Resolution: A Variation to the DPC Articles of Association

Introduction
1. Board members are invited to discuss and approve an amendment to the DPC Articles of Association (AoA) as discussed at the board meeting in London in July 2009. This simple amendment clarifies the process by which the Chair is elected.

Context and Discussion
2. The resignation of Ronald Milne as chair before the end of his term of office created a vacancy which has been filled by the Vice Chair, as provided for in article 10.9 of the AoA. However the process for electing a new chair is unclear: whereas the AoA expect the Board to elect a Chair and Vice Chair, practice has been for both to be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Board meeting in July 09 noted that the Chair represents the whole coalition and therefore it is appropriate that the whole membership elect the chair at the AGM as has been customary. Therefore it asked that an amendment to the AoA be produced that brings the constitution into line with existing practice.

3. The amendment below provides for the Chair and Vice Chair to be nominated and elected annually at the AGM with all members and associates participating equally. It also safeguards the board’s right to appoint a chair ad hoc should the need arise (as per articles 6.4, 10.6, 11.5).

Resolution
4. It is proposed that Article 10.2 of the AoA be amended to read:
‘There shall be a Chair and Vice Chair who shall be elected by the membership annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Coalition.’