after their appointment, by my immediate predecessor, Christine Schon Marques.

April 28, 2011

Kenneth Sherman, International Chair
Democrats Abroad
P.O. Box 15130, Washington, D.C. 20003, USA
Tel: +1 202 863 8109 / Fax: +1 202 350 6043
E-mail: chair@democratsabroad.org