

04. Strategy – Committee Restructuring

For discussion and decision

In December 2019, the Management Committee members have discussed how the Berne Union could better deliver what the Members need. As a result of the brainstorming, there was a clear interest in revising the current setup of Committees, because the Committees in their current form are no longer fully adequate to deliver the Berne Union's core services. As this is a complex issue, in order to be able to draft a comprehensive proposal addressing all relevant aspects, the Secretariat requests guidance from the MC.

Please find below options with arguments for and against.

Option A

- Keeping the ST, MLT, INV, PC Committees largely intact
- Adding an ECA Committee and a Private Insurers Forum (PIF). Both groups can discuss any business line
- MLT opening to private and multilateral members
- Membership requirement of Committees based on either business threshold or organisation type

Pros: simplest option in terms of transition, probably the least or most straightforward change.

Cons: simply adding 2 more Committees does result in some change of our long-term vision, growth of management committee size, meeting days, subscription fees for most Members, statutes, secretariat costs. It will not solve some data access and transparency issues.

Option B

- Option A. plus committees with adjusted focus and Membership criteria, e.g.:
- Moving single risk from ST to MLT, as ST single risk has more in common with MLT than with ST turnover business
- Move INV to MLT Committee, as there is some overlap here, and enhance the INV Technical Panel for business related to investment insurance proper
- Membership not linked to business threshold requirements, i.e. anyone who writes that business can join

Pros: potentially clearer division of business lines, linked to Committees and clearer Committee membership, could solve the current data sharing issues and provide better alignment of interests.

Cons: See under Option A. In addition, without reconsidering the subscription structure, Members (especially PCC) may still not be encouraged to join other Committees despite absence of thresholds.

Option C

- Overhauling the concept and purpose of member groups and meetings
- E.g. meetings not necessarily along business lines, but according to themes, issues at play, regions, types of risk etc

Pros: unique opportunity without current limitations to create ideal setup catering for most Member needs in a more dynamic way that may allow more relevant delivery, shorter and more concise general meetings, better tailored cost sharing.

Cons: as the structure of the Berne Union roots back to the current Committee structure, substantially changing this requires a major overhaul of structures and processes; Although under Option A and B cost, time and HR should be considered anyway, Option C has the widest impact that we cannot yet oversee.

Based on the selected option, the Secretariat will prepare a roadmap and a detailed set of amendment proposals as per the proposed Action Plan schedule (see "Timeline" document).