

議會主席選舉的新規定

New procedures for TIC Chairman election

本刊記者 Staff reporter

在去年十二月十七日的特別會員大會上，與會會員通過了一項修訂議會《組織章程大綱及細則》十餘項條文的特別決議案，有關修訂其後並已得到財政司司長批准。在修訂了的條文中，有一項是關於主席選舉的，而現任主席袁家齊先生的任期又正好今年屆滿，因此新一任主席的選舉將首次按新修訂的會章舉行。以下是新舊選舉規定的簡單比較。

舊規定

概括而言，在以前的選舉規定中，要參加主席選舉，必須符合以下資格：(一)連續五年擔任一家基本會員的行政總裁之職；(二)曾任屬會主席或副主席一年，或屬會執委會委員兩年；(三)曾任議會理事一年。此外，合資格的人士還須得到不少於半數屬會的提名，然後才可成為主席選舉的候選人。選舉新任主席的會議，必須在將卸任主席任期屆滿的週年大會前兩個工作天內舉行，由全體理事以不記名投票方式選出新主席。主席任期為三年，由接任起至第三次會員週年大會結束為止。

這樣的選舉規定，可能會招來責難，說候選人只需尋求屬會的支持就行了，結果令會員覺得不受重視，連主席選舉這樣的大事都無法參與。表面上看這種觀點雖然未始全無道理，但細心一想則可發現有點過甚其辭。不錯，主席選舉的候選人只需得到屬會提名就可參選，但有關提名也必須經過屬會執委會通過才能生效。既然會員對屬會執委會的選舉有參與權，因此，在議會主席選舉方面，會員的參與只是間接而已，並不是全無參與。再者，任何候選人都必須曾任議會理事會或屬會執委會成員之職，足可證明已得到同業的廣泛支持。

At the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 17 December last year, the resolution to amend a dozen or so clauses and articles of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the TIC was passed and the amendments were subsequently approved by the Financial Secretary. As one of the amended articles concerns the election of Chairman and the office of the incumbent Chairman, Mr Ronnie Yuen, is to expire this year, the election of a new Chairman will be for the first time conducted in accordance with the newly adopted procedures. A brief comparison is therefore made between the former and new procedures for Chairman election.

Former procedures

Roughly speaking, to qualify for standing election for TIC Chairman, a person had to (i) be the chief executive of an Ordinary Member for five consecutive years, (ii) have served as the chairman or vice chairman of one of the Association Members for one year, or as an executive council member for two consecutive years, and (iii) have served as a TIC Director for one year. Those who met the qualifications had to be nominated by at least half of the Association Members in order to become a candidate for Chairman. A new Chairman would be elected by secret ballot by all members of the Board at a meeting held within two business days before the AGM at the conclusion of which the office of the outgoing Chairman expired. The Chairman was to hold office until the conclusion of the third AGM following his/her assumption of the office of Chairman.

Such an electoral system, some might criticise, would be tantamount to marginalising members and stripping them of a say in the election since the requirement for candidature was nominations from the Association Members alone. On the face of it, this viewpoint would appear to have a grain of truth in it; but on examination, it would turn out to verge on exaggeration as a matter of fact. Yes, candidates for TIC Chairman only needed to seek nominations from the Association Members. These nominations, however, also had to have the blessing of their respective executive councils, whose members were elected in various ways by member agents. As such, members were engaged in the election of Chairman in an indirect manner, rather than being excluded from it altogether. Besides, the candidates nominated ought

新規定

在新的選舉規定下，不妨說是把以前對參選主席的要求都撤除了，因為現在只要是獨立理事以外的理事，就都合乎參選資格；換言之，所有業界理事都可參選。要成為業界理事有兩種方法，一是以屬會主席或代表的身份加入理事會，一是參加直選，在週年大會上由會員選出成為選舉產生理事。在作出這個轉變後，主席選舉的候選人要麼得到會員的直接支持(如果是選舉產生理事的話)，要麼得到會員的間接支持(如果是屬會主席或代表的話)。任何合資格的理事，只要得到三位理事的提名就可成為候選人；業界和獨立理事都可提名一人參選。

另一個重要的分別是，新規定要求選出主席的會議必須在將卸任主席接任後的第三次會員週年大會後的兩個工作天內舉行(而不是大會前的兩個工作天內)，由全體理事以不記名投票方式選出新主席。之所以有這項改變，是因為新主席應由新一屆理事選出，以反映新任理事的意見。主席任期仍為三年，由接任起至選出新任主席的會議結束為止。主席的連續任期最多為兩屆。TIC

週年大會

日期：二零零三年十一月十二日

地點：香港洲際酒店宴會廳

主席選舉

日期：二零零三年十一月十四日

地點：議會會議室

Annual General Meeting

Date: 12 November 2003

Venue: Ballroom, Hotel Inter-Continental Hong Kong

Chairman election

Date: 14 November 2003

Venue: TIC Conference Room

to have served respectively on the Boards of the Association Members and the TIC, which was proof to their wide recognition by industry members.

New procedures

It may well be said that the new electoral system has virtually eliminated all the previous requirements for standing election for Chairman, since any TIC Directors other than the Independent Directors are eligible to be nominated and elected to be Chairman. That is to say, all trade Directors are now eligible. And to become a trade Director, a person has either to be the chairman or representative of an Association Member or be directly elected by members to the Board at an AGM. By making such a change, candidates for Chairman will have the direct backing of members (when they are Elected Directors) or the indirect support of members (when they are representing the Association Members). Candidature for Chairman election requires three nominations from trade or non-trade Directors, each of whom can nominate one person.

Another major difference is that under the new procedures, a new Chairman will be elected by secret ballot by all members of the Board at a meeting held within two business days after, rather than before, the third AGM following the assumption of office by the outgoing Chairman. The rationale behind this amendment is simple: a new Chairman should be elected by a new Board of Directors in order to reflect the opinions of the new Directors. Finally, the term of office for Chairman remains three years, which is from the assumption of the office of Chairman until the conclusion of the meeting at which an incoming Chairman is elected. A Chairman can hold office for not more than two consecutive terms. TIC

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