

# ASTIN Working Parties

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This document outlines the functioning of the ASTIN Working Parties (AWP). For further details or suggestions, please contact Frank Cuypers at [frank.cuypers@prs-zug.com](mailto:frank.cuypers@prs-zug.com) or +41 (41) 725 32 94.

## Goals

The ASTIN Committee (AC) endorses AWP with the intention to:

- Foster applied research related to practical and useful non-life insurance topics.
- Extract more value from the intellectual potential of the ASTIN membership.
- Provide an added value to the ASTIN membership.

## Guiding Principles

An AWP is a self-organized group of experts (actuarial and more) with a focused applied research goal specified by Terms of Reference (ToR).

The AC provides the AWP with support in the form of governance, appropriate funding and access to the IAA infrastructure.

The framework governing the AWP is described in the following paragraphs. In the event this framework proves to be inadequate to achieve the set out aims, the AC may decide on an ad hoc base how to adapt it.

## Process

The process governing the formation, work and wrap-up of an AWP is depicted in Figure 1.

It starts with the founding members of the potential AWP submitting its ToR to the AC. These ToR, should include at least:

- The precise specification aim of the AWP.  
This aim should clear-cut and narrow in scope to ensure concrete findings can be achieved within the timeline.
- The timeline and milestones to achieve this aim.  
The timeline should be short enough to ensure the members of the AWP stay motivated.
- The tasks and responsibilities of the AWP members.  
An AWP must have at least a chairperson, who bears the responsibility for coordinating the AWP according to its ToR and for ensuring the communications with the AC. Other roles can be defined according to the goals and needs of the AWP.
- The modalities of the AWP to recruit further members beyond its founding members.  
As a matter of principles, anybody can join an AWP: ASTIN membership is not required, although only ASTIN members may benefit from funding.

Upon evaluation, the AC either rejects or approves the AWP. In general the AC will favor AWP, which:

- are focused and short-lived rather than broad long-tailed;
- address practical and useful themes rather than purely theoretical ones;
- encourage and foster the participation of younger actuaries and of actuaries from developing economies.

Upon approval, the AC advertizes the AWP and invites ASTIN members to join. The AWP performs the work specified in its ToR and by the deadline specified in its ToR it submits its findings in the form of a report or research paper to the AC. The AC decides whether to ignore or endorse the findings. If endorsed, the AC may on a discretionary basis:

- Arrange the dissemination of the findings through an “invited discussion paper” in the ASTIN Bulletin or other publications.
- Organize webinars where members of the AWP can explain their findings to the ASTIN membership.
- Fund the participation of some members of the AWP to the next convenient ASTIN Colloquium to present their findings. Only ASTIN members can benefit from this funding.

The AWP may suggest further forms of active endorsement to the AC.

## **ASTIN Support**

The AC can provide on a discretionary basis the AWP with support in different forms, including:

- IAA mailing lists
- Telephone conferences
- Wiki facilities
- Webinars
- Meeting rooms and facilities at ASTIN Colloquia
- Specific funding

In its ToR the AWP can request these or other forms of support, but solely the AC decides which concrete instruments it eventually provides.

## **Acronyms**

AC	ASTIN Committee
AWP	ASTIN Working Party
ToR	Terms of Reference

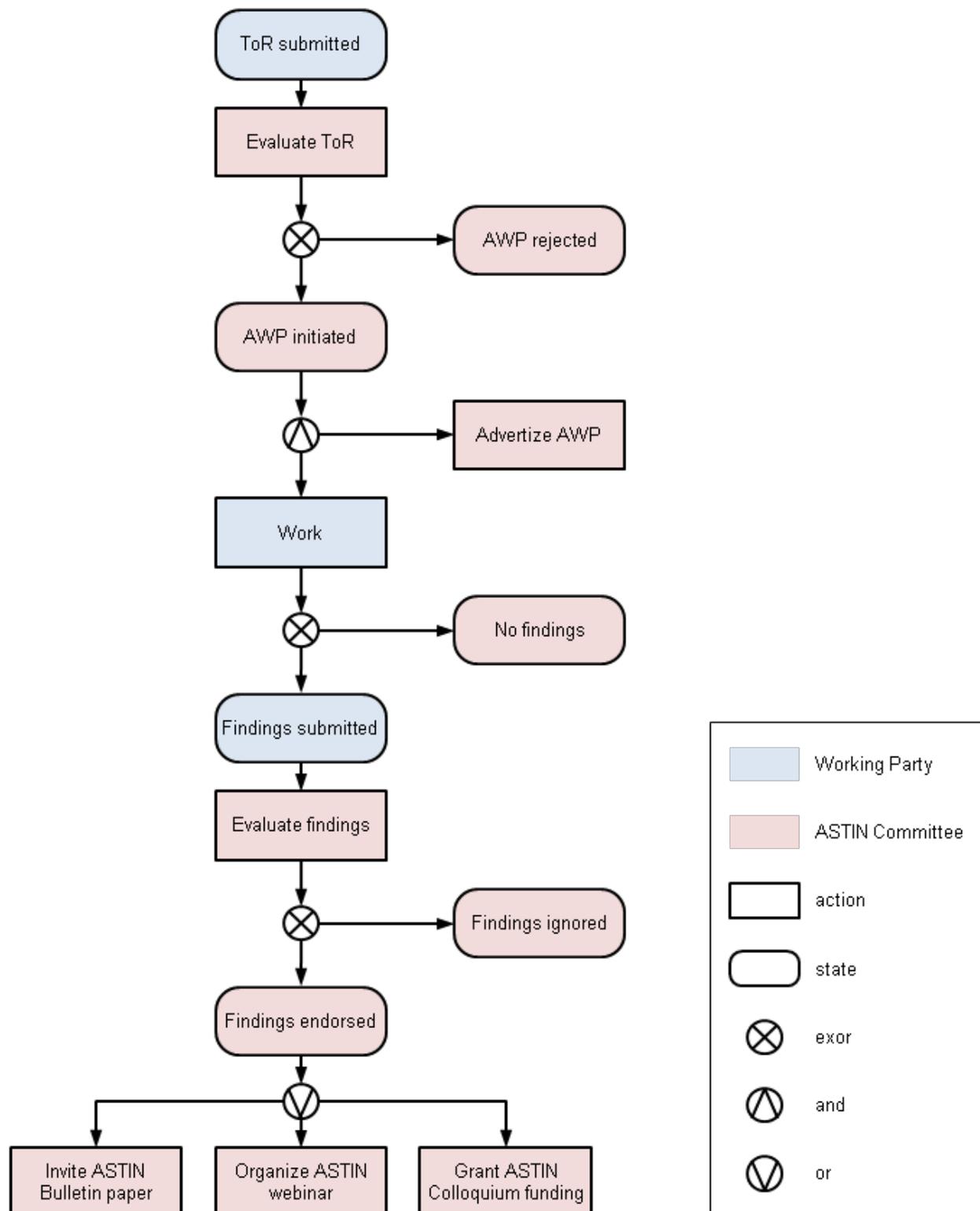


Figure 1: AWP process