

Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council



United Nations · New York, 1992

E/5715/Rev.2

United Nations publication

Sales No.E.92.I.22

CONTENTS
RULES OF PROCEDURE

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. SESSIONS	
1. Organizational and substantive sessions .	1
2-3. Dates of convening and adjournment	1
4. Special sessions	2
5. Place of sessions	3
6. Notification of opening date of sessions	3
7. Adjournment of sessions	3
II. AGENDA	
8. Basic programme of work	4
9. Drawing up of the provisional agenda	4
10. Communication of the provisional agenda .	5
11. Provisional agenda for a special session	6
12. Supplementary items	6
13. Adoption of the agenda	7
14. Allocation of items	7
15. Revision of the agenda	8
III. REPRESENTATION, CREDENTIALS	
16. Representatives, alternates and advisers	8
17. Credentials	8
IV. BUREAU	
18. Election and special responsibilities ...	9
19. Term of office	9
20. Acting President	9
21. Powers of the Acting President	10
22. Replacement of the President or a Vice President	10
V. SESSIONAL BODIES AND SUBSIDIARY ORGANS	
23. Voting rights of the President	10
24. Establishment	10
25. Membership	11
26. Officers	11
27. Rules of procedure	11

VI SECRETARIAT

28.	Duties of the Secretary-General	12
29.	Duties of the Secretariat	12
30.	Statements by the Secretariat	13
31.	Estimates of expenditure	13

VII. LANGUAGES

32.	Official and working languages	14
33.	Interpretation	14
34.	Languages of records	14

decisions	15
-----------------	----

VIII. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

36.	General principles	15
-----	--------------------------	----

IX. RECORDS

37.	Sound recordings of meetings	15
38.	Records of public meetings	15
39.	Records of private meetings	16
40.	Resolutions and other formal decisions ..	16

X. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

41.	Quorum	17
42.	General powers of the President	17
43.	Points of order	18
44.	Speeches	18
45.	Closing of list of speakers	19
46.	Right of reply	19
47.	Congratulations	19
48.	Condolences	19
49.	Suspension or adjournment of the meeting	20
50.	20

52.	Order of motions	20
53.	Discussion of reports of sessional committees of the whole	21
54.	21

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Page</u>
55. Withdrawal of proposals and motions	21

56. Decisions on competence	22
57. Reconsideration of proposals	22

XI. VOTING AND ELECTIONS

58. Voting rights	22
59. Request for a vote	22
60. Majority required	22
61. Method of voting	23
62. Explanation of vote	23
63. Conduct during voting	24
64. Division of proposals and amendments	24
65. Amendments	24
66. Order of voting on amendments	24
67. Order of voting on proposals	25
68-70. Elections	25
71. Equally divided votes	27

XII. PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

72. Participation of non-member States	27
73. Participation of national liberation movements	28
74. Participation of the President of the Trusteeship Council	28

75-78. Participation of and consultation with specialized agencies	28
79. Participation of other intergovernmental organizations	30

XIII. CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL

80. Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations	30
81. Representation	31
82. General consultation of the Committee with organizations in consultative status	31
83. Consultation of the Committee with organizations in categories I and II on <u>items</u> on the provisional agenda of the	

Rule

Page

84. Hearing of organizations in category I
by the Council or its committees 32

RULES OF PROCEDURE

85. Method of amendment 33
86. Method of suspension 33

* The annex provides the relevant references with regard to the rules of procedure including the decisions by which they were adopted.



RULES OF PROCEDURE

I. SESSIONS

ORGANIZATIONAL AND SUBSTANTIVE SESSIONS

Rule 1

The Council shall normally hold an organizational session and one substantive session a year.

DATES OF CONVENING AND ADJOURNMENT

Rule 2

Subject to rule 3, and following a meeting early in the year for the purpose of electing the President and the Bureau, the organizational session shall be convened on the first Tuesday in February and resumed at the end of April. The substantive session shall take place between May and July and shall be

~~the regular session of the Council shall~~

Any member of the Council or the Secretary-General may request an alteration of the date of the substantive session. The President shall, through the Secretary-General, forthwith communicate the request to all members of the Council, together with such observation as the Secretary-General may present. If a majority of the members of the Council concurs in the request within eight days of the communication, the Council shall be convened accordingly.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

Rule 4

1. Special sessions of the Council shall be held:

(a) By decision of the Council;

(b) Upon the request or with the concurrence of a majority of the members of the Council;

(c) Upon the request of the General Assembly or the Security Council.

