

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

Eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Gigiri (Kenya), 10-20 April 2000

Strategic and administrative matters

RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. Following the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Management Authority of Spain, with the collaboration of the Secretariat, prepared a draft of a revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties. The main aim of the revision was to provide a more logical structure and to eliminate inconsistencies.
2. The draft was considered by the Standing Committee at its 42nd meeting (Lisbon, 28 September to 1 October 1999). At this meeting, a number of additional changes were made to the draft, including five notable changes of substance.
 - a) The first of these was to establish the Budget Committee as a committee of the Conference of the Parties, rather than as a subcommittee of Committee II.
 - b) The second was to give to Parties that are members of a regional economic integration organization (as defined in the Gaborone amendment, which is not yet in force) the possibility to sit together if they so request.
 - c) The third was to set an order of priority among observers requesting to speak in a debate.
 - d) The fourth was to provide the possibility for non-official documents to be circulated during the meeting without the prior approval of the Secretariat whilst making the organizations concerned responsible to the Bureau for inappropriate statements.
 - e) The fifth was to give the Bureau the right to decide on appropriate action in the case of complaints from participants.
3. Subsequently, the Standing Committee agreed, through a postal procedure, on an amendment to the rule determining the appropriate order of debate where two or more proposals relate to the same taxon but are different in substance (see Rule 23.5 in the Annex). The amendment is intended to remove an ambiguity and to reflect the intention of the equivalent rule adopted at previous meetings (see Rule 18(2) of the Rules adopted at the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties).
4. The Standing Committee has agreed on a draft of Rules of Procedure (Provisional) to be considered for adoption at the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. These are annexed to the present document.

Rules of Procedure
(provisional)

PART I

PARTICIPANTS: DELEGATES, OBSERVERS, SECRETARIAT

Rule 1 – Delegates

1. A State party to the Convention (hereafter referred to as "a Party")¹ shall be entitled to be represented at the meeting by a delegation consisting of a Representative and such Alternative Representatives and Advisers as the Party may deem necessary.
2. An Alternative Representative may at any time act in the place of the Representative.

Rule 2 – Observers

1. The United Nations, its specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as any State not a Party to the Convention may be represented at the meeting by observers who shall have the right to participate in the plenary sessions and sessions of Committees I and II and the Budget Committee but not to vote.²
2. Any body or agency technically qualified in protection, conservation or management of wild fauna and flora which is either:
 - a) an international agency or body, either governmental or non-governmental, or a national governmental agency or body; or
 - b) a national non-governmental agency or body which has been approved for this purpose by the State in which it is located;

and which has informed the Secretariat of the Convention of its desire to be represented at the meeting by observers, shall be permitted to be so represented in the plenary sessions and sessions of Committees I and II and the Budget Committee unless one-third of the Representatives present and voting object. Once admitted, these observers shall have the right to participate but not to vote.³

Rule 3 – Credentials

1. The Representative or any Alternative Representative of a Party shall, before exercising the voting rights of the Party, have been granted powers by, or on behalf of, a proper authority, i.e. the Head of State, the Head of Government or the Minister of Foreign Affairs, enabling him/her to represent the Party at the meeting.
2. Such credentials shall be submitted to the Secretariat of the Convention.
3. The Credentials Committee referred to in Rule 5, paragraph 2, shall examine the credentials and shall report thereon to the meeting. Pending a decision on their credentials, delegates may participate provisionally in the meeting but not vote.

¹ See Convention, Article I, sub-paragraph (h), and Article XXII. A Party is a State that has deposited with the Government of the Swiss Confederation its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession at least 90 days before the meeting.

² See Convention, Article XI, paragraph 6.

³ See Convention, Article XI, paragraph 7.

4. Bodies and agencies desiring to be represented at the meeting by observers shall submit the names of these observers [and, in the case of bodies and agencies referred to in Rule 2, paragraph 2b), of evidence of the approval of the State in which they are located] to the Secretariat of the Convention at least one month prior to the opening of the meeting.

