

High-Level Comparison: Committees, Forums and Virtual Forums

	Committee	Forum	Virtual Forum
Members¹	Full Member Association (FMA) designated	FMA designated	Same as a Forum
Observers²	FMA designated	FMA designated	Same as a Forum
Purpose	In general, to engage in activities to promote the actuarial viewpoint on the relevant topic at the global level/discuss and exchange information on the topic. Mainly supports IAA Strategic Objectives Impact and/or Assure (excluding statutory committees)	Facilitate discussion and knowledge-sharing among FMAs on issues of international relevance for actuaries on the relevant topics. Mainly supports IAA's Advance Strategic Objective.	Same as a Forum
Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage in various activities within its the purpose (bottom-up), as determined on a yearly workplan approved by the Executive Committee. • Provide a Forum for discussion and knowledge sharing. • Serve as a ready pool of resources for IAA activities. • Be a source of information about FMA activities. <p>Do + Share information</p>	<p>Within its purpose, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a forum for FMAs to exchange knowledge and latest developments and learn from one another • Identify and inform the Advance Committee of current and evolving challenges and opportunities relevant to the global actuarial profession • Recommend potential projects to the Advance Committee for consideration • Serve as a ready pool of resources to draw on, when needed, for relevant IAA activities • Be a source of information about Member Association activities <p>Only share information</p>	Same as a Forum
Nature of entity	Permanent, with FMA support	Continuity subject to periodic review by AC & FMA support.	Same as a Forum
Operational aspects – Meetings/etc.	Virtual + Face to Face meetings	Mostly virtual using Zoom and Community tools/Website. 1 in-person (hybrid) meeting per year	Same as a Forum, but no in-person meetings.

¹ Members must be a MWAC (Member with Actuarial Credential) of the nominating FMA.

² FMAs have the opportunity to designate multiple observers to a Committee or Forum. They should be members of the designating FMA.

Frequently Asked Questions about Forums and Virtual Forums

	Committee	Forum	Virtual Forum
IAA Secretariat resources/ FMA resources	<i>IAA Secretariat:</i> maintaining membership records/ distribution lists, meeting support, activity/project related support, website maintenance, volunteer coordination and engagement, problem solving <i>FMA & IAA:</i> costs associated with in-person meetings, once or twice a year.	<i>IAA Secretariat:</i> maintaining membership records, limited support for virtual meetings, website maintenance. FMA & IAA: lower costs associated with in-person meetings, only once a year.	IAA Secretariat: Same as a Forum FMA & IAA: costs associated with in-person meetings eliminated.
Reporting	Reports to EC	Reports to Advance Committee.	Reports to Advance Committee.

1. Can a FMA appoint/support more than one observer to a Forum or a Virtual Forum?

Yes. If an individual wishes to be an observer in a Forum or a Virtual Forum, he/she should request their FMA to send a message to the IAA Secretariat using secretariat@actuaries.org.

2. Will there be an orientation/training for new members/observers of a Forum?

Yes, the Secretariat and the Advance Committee leadership will arrange training sessions from time to time.

The IAA website also has a [Support page](#) hosting many instruction videos for volunteers.

The recording of the Training and Orientation Webinar held on 17 February 2021 can also be found on our YouTube [page here](#) (Total duration 52 mins; demo on using Community Tools starts at 38 mins)

3. Is there a restriction on the number of Zoom meetings a Forum or Virtual Forum may have?

No. The Chair can schedule Zoom meetings as needed by requesting a meeting from the Secretariat.

4. I have a question or need clarification on something relating to Forums, whom should I contact?

Please contact Amali Seneviratne, Director Technical Activities (amali.seneviratne@actuaries.org) OR

Nancy Kelly, Administrative Assistant Technical Activities (nancy.kelly@actuaries.org)

5. Can members of the Forum volunteer to be on Time Limited Task Forces?

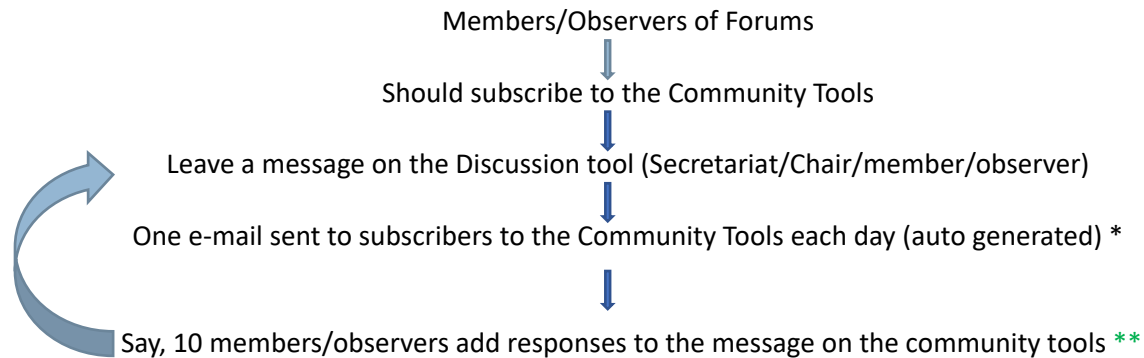
Yes indeed! Task Forces will generally have a limited number of members, selected and approved by the Advance Committee leadership, based on the ability to contribute to the project assigned to the Task force.

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Work products of the Task Force may be shared with the relevant Forums for input as deemed fit. So, there is opportunity for Forum members to be involved in IAA activities via the Task Forces.

6. How will Forum members/observers communicate with others in their Forum?

Members/observers may use the Discussion Tool communicate with other members in the group. This avoids receiving volumes of emails and needlessly lengthy email chains.



*The discussion trail is listed in chronological order under the discussion topic.

***E-mails may cross due to people responding concurrently, and some may also not pick up the last e-mail to respond; so, finding a complete trail of the discussion can be often pretty messy in e-mail discussions!*

7. Can the Forum start an activity under the IAA banner/logo or respond to a request by a Supranational organization?

No. If the Forum identifies an activity that they deem appropriate for the IAA to be involved in, a proposal should be submitted to the Advance Committee leadership (via the liaison). The activity, if approved by the Advance Committee, will be done by a Time Limited Task Force set up for the purpose with a specific mandate.

If it is an activity relating to a Supranational organization, then the relevant Relationship Manager should be consulted via the Advance Committee leadership.

8. How are Forums different than IAA Sections?

IAA Sections are designated for individuals who pay an individual membership fee to become a member of an IAA Section. IAA Forums are discussion entities designed for Member Associations of the IAA where the participants are designated by Full Member Associations of the IAA.

Frequently Asked Questions about Forums and Virtual Forums

9. Can individuals participate in Forums without being designated by their FMA?

No, participants to Forums must be designated by their FMA.

10. How is the membership of a time limited task force determined?

Ad-hoc task forces will be established to “do” projects approved by the Advance Committee. Members of Forums and Committees can volunteer to be on task forces by responding to calls for volunteers.