2. The President, with the concurrence of the Vice-Presidents and, as appropriate, in consultation with members of the Council, may also call a special session of the Council.

3. Should a request for a special session be made by the Trusteeship Council, by any Member of the

forthwith communicate the request to all members of the Council. Unless the President and the Vice-Presidents, as appropriate in consultation with

decision to hold such a session or of receipt by the President of a request for such a session, at a date fixed by the President.

PLACE OF SESSIONS

Rule 5

Sessions shall be held at the Headquarters of the United Nations unless, in pursuance of a previous decision of the Council or at the request of a

majority of its members, another place is designated

NOTIFICATION OF OPENING DATE OF SESSIONS

Rule 6

The President shall through the

Nations, the President of the Security Council, the President of the Trusteeship Council, the specialized agencies, the intergovernmental organizations referred to in rule 79 and the non-governmental organizations in category I or II

the date of the opening of each session. Such notification shall be sent at least six weeks in advance of the organizational session or the

II. AGENDA

BASIC PROGRAMME OF WORK

Rule 8

In the course of the organizational session the Council shall draw up, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, the basic programme of its work for the year.

DRAWING UP OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Rule 9

1. The Secretary-General shall draw up the provisional agenda for each session of the Council. He shall submit to the Council:

(a) The provisional agenda for the organizational session at least three weeks in advance of the opening of that session;

(b) The provisional agenda for the substantive session at the organizational session.

2. The provisional agenda shall include all items required by these rules and by the basic programme of work, or proposed by:

(a) The Council;

(b) The General Assembly;

~~(c) The Security Council;~~

(e) A Member of the United Nations;

(f) The Secretary-General;

(g) A specialized agency, subject to rule 76.

3. A non-governmental organization in category I may request that the Committee on

Non-Governmental Organizations recommend that items of special interest to the organization be included

in the provisional agenda of the Council. In considering the request the Committee shall take into account:

(a) The adequacy of the documentation submitted by the organization;

(b) The extent to which the item may lend itself to early and constructive action by the Council;

(c) The possibility that the item might more appropriately be dealt with elsewhere than in the

Any decision by the Committee not to grant a request submitted by a non-governmental organization to recommend that an item be placed on the provisional agenda of the Council shall be considered as final.

4. The agenda for the organizational session shall include the consideration of the provisional agenda for the substantive session of the Council.

5. Agenda items shall be arranged in an integrated manner, so that similar or connected issues can be discussed in one debate and under a single heading.

COMMUNICATION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Rule 10

After the Council has considered the provisional agenda for the substantive session as provided in paragraph 4 of rule 9, that agenda, incorporating any amendments made by the Council, shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to the Members of the United Nations, the President of the Security Council, the President of the Trusteeship Council, the specialized agencies, the intergovernmental organizations

re

ferred to in rule 79 and the non-governmental

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR A SPECIAL SESSION

Rule 11

The provisional agenda for a special session shall consist only of those items proposed for consideration in the request for the holding of the session, subject, when appropriate, to rule 18. It shall be transmitted to the authorities listed in rule 10 at the same time as the notice convening the Council.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

[REDACTED]

1. The inclusion of supplementary items in a provisional agenda that has been considered by the

by the General Assembly, the Security Council, the

Trusteeship Council, a Member of the United Nations, the Secretary-General or, subject to rule 76, a specialized agency, or by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations in accordance with the

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Rule 13

The Council shall at the beginning of each

session, after the election of the Bureau when required under rule 18, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda and the supplementary list referred to in rule 12.

2. An organ of the United Nations, a Member of the United Nations or a specialized agency that has

be heard by the Council, or by the appropriate sessional committee designated by the Council, on the

inc. inclusion of the item in the agenda.

3. In the case of an item placed on the provisional agenda or on the supplementary list at the request of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations under paragraph 3 of rule 9 or under paragraph 1 of rule 12, the non-governmental organization that proposed the item to the Committee shall be entitled to be heard by the Council, or by the appropriate sessional committee designated by the Council, on the inclusion of the item in the agenda.

