Proposals for new rules on decisions

There is a desire within VQEG to improve the speed of VQEG projects, especially objective model validation tests. To facilitate this, the VQEG Co-Chairs propose the following new rules on decision-making in VQEG. Currently, 2/3 majority decisions can only be made at face-to-face VQEG meetings.

## Proposal 1

In the future, decisions can be made during Working Group or VQEG audio calls and interim Working Group face-to-face meetings. These decisions can only be overturned later by a 2/3 majority vote, as with decisions made during face-to-face VQEG meetings. For these decisions to qualify under the 2/3 majority rule, the following conditions must be met:

* The meeting and agenda is announced to a VQEG Reflector. The announcement must clearly state that decisions may be taken.
* There is a quorum of 3 organizations in attendance
* The usual rules are used for votes (i.e., one vote per organization)
* Notes are taken and posted to the VQEG website.
* A link to the meeting notes must be sent to the reflector, including an announcement that decisions were made.
* The attendance list is recorded and posted to the VQEG website

## Proposal 2

The only exception is for validation test plans and final reports. After being approved during an audio call or interim meeting, such documents must be ratified at a face-to-face meeting. This ratification will be announced on the VQEG meeting agenda.

## Proposal 3

For objections to ratifying a test plan or final report or other VQEG deliverable (e.g. a Best Practices Document or Technical Report), a document must be submitted to the meeting (preferably 2 weeks before the meeting date). This document must list objections clearly and specifically (e.g., as simple as a bullet list of points for discussion or a long, detailed argument). This written document is required so that the people involved can have a constructive conversation before and during the meeting. For example, everyone involved might agree that the concern is legitimate, and submit an updated version of the test plan or final report to the VQEG meeting.