Rule 4 – Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Convention shall service and act as secretariat for the meeting.⁴

PART II

ARRANGEMENT OF THE MEETING

Rule 5 – Plenary sessions, committees and working groups

1. The Conference of the Parties conducts its work in plenary sessions and in committee sessions.
2. The Conference of the Parties shall establish the following sessional committees:
 - a) Committee I, which shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Conference on all proposals to amend the appendices of the Convention and on any matter of a primarily biological nature.
 - b) Committee II, which shall act similarly in relation to other matters to be decided upon by the Conference.
 - c) The Budget Committee, which shall be responsible for making recommendations to the Conference in relation to all financial matters.
 - d) The Credentials Committee, of not more than five Representatives of different Parties, which shall report to the meeting.
3. The Conference and Committees I and II and the Budget Committee may establish such working groups as may be necessary to enable them to carry out their functions. They shall define the terms of reference and composition of each working group, the size of which may be limited according to the number of places available in assembly rooms.
4. Each working group shall elect its own officers.
5. In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the Plants Committee of the Conference of the Parties shall serve as a plants working group, if so requested by the Conference or by Committees I and II, to deal with specific issues.

Rule 6 – Rules of Procedure of committees and working groups

Insofar as they are applicable, these Rules shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the proceedings of committees and working groups.

Rule 7 – Quorum

A quorum for a plenary session of the meeting or for a session of Committee I or II shall consist of one-half of the Parties having delegations at the meeting. No plenary session or session of Committee I or II shall take place in the absence of a quorum.

⁴ See Convention, Article XII, paragraph 2(a).

Rule 8 – Working languages

1. English, French and Spanish shall be the working languages of the meeting.
2. Speeches made in any of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working languages in plenary session and sessions of Committees I and II and of the Budget Committee. Interpretation shall be provided in sessions of other committees and working groups only if resources allow.
3. The official documents of the meeting shall be distributed in the working languages.

Rule 9 – Other languages

1. A participant may speak in a language other than a working language. He/she shall be responsible for providing interpretation into a working language. Interpretation by the Secretariat into the other working languages may be based upon that interpretation.
2. Any document submitted to the Secretariat in any language other than a working language shall be accompanied by a translation into one of the working languages.

Rule 10 – Summary records

1. Summary records of plenary sessions and of sessions of Committees I and II and the Budget Committee shall be kept by the Secretariat in the working languages of the meeting. These shall be circulated to all Parties as soon as possible after the meeting.
2. The Credentials Committee and working groups shall decide upon the form in which their records shall be prepared.

Rule 11 – Seating

1. Delegations shall, as a general rule, be seated in accordance with the alphabetical order of the English language names of the Parties they represent.
2. However, delegations of Parties that are members of a regional economic integration organization⁵ shall, at their request, be seated together.
3. Seating limitations may require that no more than four delegates of any Party be present at plenary sessions and sessions of Committees I and II and the Budget Committee.
4. Observers shall be seated in one or more designated areas within the meeting room. They may enter an area designated for delegations only when invited to do so by a delegate.
5. Seating limitations may require that no more than two observers from any State not a Party, body or agency be present at plenary sessions and sessions of Committees I and II and the Budget Committee.

Rule 12 – Publicity of debates

1. All plenary sessions of the meeting and sessions of Committees I and II and the Budget Committee shall be open to the public. However any single session may be closed to the public by a decision of a simple majority of the Representatives present and voting.

⁵ *This means a regional economic integration organization constituted by sovereign States that have competence in respect of the negotiation, conclusion and implementation of international agreements in matters transferred to them by their Member States and covered by the Convention.*

2. As a general rule, sessions of committees and working groups other than Committees I and II and the Budget Committee shall be limited to the delegates and those observers invited by the Chairmen of the committees or working groups.

Rule 13 – Media

1. Representatives of the media may attend the meeting after they have been accredited by the Secretariat. Plenary sessions and sessions of Committees I and II and the Budget Committee are open to the representatives of the media, except if such sessions are closed to the public.
2. The representatives of the media shall be seated in a designated area within the meeting room. Photographers and television crews may only enter the areas designated for delegations and for observers when invited to do so by the Chairman of the Conference or the Chairman of Committee I or II or the Budget Committee, and for as long as they are so authorized. Requests for such authorization shall be addressed to the Secretariat.

