



# Region 1 Workshop

Introductory meeting

March 2021

*International Amateur Radio Union - Working for the future of amateur radio*



# What we will cover today

- Introduction – Don, G3BJ
- Key messages from the 2020 survey of MS – Sylvain , F4GKR
- Action plan – Mats, SM6EAN
- What do we do after this meeting? – Don, G3BJ



# What you told us in the survey



## IARU societies are losing members

- Loss in members in large societies **up to 40%** in last ten years.
- Good examination throughput, but still lose members
- Only one of the largest societies has grown in the last ten years

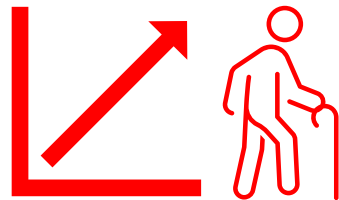




# What you told us in the survey

## ✓ IARU societies are getting older

- Few young amateurs take leadership roles in member societies
  - Only 30% of all MS have a top team member under the age of 35
  - Evidence of lack of new blood in top teams – static leadership teams



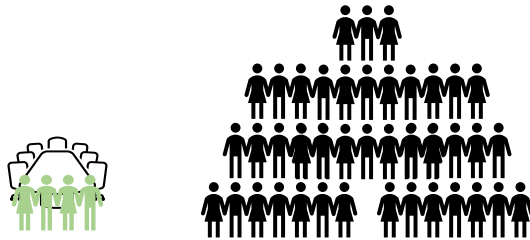


# What you told us in the survey



## IARU societies are losing legitimacy

- Little evidence of engagement with non-members
- Several large societies in a country
  - 40% of larger societies have a rival society
  - Average MS membership = 34% of amateurs in the country





# Discussions in R1 EC and the AC



## Background

- Questionnaire shows IARU's MS have lost numbers steadily over the years
- Technology and how people interact are changing
- The world is changing, what is the future relevance of amateur radio?
- What is the future relevance of IARU and national amateur societies?



## Moving forward

- How can national societies attract new radio amateurs?
- How can IARU support the amateur radio community, and the MS, by adapting to the changes?
- What can IARU and MS do to support the growth of amateur radio?



# What do the EC conclude at this stage?

## → Moving forward

- Business as usual is not an option anymore
- We need to refocus our thinking and way of operating
- By working **together** we may be able to change the current trends
- Whatever the way forward, we all need to “own” it



# Work together and find solutions



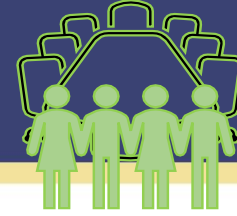
## Moving forward : a Workshop

- Involving member societies and IARU-R1 organisation
- Including also new people in the discussion, we hope to include new ideas and new thinking
- To review the issues and chart a way forward





# Workshop main topics



- What is our shared view of the current state of amateur radio?
- What is our shared future vision for amateur radio?
- What steps do we need to take to meet the future?
- What does this mean for IARU and its member societies?
- What action plans, financing and resources are needed to make these changes?



# Outcomes

- Will determine all our work programs
- Will give MS input, ideas and support for their agenda for the future
- Will give us the chance to reshape how Region 1 spends its income to directly support strategies for restoring health to amateur radio
- Will need the active input of the new generation of radio amateurs
- Will need the active commitment from the societies



# There is no “simple” answer

- Work together on a “direction of travel” for a common set of objectives
- We need to be open for “constant change” to address new challenges
- There will be tough decisions to take
- It seems clear that today’s approach will not work in the future in many societies – or in IARU

