Principles of governance for WFC office holders

September 2015
The following principles of governance are modelled on the Nolan Principles (1995), which formed the basis for conduct and behaviour in public life. The WFC has adopted these principles as standards for serving Executive and Council members and those appointed to serve on WFC committees.

**Selflessness**
Notwithstanding those duties to the regions that have appointed WFC Council members, those appointed to serve in office should act principally in the interests of the WFC and its country members.

**Integrity**
Those appointed to serve in office must avoid placing themselves under any obligation to people or organisations that might try to influence them inappropriately in their work. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their families or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests or relationships.

**Objectivity**
Those appointed to serve in office must act and take decisions impartially, fairly and on merit, using the best evidence and without discrimination or bias.

**Accountability**
Those appointed to serve in office are accountable to the organisation and its country members for their decisions and actions and must submit themselves to the scrutiny necessary to ensure this.

**Openness**
Those appointed to serve in office should act and take decisions in an open and transparent manner. Information should not be withheld unless there are clear grounds for doing so.
Honesty
Those appointed to serve in office should be trustworthy.

Leadership
Those appointed to serve in office should exhibit these principles in their own behaviour. They should actively promote and robustly support the principles and be willing to challenge poor behaviour whenever it occurs.

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