PART III

OFFICERS

Rule 14 – Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen

1. The Chairman of the Standing Committee shall act as temporary Chairman of the Conference until the Conference of the Parties elects a Chairman in accordance with Rule 14, paragraph 2.
2. The Conference of the Parties shall elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen of the Conference to preside over plenary sessions of the meeting. It shall also elect a Chairman for each of the Committees I and II, and the Budget and Credentials Committees. Candidates for these offices shall be nominated by the Standing Committee in consultation, where applicable, with the Host Government, which shall satisfy themselves that the candidates are, *prima facie*, capable of impartially expediting the business of the Conference. As the Chairman has no vote there is no other qualification required for nomination.
3. The Chairman of the Conference shall preside at all plenary sessions of the meeting.
4. If the Chairman of the Conference is absent or is unable to discharge his/her duties, the Bureau shall nominate one of the Vice-Chairmen of the Conference to deputize for him/her as Presiding Officer.
5. If the Chairman of a Committee is absent or is unable to discharge his/her duties, the Bureau shall nominate one of the Vice-Chairmen of the Conference to deputize for him/her as Presiding Officer.
6. The Presiding Officer shall not vote.

Rule 15 – Bureau

1. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen of the Conference, the Chairmen of Committees I and II and of the Budget Committee and the Credentials Committee, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat shall constitute the Bureau of the Conference with the general duty of ensuring the effective enforcement of the Rules of Procedure and forwarding the business of the meeting, and shall take such steps as are necessary to alter the timetable or structure of the meeting to ensure the effective completion of business including, as a last resort, the limiting of time for debates.
2. The Chairman of the Conference shall preside over the Bureau.

PART IV

RULES OF ORDER AND DEBATE

Rule 16 – Powers of Presiding Officer

1. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere in these Rules, the Presiding Officer shall at plenary sessions of the meeting and at sessions of Committees I and II, the Budget Committee, the Credentials Committee and working groups:
 - a) declare the session open and closed;
 - b) direct the discussion;
 - c) ensure the observance of these Rules;
 - d) accord the right to speak;
 - e) put questions to a vote and announce decisions;
 - f) rule on points of order;
 - g) subject to these Rules, have complete control of the proceedings and the maintenance of order; and
 - h) where necessary, determine that Rule 11, paragraph 3 or 5, shall be applied.
2. The Presiding Officer may, in the course of discussion at a plenary session of the meeting or at sessions of Committees I and II, the Budget Committee, the Credentials Committee and working groups, propose:
 - a) time limits for speakers;
 - b) limitation of the number of times the members of a delegation or the observers from a State not a Party, body or agency may speak on any question;
 - c) the closure of the list of speakers;
 - d) the adjournment or the closure of the debate on the particular subject or question under discussion; and
 - e) the suspension or adjournment of the session.

Rule 17 – Right to speak

1. The Presiding Officer shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak and shall give precedence to the delegates. Amongst observers, precedence shall be given to non-Party States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, in this order.
2. A delegate or observer shall speak only if called upon by the Presiding Officer, who may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.
3. A speaker shall not be interrupted except on a point of order. He/she may, however, with the permission of the Presiding Officer, give way during his/her speech to allow any other delegate or observer to request elucidation on a particular point in that speech.
4. The Chairman of a committee or working group may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusion arrived at by that committee or working group.

5. The Conference and Committees I and II and the Budget Committee may, on a proposal by the Presiding Officer or by a Representative, limit the time to be allowed to each speaker and the number of times the members of a delegation or the observers either from a State not a Party, or from an agency or body may speak on any question. When the debate is subject to such limits, and a speaker has spoken for his/her allotted time, the Presiding Officer shall call him/her to order without delay.
6. During the course of a debate the Presiding Officer may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Conference, Committee I or II or the Budget Committee, declare the list closed. He/she may, however, accord the right of reply to any delegate or observer if a speech delivered after he/she has declared the list closed makes this desirable.

