



2021 General Assembly Guidelines

This is your compiled guide to the GA2021 Prep & Motion Exchange Sessions as well as the GA Plenary Sessions. Read through it carefully and get ready for the next steps!



June - July

Prepare for
the GA



August 23 - 26

Join the Prep Sessions
and Motion Exchange



September 13-14

Join the GA Plenary
and Voting Sessions

Prepare for the 2021 General Assembly

Update your contact details

We need to be able to reach you! Please ensure that your contact details are up to date [here](#).

Membership Fee 2021

To be able to amend or second motions and to vote at the GA, your Membership Fee 2021 must be settled.

Important: *payments received after August 13 will not allow the member organisation to participate at the Prep & Motions Sessions or the General Assembly. Please make sure to settle the membership fee before this date.* If it was not done yet, please make sure to do it by **August 13**.

Access your Member Area [here](#).

Voting Registration Code

Your voting code will enable your organisation to register to vote during the GA plenary sessions on September 13 & 14.

Important: Register your vote before August 31, 2021. Late registrations will not be accepted.

Where is my Voting Registration Code?

The code is available in your [Member Area](#). The invitation to register in the Member Area will be sent to the Primary IFOAM Contact and Legal Representative of your organisation by **email** several times.



Join the GA Prep & Motion Exchange Sessions

A total of **5 GA Preparatory & Motion Exchange Sessions** will be held on Zoom, between August 23-26. This is when we will report, discuss, and exchange - **so your participation is key!** In particular, the three sessions covering the World Board and Member motions.

There will be no exchange or debate taking place at the GA Plenary Sessions in September.

Important: you can suggest amendments in the online forum from **August 25 08.00 until August 28, 2021 - 12:00 pm CEST** (see more information further below)

Where are the Zoom links?

Zoom links will be sent to the Primary IFOAM Contact of your organisation by **email**. They will also be available in your [Member Area](#). Please register as soon as possible.

How do I suggest Amendments?

The online forum will be open until August 28, 2021 - 12:00 pm CEST
More guidance is given below in the Forum section.

Read our publications

The [Organics In Action](#) is your main resource for this GA. You will find everything you need to know about the GA agenda, motions, WB candidates and bids to host the 2024 Organic World Congress.

The [World Board Term Report](#) keeps you informed on the achievements of the last World Board (2017-21) and the assessment of the Internal Auditors.

Important: *all events will be held on Zoom. Please register using the links in the Member Area. The sessions will also be recorded and shared on our Member Area.*

Voting at the 2021 GA

How can you register to vote?

Register via your [Member Area](#) by **August 31, 2021**.

When your registration is complete, you'll receive a confirmation email. *Check your spam box if you can't see this email*

Appoint the person who will vote on behalf of your organisation. This can be someone working in your organisation but it does not have to be.



Important: Please note that late vote registrations **will not** be accepted. And that you must have an account in the Member Area in order to register your vote. If you did not create one so far, please do so as soon as possible [here](#).

Important to know

- **Vote** - Paid-up member organisations are entitled to 1 vote.
- **Proxy** - If you are unable to attend the GA, you can still exercise your voting right! Simply appoint a trusted person by giving them a *proxy*.
- **Voter** - Each voter is entitled to register up to 4 proxies to vote on behalf of other organisations in addition to their own vote. A person can cast a maximum of 5 votes.

How does it work?

1. Whether this person belongs to your organisation or is an external, **you can appoint them from your [Member Area](#)**.
2. **If you appoint a voter from another member organisation to vote on your organisation's behalf:** find your voting registration code in your [Member Area](#) and forward the code to them. They can then use this code to register to vote in their own member area.
3. **Access to the voting platform** - One week prior to the GA, you'll receive your ID number and password to access the voting platform by email from ga@iffoam.bio.

The Voting Platform: Lumi

Lumi is the independent online voting tool for the General Assembly. Lumi will enable you to use your voting right to vote on motions and elect the new World Board and next host of the OWC.