4. Unless the Council decides otherwise, if the documentation relating to an item of the agenda

(a) To a specialized agency, another
organization or programme of the United Nations

system, one or more of its commissions or standing
committees, or the Secretary-General, for study and
report to the Council at a subsequent session.

(b) To the proposer of the item, for further
information or documentation.

REVISION OF THE AGENDA

Rule 15

During a session, the Council may revise the
agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending
items. Only important and urgent items shall be

added to the agenda during a session. The Council
may refer to a committee any request to add an item
to the agenda.

REPRESENTATIVES, ALTERNATES AND ADVISERS

Rule 16

Each member of the Council shall be represented
by an accredited representative, who may be
accompanied by such alternate representatives and
advisers as may be required.

CREDENTIALS

Rule 17

The credentials of representatives and the names
of alternate representatives and advisers shall be
submitted to the Secretary-General not less than
three days before the first meeting they are to
attend. The Bureau shall examine the credentials and
submit a report thereon to the Council.

IV. BUREAU

ELECTION AND SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Rule 18

1. Each year, at the commencement of its first meeting, the Council shall elect a President and four Vice-Presidents ^{2/} from among the representatives of its members. The President and the Vice-Presidents shall constitute the Bureau.

2. The Council, upon the recommendation of the President, shall decide on the special

responsibilities of each of the Vice-Presidents.

TERM OF OFFICE

Rule 19

The President and the Vice-Presidents shall, subject to rule 22, hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election.

ACTING PRESIDENT

Rule 20

1. If the President finds it necessary to be absent during a meeting or any part thereof, he shall designate one of the Vice-Presidents to take his place.

^{2/} In the election of the President of the Council, regard shall be had for the equitable geographical rotation of this office among the following regional groups: African States, Asian States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States, and Western European and other States. The four Vice-Presidents of the Council shall be elected on the basis of equitable geographical distribution from the regional groups other than the one to which the President belongs.

? If the President ceases to hold office

pursuant to rule 22, the remaining members of the

REPLACEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OR

Rule 21

A Vice-President acting as President shall have

the powers and duties of the President

REPLACEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT OR
A VICE-PRESIDENT

Rule 22

If the President or any Vice-President ceases to
be able to carry out his functions or ceases to hold

(a) Functional commissions and regional commissions;

(b) Sessional committees of the whole and other sessional bodies;

2. Except for the regional commissions, the commissions and committees of the Council shall not create either standing or ad hoc intersessional subsidiary bodies without prior approval of the Council.

MEMBERSHIP

Rule 25

Unless the Council decides otherwise, the members of any body or organ of limited membership, other than those subsidiary to a regional commission, shall be elected by the Council.

OFFICERS

Rule 26

1. The Chairman of a sessional committee of the whole shall be one of the Vice-Presidents, designated by the Council upon the recommendation of the President. Each sessional committee of the whole shall elect two Vice-Chairmen.

2. Unless the Council decides otherwise, all other bodies and organs shall elect their own officers.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Rule 27

1. The rules of procedure contained in chapters VI and VIII to XII shall apply to the proceedings of the committees and sessional bodies of the Council and their subsidiary bodies, unless provided otherwise.

2. The rules of procedure of the commissions
and their subsidiary bodies shall be...

Council, unless it decides otherwise.

VI. SECRETARIAT

~~DUTIES OF THE SECRETARIAT~~

Rule 28

1. The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Council. He may designate a member of the Secretariat to act as his representative.

2. He shall provide and direct the staff required by the Council and be responsible for all the arrangements that may be necessary for its meetings.

3. He shall keep the members of the Council informed of any questions that may be brought before it for consideration.

DUTIES OF THE SECRETARIAT

Rule 29

The Secretariat shall:

- (a) Interpret speeches made at meetings;
- (b) Receive, translate and circulate documents;
- (c) Print, publish and circulate the records of

~~the sessions, the resolutions of the Council...~~

required documentation;

(d) Have custody of the documents in the archives;

STATEMENTS BY THE SECRETARIAT

Rule 30

The Secretary-General, or his representative, may, subject to rule 44, make oral as well as written statements to the Council concerning any question

under consideration.

ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE

Rule 31

1. The Secretary-General shall circulate to

the Council for its consideration every odd-numbered year a draft four-year medium-term plan and biennial programme budget covering activities in the economic, social and human rights fields, prepared on the basis of programme objectives approved and priorities

established by the Council and other competent bodies.