Rule 18 – Procedural motions

1. During the discussion of any matter, a Representative may rise to a point of order. Except in cases where the speaker wishes to propose one of the motions referred to in paragraph 2, the point of order shall be immediately decided by the Presiding Officer. A Representative may appeal against the ruling of the Presiding Officer. The appeal shall be immediately put to a vote and the Presiding Officer's ruling shall stand unless a simple majority of the Representatives present and voting otherwise decides. In such instances, a Representative rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.
2. The motions listed below shall have precedence, in the order shown, over all other proposals or motions before the Conference. In addition to the proposer of the motion, a delegate may speak in favour of the motion and a delegate of each of two Parties may speak against it, after which the motion shall be immediately put to a vote. The Presiding Officer may limit the time to be allowed to the speakers.

regarding the session

- a) suspension of the session;
- b) adjournment of the session;

regarding the debate on a particular issue

- c) adjournment of the debate on the particular subject or question under discussion;
- d) closure of the debate on the particular subject or question under discussion.

Rule 19 – Motions to open and reopen debates in plenary sessions

1. Whenever the Conference, in plenary session, decides upon a recommendation originating from Committee I or II or the Budget Committee, where the discussion of the recommendation has been conducted with interpretation in the three working languages of the meeting, there shall be no further discussion on the recommendation and it shall immediately be decided upon.

However, any Representative, if seconded by a Representative of another Party, may present a motion for the opening of debate on any recommendation. Permission to speak on the motion for opening the debate shall be granted only to the Representative presenting the motion and the seconder, and to a Representative of each of two Parties wishing to speak against, after which the motion shall immediately be put to a vote. A motion to open the debate shall be granted if, on a show of hands, one-third of the Representatives present and voting support the motion. While speaking on a motion to open the debate a Representative may not speak on the substance of the recommendation itself.

2. Once a proposal for amendment of Appendices I and II has been adopted or rejected by the Conference of the Parties, it may not be reconsidered during the meeting.
3. Whenever the Conference, in plenary session, following a discussion conducted with interpretation in the three working languages of the meeting, has adopted a decision that is not based on a recommendation originating from Committee I or II or the Budget Committee, it may be reconsidered during the meeting only under the following circumstances.

Any Representative, if seconded by a Representative of another Party, may present a motion for the reopening of debate on any decision adopted. Permission to speak on the motion for reopening the debate shall be granted only to the Representative presenting the motion and the seconder, and to a Representative of each of two Parties wishing to speak against, after which the motion shall immediately be put to a vote. A motion to reopen the debate shall be granted if, on a show of hands, two-thirds of the Representatives present and voting support the motion. While speaking on a motion to reopen the debate a Representative may not speak on the substance of the decision itself.

PART V

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS AND PROCEDURES FOR MAKING DECISIONS

Rule 20 – Submission of draft resolutions and other documents

1. As a general rule, draft resolutions and other documents shall have been communicated at least 150 days before the meeting to the Secretariat, which shall circulate them to all Parties in the working languages of the meeting.
2. Draft resolutions and other documents arising out of discussion of the foregoing may be discussed at any plenary session or any session of Committee I or II or the Budget Committee provided that copies of them have been circulated to all delegations no later than the day preceding the session. The Secretariat, before the meeting, or the Bureau, during the meeting, may also permit the discussion and consideration of urgent draft resolutions and other documents arising after the 150-day period provided that they have been circulated as above and their consideration will not unduly inhibit the proceedings of the Conference.
3. The Representative of any Party that has submitted a draft resolution or other document may, at any time, withdraw it. Once withdrawn, it may not be re-submitted during the meeting.

