


In accordance with World Netball (WN) Article 5.9 Members will be entitled to include items on the agenda for the Congress provided that any such request (accompanied by a brief explanation) is received by the Company at least 60 days before the date of the relevant meeting.

Please submit agenda items and background papers via email to the WN Secretariat before 17:00pm Friday 19 November 2021 with this covering form:

WN Member Country	ST. LUCIA
Full Member	YES
Region	AMERICAS
Agenda Item Title	Geography of World Netball Regions – Disparity in Competitive Advantage
Brief Explanation	<p>St. Lucia's review of the geography of the five netball regions in the world reveals that the current format for qualifying for participation in a WNC does not provide scope for lowly ranked countries like St. Lucia, with a WNR #20, to gain qualification.</p> <p>St. Lucia is a member of the Americas region, which comprises 17 full members and 16 other netball nations – with the potential for 54 member countries in the long term. Of the five (5) WN Regions, the Americas is the most populated.</p> <p>In actuality, St. Lucia is highly disadvantaged because of the disparity and consequent inequity in competitive advantage; arising from differences in relative size and geography of the WN regions.</p> <p>In the current scenario, St. Lucia must compete with (potentially) 16 countries, in her bid to emerge as one of the 2 qualifying countries. In contrast, the least populated region currently has a ratio of 2 of 5 countries. In parallel, the other three region have ratios of 2 of 9, 2 of 10 and 2 of 11.</p> <p>In order to leverage competitive advantage, St. Lucia is requesting that the WN give favourable consideration to the emergence of 3 rather than 2 qualifying countries from the Americas in the WNC2023 Qualifier to be held in Jamaica in October 2022.</p>

	<p>To compensate for the increase in number of qualifying countries from the most populated Americas region, the inequity gap can be bridged by allocating one rather than two qualifying countries to the least populated region. The ratio of 3/16 and 1/5 reflects parity - in contrast with the prevailing inequity of 2/16 for the Americas and 2/5 for the least populated region in the netball world.</p> <p>This adjustment will undoubtedly facilitate the elevation of the WNR of lowly ranked countries that are challenged by geography. Participation in World Netball events will provide the lowly ranked countries, like St. Lucia, with the opportunity to play the highly ranked countries that would not otherwise be available for international netball match engagements.</p> <p>St. Lucia trusts that this request can be accommodated and looks forward to parity across WN regions, in respect of competitive advantage. In anticipation of the indulgence of WN.</p>
List of supporting documents (if any)	<u>GEOGRAPHY OF WN REGIONS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Matrix to illustrate the composition of five (5) WN regions and situating St. Lucia.

Signed:	
Name (capitals)	RUFINA PAUL
Position	PRESIDENT

GEOGRAPHY OF WORLD NETBALL REGIONS

AFRICA Netball Region	
Full Members [11]	Associate Members
Botswana	Burundi
Ivory Coast	Cameroon
Kenya	Congo
Lesotho	Central African Republic
Malawi	Guinea
Namibia	Liberia
South Africa	Morocco
Tanzania	Nigeria
Uganda	Seychelles
Zambia	PLUS 8 Other Netball Nations
Zimbabwe	

EUROPE Netball Region	
Full Members [11]	Associate Members
England	Denmark
Gibraltar	Sweden
Isle of Man	PLUS 8 Other Netball Nations
Israel	
Malta	
Northern Ireland	
Ireland	
Scotland	
Switzerland	
United Arab Emirates	PLUS 8 Other Netball Nations
Wales	

AMERICAS Netball Region	
Full Members [17]	Other Netball Nations
Anguilla	Aruba
Antigua & Barbuda	Bahamas
Argentina	Bonaire
Barbados	British Virgin Islands
Bermuda	Chile
Canada	Cuba
Cayman Islands	Curacao
Dominica	Guyana
Guadeloupe	Haiti
Grenada	St. Eustatius
Jamaica	Uruguay
ST. LUCIA	US Virgin Islands
Sint Maarten	Tortola
St Vincent & the Grenadines	No Associate Members
Trinidad & Tobago	
USA	
St Kitts & Nevis	

ASIA Netball Region	
Full Members [12]	Associate Members
Australia	Bahrain
Brunei	Bangladesh
Chinese Taipei	Japan
Hong Kong	Nepal
India	South Korea
Malaysia	Timor Leste
Maldives	PLUS 7 Other Netball Nations
Pakistan	
Philippines	
Singapore	
Sri Lanka	
Thailand	

OCEANIA Netball Region	
Full Members [6]	Associate Members
Cook Islands	Solomon Islands
Fiji	Norfolk Island
New Zealand	Tokelau
Papua New Guinea	PLUS 1 Other Netball Nation: Niue
Tonga	
Samoa	

COUNTRIES in **RED** are listed in the top 20 on the World Netball Rankings (WNR)