2. Programme budget proposals recommended by a committee or commission of the Council for its approval must be stated in terms of the objectives to

opportunity to determine the most effective and economical means of implementing those proposals and make appropriate recommendations to the Council thereon.

3. Before a proposal involving the expenditure of United Nations funds is approved by the Council,

4. In cases of exceptional urgency, the Council may request the Secretary-General to implement a new programme decision, as a matter of priority, during the current biennium. Such a new programme shall be implemented either within the current programme budget or by additional appropriations to be approved by the General Assembly in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.

VII. LANGUAGES

OFFICIAL AND WORKING LANGUAGES

Rule 32

Arabic Chinese English French Russian and

Council.

INTERPRETATION

Rule 33

1. Speeches made in an official language shall be interpreted into the other official languages.

2. A speaker may make a speech in a language other than an official language if he provides for interpretation into one of the official languages. Interpretation into the other official languages by the interpreters of the Secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first such language.

LANGUAGES OF RECORDS

Rule 34

Records shall be drawn up in the working languages. A translation of the whole or part of any

LANGUAGES OF RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER
FORMAL DECISIONS

Rule 35

All resolutions and other formal decisions of the Council shall be published in the official languages. 3/

VIII. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Rule 36

IX. RECORDS

SOUND RECORDINGS OF MEETINGS

Rule 37

Sound recordings of the meetings of the Council and of its sessional committees of the whole shall be made and kept by the Secretariat. Such recordings may also be made and kept of the meetings of other subsidiary organs if so decided by the Council.

RECORDS OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Rule 38

1. Summary records of public meetings of the Council, and its subsidiary organs where authorized, shall be prepared by the Secretariat in the working languages of the Council. They shall be distributed

in provisional form as soon as possible to all

within three working days of their receipt. submit

sessions and in other special circumstances, the presiding officer may, in consultation with the Secretary-General, extend the time for submitting corrections. Any disagreement concerning such corrections shall be decided by the presiding officer of the body to which the record relates, after consulting, where necessary, the sound recordings of the proceedings. Separate corrigenda to provisional records shall not normally be issued.

2. The summary records, with any corrections

and to any other participants in the session. The printed text of such resolutions and other formal

decisions shall be distributed as soon as possible after the close of the session to the Members of the United Nations, to the specialized agencies and to the intergovernmental organizations referred to in

X. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

QUORUM

Rule 41

The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when representatives of at least one third of the members of the Council are present. The presence of representatives of a

POINTS OF ORDER

Rule 43

1. During the discussion of any matter, a representative may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be decided immediately by the President in accordance with these rules. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the

President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the ruling of the President shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the members present and voting.

2. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

CONFERENCE

Rule 44

1. No one may address the Council without having previously obtained the permission of the President. Subject to rules 43, 46 and 49 to 51, the President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.

2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Council, and the President may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

3. The Council may limit the time allowed to speakers and the number of times the representative of each member may speak on any question; permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded only to two representatives favouring and to two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall be put to the vote immediately. Interventions on procedural questions shall not exceed five minutes unless the Council decides otherwise. When debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call him to order without delay.

CLOSING OF LIST OF SPEAKERS

Rule 45

During the course of a debate the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Council, declare the list closed. When there

consent of the Council, declare the debate closed. Such closure shall have the same effect as closure by

decision of the Council.

RIGHT OF REPLY

The right of reply shall be accorded by the President to any member who requests it. Representatives should attempt, in exercising this

which this right is requested.

CONGRATULATIONS

Rule 47

Rule 49

During the debate on a bill or resolution

such motions shall be permitted, and they shall be put to the vote immediately.

ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE

Rule 50

A representative may at any time move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded only to two representatives favouring and to two opposing the adjournment.

(c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion;

(d) To close the debate on the item under discussion.

COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE

Rule 53

Discussion of a report of a sessional committee of the whole in a plenary meeting of the Council shall take place if at least one third of the members present and voting at the plenary meeting consider such discussion to be necessary. A motion to this effect shall not be discussed but shall be put to the vote immediately.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS AND SUBSTANTIVE AMENDMENTS

Rule 54

Proposals and substantive amendments shall

usually be submitted in writing to the

languages. Unless the Council decides otherwise,

DECISIONS ON COMPETENCE

Rule 56

A motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Council to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a vote is taken on the proposal in question.