Rule 21 – Procedure for deciding on draft resolutions or other documents

1. The Conference shall as far as possible decide on draft resolutions and other documents by consensus.
2. Whenever the Conference does not reach a consensus on the adoption or rejection of a draft resolution or other document, the Presiding Officer shall propose that the decision on the draft resolution or other document be put to a vote.
3. If two or more draft resolutions or other documents relate to the same question, the Conference shall, unless it determines otherwise, decide on them in the order in which they have been submitted. The Conference may, after deciding on a draft resolution or other document, consider whether to decide on the next such draft resolution or document.
4. A Representative may propose that parts of a draft resolution or other document shall be decided upon separately. If any objection is made to the request for such division, the motion for division shall be voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be accorded only to a delegate from each of two Parties wishing to speak in favour of, and a delegate from each of two Parties wishing to speak against, the motion. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the draft resolution or other document that are subsequently approved shall be decided upon as a whole. If all operative parts of the draft resolution or other document have been rejected, the draft resolution or other document shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.
5. Any Representative may propose an amendment to a draft resolution or other document. The Presiding Officer may permit the immediate discussion and consideration of amendments to draft resolutions and other documents, even though such amendments have not been circulated previously.
6. When an amendment is moved to a draft resolution or other document, the amendment shall be decided on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a draft resolution or other document, the Conference shall first decide on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original

text and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom, and so on until all amendments have been submitted to decision. When, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter amendment shall not be submitted to decision. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended draft resolution or other document shall then be decided upon.

Rule 22 – Submission of proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II

1. Proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II shall have been communicated at least 150 days before the meeting to the Secretariat, which shall circulate them to all Parties⁶ in the working languages of the meeting.
2. The Representative of the Party that has submitted a proposal for amendment of Appendices I and II may, at anytime, withdraw the proposal or amend it to reduce its scope of effect. Once a proposal has been withdrawn, it may not be re-submitted during the meeting. Once a proposal has been amended to reduce its scope of effect, it may not be re-amended, during the meeting, to increase the scope of effect of the amended proposal.

Rule 23 – Procedure for deciding on proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II

1. The Conference shall as far as possible decide on proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II by consensus.
2. Whenever the Conference does not reach a consensus on the adoption or rejection of a proposal for amendment of Appendices I and II, the Presiding Officer shall propose that the decision on the amendment be put to a vote.
3. A Representative may move that parts of a proposal for amendment of Appendices I and II shall be decided on separately. If any objection is made to the request for such division, the motion for division shall be voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be accorded only to a delegate from each of two Parties wishing to speak in favour of, and a delegate from each of two Parties wishing to speak against, the motion. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal which are subsequently approved shall be decided upon as a whole. If all parts of the proposal have been rejected, it shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.
4. If two or more proposals for amendment of Appendices I and II relate to the same taxon and have the same substance, the Conference shall decide on one proposal only. If this proposal is adopted or rejected, the other or others is or are deemed to be adopted or rejected also.
5. If two or more proposals – including proposals amended in accordance with Rule 22, paragraph 2, and Rule 23, paragraph 6 – relate to the same taxon, but are different in substance, the Conference shall first decide on the proposal that will have the greatest effect on the trade and then on the proposal with the next greatest effect on the trade, and so on until all proposals have been submitted to decision. When however, the adoption of one proposal necessarily covers the substance of another proposal, the latter proposal shall not be submitted to decision.
6. Any Representative may propose an amendment to a proposal for amendment of Appendices I and II to precise it or to reduce its effect. The Presiding Officer may permit the immediate discussion and consideration of the amended proposal even though it has not been circulated previously.

⁶ See Convention, Article XV, paragraph 1(a).

PART VI

VOTING

Rule 24 – Right to vote

1. Each duly accredited Representative shall have one vote.
2. The Representative of a Party shall exercise the voting rights of that Party.

