

**The Northern Forum  
Resolution #32**

**Concerning Criteria to be Met by Priority Projects**

Whereas the principal activities of the Northern Forum have up to this time consisted of the development and pursuit of Priority Projects.

Whereas there have been a number of Priority Projects proposed and adopted by the Board of Directors.

Whereas several of these projects have been largely inactive since their adoption.

Whereas there is a need to focus the efforts of the Northern Forum Secretariats and member regions on those projects that will have the greatest chance of success and that are actively supported by the greatest possible number of member regions.

Whereas defined by the Priority Project Guidelines, approved by the Board of Directors at the meeting in Rovaniemi, Finland in September 1994, establishes guidelines for the proposal, adoption, and conduct of Priority Projects.

Whereas the Regional Coordinators meeting in Anchorage in June of 1995 recommended that criteria should be established that would be applied to the determination of the suitability of a proposed project to be designated as a Priority Project or to be approved for continuation as a Priority Project.

The Board of Directors of the Northern Forum hereby resolves:

1) that in order to be adopted as a Priority Project, a proposed project must be demonstrated to substantially meet all of the criteria listed in Item 4 below.

2) that in order to be continued as a Priority Project, each approved Priority Project must be reviewed annually by the Secretariat, based on information provided by the Project's principal sponsor, to determine whether the Project continues to substantially meet all of the criteria listed in Item 4 below.

3) that all decisions to adopt a Priority Project, continue an existing Priority Project, redesignate a Priority Project as an Endorsed Project, or terminate a Priority Project shall be made by the Board of Directors at their annual meeting, based upon the reports and recommendations of the Secretariat.

4) that the criteria that must be substantially met by Priority Projects include:

a) the project must be sponsored by a member of the Northern Forum Board of Directors, whose region must take the lead responsibility for planning and implementation of the project, with appropriate assistance from the Secretariats and other member regions.

b) the project must have at least two additional member regions that participate as Active participants in the project as defined by the Priority Project Guidelines, approved by the Board of Directors at the meeting in Rovaniemi, Finland in September 1994. A region is considered an active participant (Category A) if the region supplies: (1) a staff person responsible for the project; and (2) financial resources to enable participation at coordinators' meetings and in the project.

c) the project must be consistent with the purposes and principles of The Northern Forum as stated in the Northern Forum Charter; furthermore, priority projects of TNF should avoid unnecessary duplication with ongoing national and international initiatives, and should cooperate with these initiatives to the maximum extent possible.

d) the project must have a clear and concise work plan that must, among other things, specify various responsibilities of the sponsoring region, the Project Committee, member regions that are active participants in the project, and member regions that are cooperating regions in the project.

e) the Project work plan must be approved each year by the Board of Director at the annual meeting.

f) the project must have a financial plan which demonstrates that the project is financially self sustaining, or that the planning and management of the Project is financially self sustaining and there is a reasonable plan for obtaining the funding necessary to fully implement the Project.

g) the project should have a Project Committee as defined by the Priority Project Guidelines, approved by the Board of Directors at the meeting in Rovaniemi, Finland in September 1994.