Rule 57

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Council so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two

shall be put to the vote immediately.

XI. VOTING AND ELECTIONS

VOTING RIGHTS

Rule 58

Each member of the Council shall have one vote.

REQUEST FOR A VOTE

Rule 59

A proposal or motion before the Council for decision shall be voted upon if any member so requests. Where no member requests a vote the

Council may adopt proposals or motions without a vote.

MAJORITY REQUIRED

Rule 60

1. Decisions of the Council shall be made by a majority of the members present and voting.

2. For the purpose of these rules, the phrase "members present and voting" means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

METHOD OF VOTING

Rule 61

1. Except as provided in rule 68, the Council shall normally vote by show of hands, except that a representative may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the members, beginning with the member whose name is drawn by lot by the President. The name of each member shall be called in all roll-calls, and its representative shall reply "yes", "no" or "abstention".

2. When the Council votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call. A representative may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Council shall, unless a representative requests otherwise, dispense with the procedure of calling out the names of the members.

3. The vote of each member participating in a roll-call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in the record.

EXPLANATION OF VOTE

Rule 62

Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanation of their votes

before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed. The representative of a member sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended.

CONDUCT DURING VOTING

Rule 63

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representative may interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual process of voting.

DIVISION OF PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENTS

Rule 64

Parts of a proposal or an amendment shall be voted on separately if a representative requests that the proposal be divided. Those parts of the proposal or the amendment which have been approved shall then be put to the vote as a whole; if all the operative parts of a proposal or an amendment have been rejected, the proposal or amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

AMENDMENTS

Rule 65

An amendment is a proposal that does no more than add to, delete from or revise part of another proposal.

ORDER OF VOTING ON AMENDMENTS

Rule 66

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the

amendments are moved to a proposal, the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal shall be voted on first and then the amendment next furthest removed therefrom, and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another

amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on.

ORDER OF VOTING ON PROPOSALS

Rule 67

1. If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the chair otherwise directs,

may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

2. A motion requiring that no decision be taken on a proposal shall have priority over that proposal.

ELECTIONS

Rule 68

All elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless, in the absence of any objection, the chair otherwise directs.

such candidates for the purpose of reducing their number to two; similarly, in the case of a tie among candidates obtaining the largest number

of votes, a special ballot shall be held. If a tie

thereafter another ballot shall be taken among all the remaining candidates. The procedure prescribed

one candidate is duly elected.

Rule 70

1 When two or more elective places are to be

EQUALLY DIVIDED VOTES

Rule 71

If a vote is equally divided on a matter other than an election, the proposal or motion shall be regarded as rejected.

XII. PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

PARTICIPATION OF NON-MEMBER STATES

Rule 72

1. The Council shall invite any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Council, and any other State, 4/ to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.

2. A committee or sessional body of the Council shall invite any State 4/ that is not one of its own members to participate in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that State.

3. A State thus invited shall not have the right to vote, but may submit proposals which may be put to the vote on request of any member of the body concerned.

4/ It is the understanding of the Council that

under this rule it will follow the practice of the

PARTICIPATION OF NATIONAL LIBERATION
MOVEMENTS

Rule 73

The Council may invite any national liberation movement recognized by or in accordance with resolutions of the General Assembly to participate, without the right to vote.

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Rule 74

The President of the Trusteeship Council, or his representative, may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council on any matter of particular concern to the Trusteeship Council, including questions that have been proposed by the Trusteeship Council for inclusion in the provisional agenda of the Economic and Social Council.

PARTICIPATION OF AND CONSULTATION WITH
SPECIALIZED AGENCIES 5/

Rule 75

In accordance with the agreements concluded between the United Nations and the specialized

proposals regarding such items, which may be put to the vote at the request of any member of the Council or of the committee or sessional body concerned.

Rule 76

Before the Secretary-General places an item proposed by a specialized agency on the provisional

Rule 77

1. Where an item proposed for inclusion in the provisional agenda or the supplementary list contains a proposal for new activities to be undertaken by the United Nations relating to matters that are of direct concern to one or more specialized agencies, the Secretary-General shall enter into consultation with the agencies concerned and report to the Council on the means of achieving a coordinated use of the resources of the organizations concerned.