Rule 25 – Methods of voting

1. The Conference shall normally vote by show of hands, but any Representative may request a roll-call vote. The roll-call vote shall be taken in the seating order of the delegations. The Presiding Officer may himself/herself require a roll-call vote on the advice of the tellers where they are in doubt as to the actual number of votes cast and this is likely to be critical to the outcome.
2. All votes in respect of the election of officers or of prospective host countries shall be by secret ballot when there is more than one candidate and, although it shall not normally be used, any Representative may request a secret ballot for other matters. The Presiding Officer shall ask whether the request is seconded. If it is seconded by ten Representatives the vote shall be by secret ballot.
3. Voting by roll-call or secret ballot shall be expressed by "Yes", "No", or "Abstain". Only affirmative and negative votes shall be counted in calculating the number of votes cast.
4. The Presiding Officer shall be responsible for the counting of the votes and shall announce the result. After all votes, except those concerning the designation of the next host country, the Presiding Officer shall announce the number of affirmative votes, negative votes and abstentions, as well as the majority needed to adopt the decision submitted to votation. He/she may be assisted by tellers appointed by the Secretariat.
5. After the Presiding Officer has announced the beginning of a vote, it shall not be interrupted except by a Representative on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting. The Presiding Officer may permit Representatives to explain their votes either before or after the voting, and may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations.

Rule 26 – Majority

1. Except where otherwise provided for under the provisions of the Convention, these Rules or the Terms of Reference for the Administration of the Trust Fund, all votes on procedural matters relating to the conduct of the business of the meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of the Representatives present and voting, while all other decisions shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of Representatives present and voting.
2. For the purpose of these Rules of Procedure, "Representatives present and voting" means duly accredited Representatives present and casting an affirmative or negative vote. Representatives abstaining from voting or Representatives that cast a vote of abstention, shall not be counted in calculating the majority required.

Rule 27 – Elections

1. If in an election to fill one place no candidate obtains the absolute majority in the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken restricted to the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes. If in the second ballot the votes are equally divided, the Presiding Officer shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots.
2. If in the first ballot there is a tie amongst candidates obtaining the second largest number of votes, a special ballot shall be held amongst them for reducing the number of candidates to two.

3. In the case of a tie amongst three or more candidates obtaining the largest number of votes in the first ballot, a special ballot shall be held amongst them for reducing the number of candidates to two. If a tie then results amongst two or more candidates, the Presiding Officer shall reduce the number to two by drawing lots, and a further ballot shall be held in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Rule.
4. This Rule also applies to the designation of the next host country of the Conference of the Parties.

PART VII

INFORMATIVE DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITIONS

Rule 28 – Submission of informative documents and exhibitions

1. Informative documents on the conservation and utilization of natural resources may be submitted for the attention of the participants to the meeting by:
 - a) any Representative of a Party or any observer representing a State not party to the Convention or an intergovernmental organization; and
 - b) any observer representing any other organization.
2. Such documents shall clearly identify the delegation or observer presenting them.
3. Where such documents are to be distributed by the Secretariat, they shall be provided in sufficient numbers for distribution. Documents from organizations referred to in paragraph 1b) of this Rule shall be subject to approval by the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau if necessary, before distribution.
4. Where such documents are not to be distributed by the Secretariat, they shall not be subject to prior approval. However, any Representative may complain to the Bureau if a document is considered offensive.
5. Apart from an exhibition from the host country, where applicable, to show how it conserves nature and implements the Convention, no exhibition is authorized in the immediate vicinity of meeting rooms. Exhibitions set up in a specific exhibition area, at the cost of the exhibitors, may be subject to the approval of the Bureau, which may withdraw such permission at any time.

PART VIII

COMPLAINTS

Rule 29 – Complaints

1. A complaint may be addressed to the Bureau pursuant to Rule 28, paragraph 4, or by any participant who has been subject to abuse by another.
2. When it receives a complaint, the Bureau shall obtain information necessary to consider the validity of the complaint, bearing in mind that legitimate differences of opinion may exist.
3. In the case of a complaint received pursuant to Rule 28, paragraph 4, it shall consider whether the document concerned abuses or vilifies a Party, or brings the Convention into disrepute.
4. The Bureau shall decide on appropriate action, which may, as a last resort, include withdrawal of the right of admission of an organization to the meeting, or a formal complaint to a Party.

PART IX

AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 30 – Amendment

These Rules are established by the Conference and may be amended by decision of the Conference.