

STEPS TO CONSENSUS-FINDING

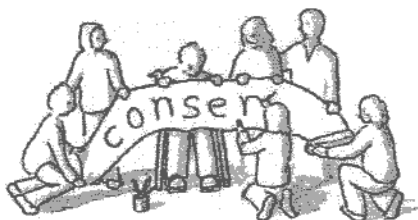


After developing a proposal eligible to reach a consensus, different consensus steps will be checked. Different forms of both agreement and disagreement statements will be considered, which eases the process of reaching a consensus.

First, the proposal should be explicitly mentioned or written down. If this proposal requires no additional clarification, the consensus can be checked by the facilitators:

1. serious concerns	"I have serious concerns about the proposal. I could live with the decision but I wish to change the proposed solution."
2. slight concerns	"I have slight concerns about the proposal. I could live with the decision and go along with it."
3. abstention	"The question is not important for me. I leave the decision up to you and will be part of the implementation."
4. stand aside	"I can't support this proposal but I don't want to stop the group, so I'll let the decision happen without me and I won't be part of implementing it."
5. block	"I see a fundamental disagreement with the core of the proposal. It should not be implemented. We need to look for a new proposal."
6. active agreement	"I agree with the proposal am willing to implement it."

If participants react to concerns, abstention, stand aside or block, they should be given the space to express their viewpoint (if they wish to).



If too many concerns and stand asides occur, alternative proposals should be considered, which are more likely to be supported by a large majority.

After a veto, the group will either restart the process of reaching a common decision or delay it in order to find a better solution.