

Principles of Consensus

Ideal Consensus:

- Unanimity—the group is of one mind

Practical Consensus:

- The minority is willing to go with the majority view because they recognize that the decision meets the needs of the majority and those to whom they are accountable

Practical Consensus exists when the following conditions have been met:

- All members of the group have been heard fully, frankly and respectfully
- All members have been honest in their views and feelings
- All views have been considered without prejudice
- All relevant information has been shared equally among the group

Practical Consensus exists when the following conditions have been met:

- The majority has made every possible effort to mitigate disadvantage to the minority
- Group members are willing to sacrifice their personal position for the sake of the whole group and those it is accountable to
- Members act as if the decision were their own