We have created a tutorial to guide you through LUMI, this will help you be prepared for the GA plenary sessions.

Lumi will be introduced to you at the GA Prep & Motion Exchange Sessions on August 23 as well as at the opening of the GA plenary session on September 13 & 14.

The Lumi credentials to access the platform will be shared with you in due time in the Member Area.

[Watch the Lumi tutorial here.](#)



2021 GA Motions

GA Motion Exchange Sessions

All sessions are scheduled to last between 90 and 130 minutes.

These sessions will prepare you for voting on the motions at the GA plenary sessions. Members who submitted motions will present them and the current World Board members will present their motions.

Member Motions Part I - **Hear about M61 to M69** on August 25 – 09:00 - 11:25 CEST / 24:00 - 02:25 PDT / 19:00 - 21:25 FJT

Member Motions Part II - **Hear about M70 to M78** on August 25 – 17:00 - 19:10 CEST / 8:00 - 10:10 PDT / 3:00 - 5:10 FJT

World Board Motions and Strategic Outlook - **Hear about W51 to W57** on August 26 – 14:00 - 16:20 CEST / 5:00 - 7:20 PDT / 24:00 - 12:20 FJT

Find the full motion texts in the [Organics In Action](#).

The Forum

You may propose **amendments to the original motions** in the online **FORUM**, in writing.

The FORUM will be introduced to you at the [GA Prep & Motion Exchange Sessions](#) on **August 23, 25 & 26**.

Important: As a member, the Forum is your **only opportunity to amend the motions**. There is **no time planned** for motion amendments and debate during the [GA plenary sessions](#) in September. These are dedicated to voting.

Opening of the Forum: **August 25, 2021 - 8:00 am CEST**

Closing of the Forum: **August 28, 2021 - 12:00 pm CEST**

[Watch the Forum tutorial here](#)

How to amend a motion?

You can propose amendments to the motion text by providing a concrete text to ADD to or DELETE from the original motion text in **RED COLOR**. Please use the **strikethrough** function to show what you propose to DELETE. Please suggest amendments in a new thread and in the correct format. Otherwise, they could be overlooked.

Here is an example of how to format an amendment to a motion:

Original Motion text: **black**



Add to amendment text: **red**

Delete from amendment text: **strikethrough**

Original Motion:

"IFOAM - Organics International should convince both the city of Bonn and all the United Nations offices to only supply organic catering in their canteens."

My amendment:

The **World Board** of IFOAM – Organics International should convince ~~both the City of Bonn and~~ all the United Nations offices **in Bonn** to only supply organic catering in their canteens."

Important: Motion amendments will not be accepted after the closing of the Forum.

How to second a motion?

The motioner will consider your amendment and decide whether to accept it as a friendly amendment after the Forum is closed for input.

Important: all amendments in the forum should be seconded by another member. This is done by writing, "**I second this amendment.**" as a **REPLY** to the amendment in the Forum.

Two different cases are to be considered:

- **Case A:** if the proposed amendment is accepted as friendly, it will be integrated in the original motion text and presented as such to be voted on at the GA plenary session.
- **Case B:** if the amendment is considered as not friendly by the motioner, it will be presented for vote to the GA as a *general amendment*, under the condition that another member organisation has seconded the amendment and that the amendment is not negative to the original motion.

Voting on motions, bids to host the OWC2024 and next World Board?

Voting will take place at the GA plenary sessions on September 13 & 14. Members will first vote on the motion amendments and then on the (amended) main motions.

Reminder: At the GA plenary sessions, there will be no time allocated for discussion on motions or amendment of motions.

The GA chair will inform about specific voting procedures on the election of the new World Board and the host of the 2024 OWC & GA.



General Assembly 2021



You can check the statements of the World Board candidates, bids to host the next OWC and motions below.

- [WB Candidacy Statements](#)
- [OWC2024 Bids](#)
- [Submitted motions](#)