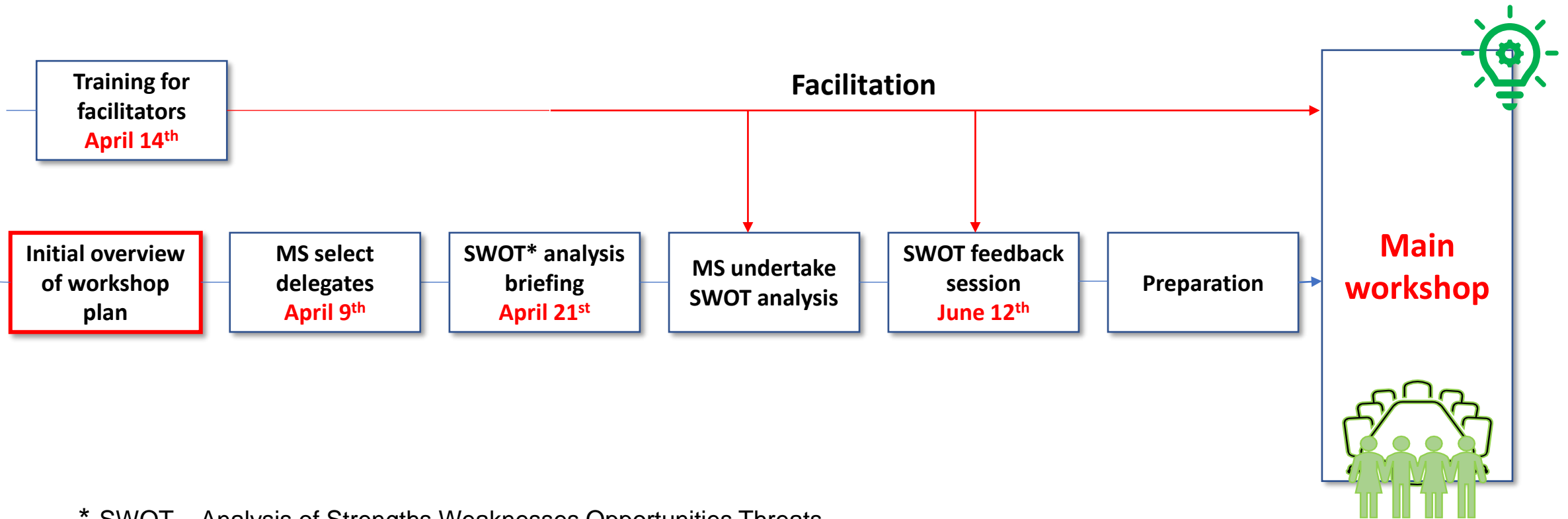


# This process will be efficient with...

- ... the best possible delegates
- ... delegates open to change
- ... a common understanding of where we are
- ... a motivated and non-defensive environment



# The key steps we will follow



\* SWOT - Analysis of Strengths Weaknesses Opportunities Threats



# Why are we doing pre-work?

- We need to build a team of delegates with the right mind-set – getting a head start
- It takes time to build a common understanding of where we are today
- There is not a total confidence about holding in-person event – will COVID allow?
- A virtual event would need to start with some preparation already now
- As a contingency, we have brought forward some parts of the workshop to the next few months