2. When in the course of a meeting of the

agencies in respect of any provision of _____

agencies shall be brought before the Council together with the comments received from Governments.

PARTICIPATION OF OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 79

Representatives of intergovernmental organizations accorded permanent observer status by the General Assembly and of other intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Council on the recommendation of the Bureau, may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations.

XIII. CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL

COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Rule 80

1. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall consist of nineteen Members of the United Nations elected for four years on the basis of equitable geographical representation. Accordingly, the membership of the Committee shall include:

- (a) Five members from African States;
- (b) Four members from Asian States;

(d) Four members from Western European and other States;

(e) Two members from Eastern European States.

2. The Committee shall carry out the functions assigned to it by the Council in connection with the arrangements for the...
[REDACTED]

organizations adopted by the Council in accordance with Article 71 of the Charter...
[REDACTED]

3. The Committee shall elect its own officers.

4. When considering applications for granting consultative status to non-governmental organizations, the Committee shall be guided by the rules of procedure of the Council. Non-governmental organizations applying for consultative status shall have an opportunity to submit written statements or be heard by the Committee, at the request of the latter, by means of an oral statement made by a duly authorized representative.

REPRESENTATION

Rule 81

Non-governmental organizations in category I or II may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at...
[REDACTED]

may have representatives present at such meetings when matters within their field of competence are being discussed.

agenda of the Council, on which the Council or the Committee or the organization requests consultation. The Committee shall report to the Council on such consultations.

CONSULTATION OF THE COMMITTEE WITH
ORGANIZATIONS IN CATEGORIES I AND II
ON ITEMS ON THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA
OF THE COUNCIL

Rule 83

The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations may consult, in connection with any particular session of the Council, with organizations in categories I and II on matters within the competence

organization requests consultation, and shall make recommendations as to which organizations, subject to the provisions of paragraph 1 of rule 84, should be heard by the Council or the appropriate committee and regarding which subjects on which they should be heard. Organizations desiring such consultation shall apply in writing so that the request may reach the Secretary-General as soon as possible after the issue of the provisional agenda for the session, and

in any case not later than five days after the adoption of the agenda. The Committee shall report to the Council on such consultations.

concerned. In the absence of the subsidiary body of the Council with jurisdiction in a major field of interest to the Council and to an organization in category II, the Committee may recommend that an organization in category II be heard by the Council

2. Whenever the Council discusses the substance of an item proposed by a non-governmental organization in category I and included in the agenda of the Council, such an organization shall be

entitled to present orally to the Council or a sessional committee of the Council, as appropriate, an introductory statement of an expository nature. Such an organization may be invited by the President of the Council or the Chairman of the committee, with the consent of the relevant body, to make, in the course of the discussion of the item before the Council or before the committee, a

statement for purposes of clarification.

XIV. AMENDMENT AND SUSPENSION OF RULES OF PROCEDURE

METHOD OF AMENDMENT

ANNEX

1. The Preparatory Commission of the United Nations at its second session in London in 1945,

prepared draft rules of procedure for the Council (PC/20, chap. III, sect. 3). These provisional rules were approved, without change, at the first meeting of the Joint Subcommittee of the Second and Third Committees during the first session of the General

Assembly on 22 January 1946 (A/C.2/7 and A/C.3/3). The General Assembly adopted the conclusions of the reports of the Second and Third Committees at its 19th plenary meeting, on 29 January 1946 (A/16 and A/17). At its 12th meeting, during its first session, on 16 February 1946, the Council adopted these provisional rules of procedure, as contained in chapter III, section 3 (E/33).

