

## **Servas International: DV Nov 2010 - Distant Vote November 2010**

### **Voter Mailout #1**

#### **to Servas Countries eligible to vote in DV Nov 2010**

This Voter Mailout and the General Announcement sent out by the SI General Secretary (GenSec) are the start of the Distant Vote voting process for DV Nov 2010.

The General Announcement has been sent to all Servas countries advising them of the motions to be decided, the voting procedures for the Distant Vote and the countries eligible to vote in DV Nov 2010. A copy of the announcement is attached.

The General Announcement has been sent to the *country@servas.org* e-mail addresses, so you may also receive a copy from the GenSec if e-mails to this address are forwarded to you.

The timetable for the key Voter steps in the voting process for DV Nov 2010 is:

Now to Nov 30, 2010

Member Groups, eligible to vote, determine how their vote will be cast on each of the DV motions.

September 2010

Compilation of the Voter List for DV Nov 2010.

By Oct 31, 2010

DVA sends out of Voting Papers and voting instructions to Voters.

By Nov 30, 2010

Voters return voting papers to DVA.

By Dec 31, 2010

DVA counts votes and reports results to SI GenSec.

SI GenSec advises NatSec and EXCO of Distant Vote Results.

#### ***Compilation of the Voter List for DV Nov 2010***

##### ***Confirm you got this Mailout #1***

If we do not received confirmation by e-mail by 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010, we will try and establish contact by fax or mail (or sms/text?) – if these are in the Dolphin Key List.

##### ***Tell us who the Authorised Voter is for your Servas country***

Send your **Voter Contact Confirmation Questionnaire** answers by **17<sup>th</sup> September** to ensure I send the Voting Papers and instructions to the right person by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The other steps will be described in more detail in the Voter Mailouts leading up to the close of voting on 30 November 2010. Background to compiling the Voter List follows.

Regards,

Chris Patterson

Distant Vote Administrator

**Please note and use my direct DVA e-mail: [servasdva@pl.net](mailto:servasdva@pl.net)**

Can you use this e-mail address for all correspondence related to the Distant Vote, thanks.

Mob: +64-274 9297 Fx: +64-9-309 3790 Home: +64-9-630 1555

PO Box 67-040, Mt Eden, Auckland 1349 New Zealand

## **Background to Compilation of Voter List**

As noted in the Voting Procedures in the General Announcement:

“The SI General Secretary has delegated the Distant Vote Administrator to compile the Voter List for DV Nov 2010 by direct contact with the National Secretaries of each country eligible to vote in this Distant Vote to confirm the name and contact details for the person casting the DV vote for their country.”

The Principles set out in the *Servas Regulations for Distant Voting* provide the background and guidance for the compilation of the Voter List for a Distant Vote:

*“Principle 1/ The Distant Voting process shall operate by sending the motions and the voting information to the National Secretary of each member group who shall ensure the Distant Vote is sent in for counting.*

*Principle 2/ The aim of the Distant Voting process is to allow all member groups to participate without being unduly disadvantaged by issues of language, distance, available finances and access to information technology.*

*Principle 3/ Each member group shall decide itself who will cast the distant vote on their behalf and how the group will determine if the vote on each motion is to be ‘for’, ‘against’ or ‘abstain’.*”

In terms of compiling the Voter List for DV Nov 2010 we need you to confirm:

- a) the name and contact details for the Authorised Voter for their member group;
  - b) the preferred methods of communication for the Distant Voting process;
  - c) the preferred language for written material and if possible, one or more other languages that would be acceptable;
- (Section 5; Responsibilities and Procedures of the Regulations.)

Thus we need to check and confirm that Distant Vote information is getting through to each Servas Member Group eligible to vote and to confirm details for their Authorised Voter. (Typically the National Secretary, but the Nat Sec does not need to be the Authorised Voter.)

*Note: These questions can be answered by sending a reply to the covering e-mail, and inserting your answers after the questions at the end of the e-mail.*

### **Confirmation of Receipt of Voter Mailout #1**

If we do not received confirmation by e-mail by 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010, we will try and establish contact by fax or mail (or sms/text?) – if these are listed in the Dolphin Key List.

### **Authorised Voter for DV Nov 2010**

Please advise/confirm the contact details for the Authorised Voter for your country, name and contact details – in particular the e-mail address that Voting Papers and voting information should be sent to for DV Nov 2010.

Note: This e-mail address will only be used for communications related to DV Nov 2010 so we can send Voting Papers etc. directly to the voter.

***It will not change the contact details for the voter or the country in Dolphin Key List.***

### ***Preferred Method of Communication***

As you will see in the outline of the Voting Procedures in the General Announcement, e-mail will be the primary method of voting for DV Nov 2010. It will also be the primary method of communicating with voters. Where this is not practical for particular voters, we are able to send information and Voting Papers by fax or by mail.

Is it practical for your Authorised Voter to receive information and the Voting Papers by e-mail?

Are they able to receive and read attachments in PDF format?

[PDF = Portable Document Format, is an open standard for document exchange. The file format created by Adobe Systems is generally readable by most internet browsers.]

*Note: This document has been sent to you in PDF format.*

**If e-mail is not practical for your Authorised Voter**, would they prefer the Voting Paper and instructions to be sent to them:

A / By fax? ( please advise fax number)

or

B/ By mail? ( please advise postal address)

**NOTE: Voting papers and instructions will only be sent by e-mail or one of the above.**

### ***Translation for Distant Vote***

Following on from the practice at the last two General Assemblies, arrangements have been made to translate Distant Vote information, Voting Papers and instructions into Spanish – 14 of the 78 member countries are Spanish speaking!

The Spanish translation is being done by a Servas volunteer. Thank you Pablo Colangelo!

Translation of this information into other languages can be done using “Google Translate”. This is in the list of services/tools displayed on the top left side of the Google web page.

The basic process is:

Click the “Translate” link; ‘copy & paste’ the text you want to translate into the box/area; select the language you want; click the “Translate” button - the translation is displayed in a box/area below – you can the copy & paste the translation to your own document.

I used Google Translate on messages received in Spanish from voters in the election for the South America Area Coordinator.

The translations, I understand, can be a bit rough, but you get the sense of the message.

Please contact me if you need help – if necessary I will use Google to translate!

### ***E-mail Questionnaire Reply***

**The questions above have been listed at the end of the covering e-mail.**

**Please send me your answers by clicking "Reply" to this message and entering your answers against the questions.**

**OR**

**Copy the questions to a new message, enter your answers and send it to my DVA e-mail address: [servasdva@pl.net](mailto:servasdva@pl.net)**