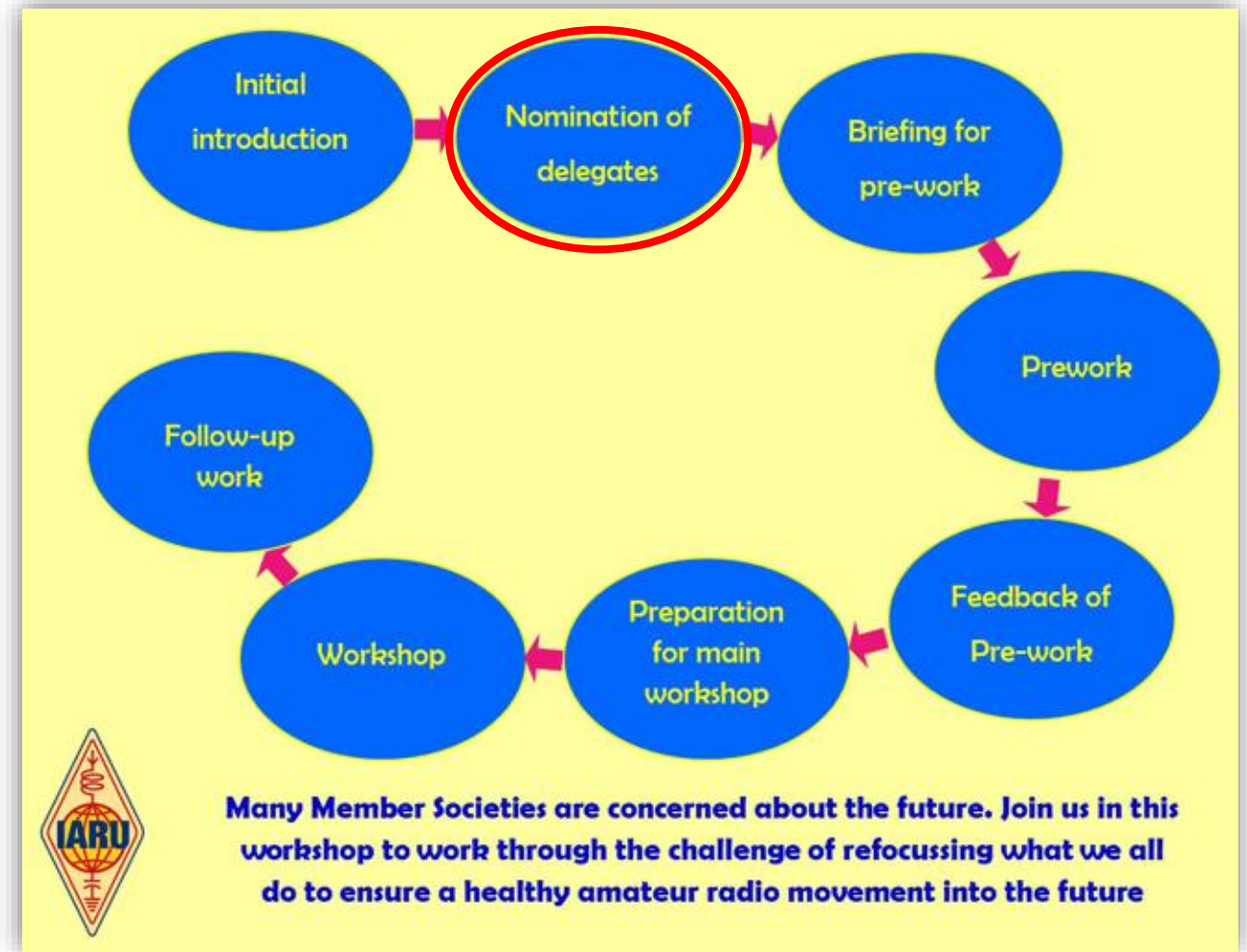
This means:

- **MS need to finalise their choice of delegates quickly**
- This meeting is to help **you** make the choices.



# Current and future steps

Nomination of delegates -  
maybe the most important step





# Delegates

- People who see the need for change and see change as something **positive**
- Able to think strategically – and “out of the box”
- A good representation of “tomorrow’s amateurs”
- Good conversational English
- Able to represent the MS view and commit the MS to action
- Do not necessarily need to be on the leadership team of the society
- We need a mix of delegates from well established and mature societies, as well as from new and smaller societies





# What we need from you now

- To ask questions if you are unclear about what we have presented
- To consider your choice of delegates for the program starting 21 April and to notify us of your choice by 9<sup>th</sup> April
- To brief your delegates and explain that the leadership of your society regards this work as “mission critical”



# All clear?

Questions & comments?

Point of contact: [secretary@iaru-r1.org](mailto:secretary@iaru-r1.org)

Reminder: Details of delegates before 9<sup>th</sup> April



Thank you!