2. The Council subsequently revised its rules of procedure at its second, fourth, fifth, seventh, eighth, tenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, fortieth, forty-first, forty-second, forty-sixth, resumed

forty-first session related to rules 20, 22 and 23 (text of rules in E/3063/Rev.1) and those made at the forty-second session to rules 4, 19, 26 and 27 (text of rules in E/3063/Rev.1). At the forty-sixth session, pro forma changes were made by resolution 1392 (XLVI) to rules 7, 10 and 12, and rules 83, 84,

E/3063/Rev.1). At the resumed forty-seventh session, as a result of the measures adopted by the Council

organization of its work and in consequence of its approval of the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1970 and 1971 (Council decisions taken at its 1637th meeting, on 8 August 1969; see also Official

Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1 (E/4735), pp. 18-20), the Council decided, inter alia, to adopt, on a provisional basis, the

the relevant rules of procedure of the Council and other organizational changes (E/4757 and Corr.1, paras. 4-8) and to suspend rules 2, 9 and 14 of its rules of procedure which appear in E/3063/Rev.1 (Council decision taken at its 1647th meeting, on 17 November 1969; see also Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1A (E/4735/Add.1), p. 5). At its organizational session for 1973, the Council decided to suspend that part of rule 82 (text of rule

session for 1975, the Council decided to suspend that part of rule 82 (text of rule in E/3063/Rev.1) which stipulates that the members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall serve for one year, in order to permit members of the Committee to serve for four years (Council decision taken at its 1939th meeting, on 28 January 1975; see also Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 1 (E/5683), Decision 70 (1975)).

of the Council the revisions were of a comprehensive character (Council resolution 1949 (LVIII)). At the 8th plenary meeting of its first regular session of 1982, on 15 April 1982, the Council, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 35/219 A of 17 December 1980, decided to include Arabic among its official languages, with effect from 1 January 1983 (decision 1982/147); see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1982, Supplement No. 1 (E/1982/82). At the 3rd plenary meeting of its organizational session for 1992, on 7 February 1992, the Council amended rules 1, 2 and 9 of its rules of

No. 1 (E/1992/92).

4. The relevant references are as follows:

(a) Decision of 4 June 1946 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, First Year, Second Session, 7th meeting, page 49;

(b) Decisions of 28 February and 11 March 1947 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Second Year, Fourth Session, 52nd and 65th meetings, pages 6-8; 91 and 292; text of the rules in E/33/Rev.3;

(c) Resolution 99 (V) of 12 August 1947 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council

(e) Resolution 176 (VII) of 28 August 1948 and decision of 28 August 1948 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Seventh Session [Resolutions of the Council] (E/1065 and Corr.1), pages 76, 77 and 78.

(f) Resolution 217 (VIII) of 18 March 1949 -
See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council

pages 26-40; text of the rules in E/33/Rev.5;

(g) Decision of 6 March 1950, consequent on
resolution 229 (IV) of 23 February 1950.

Official Records of the Economic and Social Council,

Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1 (E/4735 and

(o) Decision of 17 November 1969 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Resumed Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1A (E/4735/Add.1), page 5; text of the rules in E/4757 and Corr.1, paragraphs 4-8;

(p) Decision of 8 January 1973 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council,

Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 1 (E/5367),

page 41;

(q) Decision of 7 January 1974 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Organizational Session for 1974, 1887th meeting, page 2;

(r) Decision of 28 January 1975 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 1 (E/5683), decision 70 (ORG-75);

(s) Resolution 1949 (LVIII) of 7 May 1975 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 1 (E/5683);

(t) Decision 1982/147 of 15 April 1982 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council

1982, Supplement No. 1 (E/1982/82);

(u) Resolution 1992/2 of 7 February 1992 - See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council,

February 1946 E/33
 June 1946 E/33/Rev.1
 March 1947 E/33/Rev.2
 March 1947 E/33/Rev.3
 August 1947 E/33/Rev.4
 March 1949 E/33/Rev.5
 April 1950 E/1662
 November 1952 E/2336
 March 1958 E/3063
 October 1967 E/3063/Rev.1

June 1975 E/5715

April 1983 E/5715/Rev.1

6. References to certain resolutions and decisions of the Council bearing on the present rules of procedure are given below:

Rule 1: Adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33), amended by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5), amended by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336) as a consequence of resolution 414 (XIII), paragraph 8 (a), amended by resolution 1949 (LVIII) as a consequence of resolution 1623 (LI), paragraph 2, and further amended by resolution 1992/2 of 7 February 1992;

Rule 2: Adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33), amended by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336) as a consequence of resolution 414 (XIII), paragraph 8 (b), (c), (d) and (e), suspended and provisionally amended by decision of 17 November 1969, resumed forty-seventh session (E/4735/Add.1, p. 5), amended by resolution 1980 (XVIII) and further amended by decision

1978/72 of 4 August 1978, resolution 1982/50 of 28 July 1982 and resolution 1992/2 of 7 February 1992;

