

intermediate bodies may help keep the LSU meeting at a reasonable size. Groups that experience difficulty in attending the LSU meeting also have the opportunity to use the linear option for the GSU in the same way as groups in Philadelphia and Wisconsin do.

State/National/Province Service Bodies

Service bodies that conform to recognized boundaries are encouraged by the proposals. The current six regions of Brazil could potentially be reorganized into four state/national/province service bodies along these lines:

1. **São Paulo:** The state of São Paulo (the capital of which is the city of São Paulo) currently has two regions, Grande São Paulo and HOW. These have 26 ASCs and 1,200 meetings per week between them. With the use of intermediate bodies if necessary, these could be reformed into around seven to eight LSUs, and a single state/national/province service body. The members are well known to each other and are currently sharing some services so redefining the existing regions in the state of São Paulo could be achievable.
2. **Rio de Janeiro/Espirito Santo:** The Rio region was formed in May 2009, having been a Nucleo for about six years, and covers the state of Rio de Janeiro. Originally Rio was part of the larger Brazil region. The Rio region has 15 areas and 200 groups holding more than 500 meetings a week across the state, with the greatest concentration located in urban areas. The state of Rio de Janeiro could also contain more than one LSU, and could also join with the neighboring state of Espirito Santo to form a single state/national/province service body with around seven to eight LSUs.
3. **Southern Brazil:** The current South Brazil Region consists of the states of Paraná and Santa Catarina, and most of the areas in Rio Grande do Sul. A couple of Rio Grande do Sul's areas have recently split off to become a separate region. [The original draft of the CAR mistakenly said that all of Rio Grande do Sul had split off to become a separate region. Our apologies for the mistake.] One possible arrangement is to combine these three states into a single state/national/province service body. Each state could contain multiple LSUs.
4. The remaining states in the central, northern, and north-eastern parts of Brazil currently form the Brazil Region. Many of these states are sparsely populated or currently have small NA populations. Some of these states will be able to form single LSUs that provide services within their borders. Others could combine to form LSUs that serve multiple states in a similar way to the rural areas of Wisconsin. All of these states could be grouped into a single state/national/province service body. Intermediate bodies may help the more geographically distant LSUs connect with the state/national/province service body.