**Current GNSO Council Practice in relation to motions, seconder and amendments**

Step 1: A motion is submitted to the GNSO Council by a current GNSO Council member via the Council mailing list. The proposer may expressly request that the motion be seconded by another GNSO Council member.

Step 2: A different GNSO Council member seconds the submitted motion, either in response to the proposer’s request or to a call for a seconder by the GNSO Chair or Secretariat. The motion may be seconded up until a vote takes place during a Council meeting and there is no limit to the number of seconders.

Step 3: If submitted in time for the next Council meeting, the motion is automatically placed on the Council’s meeting agenda and published on the motions page of the Council wiki space, identifying the proposer and seconder (if available)[[1]](#footnote-1).

Step 4: The motion is discussed at the Council meeting. The motion proceeds to a vote[[2]](#footnote-2) only if it has been seconded by a GNSO Council member (other than the proposer) prior to the vote being called.

**Additional Steps When a Proposed Amendment is Submitted:**

* Any GNSO Council member may submit a proposed amendment to the submitted motion at any time prior to the vote being called;
* The proposed amendment is incorporated into the motion to be voted on only if both the proposer and seconder of the original motion accept the proposal as a friendly amendment (where there is not yet a seconder, only the proposer needs to accept the proposal as friendly);
* If the amendment is not accepted as friendly by either the proposer or seconder, the Council first votes on whether to accept the proposed amendment (threshold: simple majority);
* If the Council vote is affirmative, the motion as amended is then voted on by the Council in accordance with the GNSO Operating Procedures;
* If the Council vote falls below the simple majority threshold, the proposed amendment is not incorporated into the original motion, and the Council proceeds to vote on the original motion.

1. Note that because the Council’s practice permits a motion to be seconded up to the point just before a vote is called, the motion as proposed can be published and placed on the meeting agenda without it first being seconded. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. See the following section for a further description of the actual motion that is voted on when an amendment to the original text is proposed. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)