Rule 3: Adopted by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 4) and amended by resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 4: Adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 3), and amended by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 4) and resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 4), decision of

29 May 1967, forty-second session (E/4393, p. 30), and resolution 1949 (LVIII). Former rule 5, adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 5), and amended by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 5), was incorporated in paragraph 2 of present rule 4;

Rule 5: Adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 6), and amended by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 6) and resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 6: Adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 7), and amended by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 7) and decision of 5 March 1950 (E/33/Rev.5, decision 1);

(E/33, rule 7), and amended by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 7) and decision of 5 March 1950 (E/33/Rev.5, decision 1);

~~Other formal changes were introduced pursuant to~~

by resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 16: Adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 14), amended by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 17) and renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 18) and resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 17: Adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 15), amended by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 18), renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 19), amended by decision of 29 May 1967 forty-second session

Rule 18: Adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 16), amended by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 19), renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 20), amended

by decision of 29 May 1967 forty-second session

Rule 22: Adopted on 16 February 1946, first session
(E/33/Rev.1, rule 21).

decision of 11 March 1947, fourth session (65th meeting) (E/33/Rev.3, rule 21), amended by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 22), renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 23), amended by resolution 1193 (XLI), and amended and renumbered by resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 23: Adopted on 4 June 1946, second session (E/33/Rev.1, rule 21), renumbered as a consequence of decision of 11 March 1947, fourth session (65th meeting) (E/33/Rev.3, rule 23), renumbered by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 24) and resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 25), and amended and renumbered by

Rules 24-27: Adopted by resolution 1949 (LVIII). The provisions of former rules 26 and 27 of chapter V and former rules 71 to 74 of chapter XII (E/3063/Rev.1) were revised and combined into present chapter V.

Rule 26 (E/3063/Rev.1): adopted on 16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 21), renumbered as a consequence of decision of 4 June 1946, second session (7th meeting) (E/33/Rev.1, rule 22), and decision of 11 March 1947, fourth session (65th meeting) (E/33/Rev.3, rule 24), amended and renumbered by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 25), renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 26) and amended by decision of 29 May 1967,

forty-second session (E/4393, p. 31).

Rule 27 (E/3063/Rev.1): adopted by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 26), renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 27) and amended by decision of 29 May 1967, forty-second session (E/4393, p. 32).

Rule 71 (E/3063/Rev.1): adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rule 60), renumbered as a consequence of decision of 4 June 1946, second session (7th meeting) (E/33/Rev.1, rule 61), and

of decisions of 28 February and 11 March 1947,
fourth session (52nd and 65th meetings)
(E/33/Rev.3, rule 64), amended and renumbered by
resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 70), and
renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336,
rule 71).

resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 71) and
renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336,
rule 72).

Rule 73 (E/3063/Rev.1): adopted on
16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 61),
renumbered as a consequence of decision of
4 June 1946, second session (7th meeting)
(E/33/Rev.1, rule 62) and of decisions of
28 February and 11 March 1947, fourth session

(52nd and 65th meetings) (E/33/Rev.3, rule 65),
amended by resolution 99 (V) (E/33/Rev.4,
rule 65), amended and renumbered by resolution
217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 72) and renumbered
by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 73).

Rule 74 (E/3063/Rev.1): adopted on
16 February 1946, first session (E/33, rule 62),
renumbered as a consequence of decision of
4 June 1946, second session (7th meeting)

(E/33/Rev.1, rule 62) and of decisions of

amended and renumbered by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rules 27-31) and renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rules 28-32);

Rule 29: Adopted by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 32), renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 33), and amended and renumbered by resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 30: See rules 28 and 30 above;

Rule 31: Original rule adopted by decision of

28 February 1947, fourth session (52nd meeting), in pursuance of regulation 25 of the Provisional Financial Regulations of the United Nations (E/33/Rev.3, rule 30). Amended by decision of 28 August 1948, seventh session (E/1065 and Corr.1, p. 77), based on resolution 175 (VII), pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 125 (II) and 163 (II) and financial regulation 38 (E/33/Rev.5, rule 33). Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 413 (V) and 456 (V) (regulation 13.1 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations) and Council resolution 402 (XIII), further amended and renumbered by resolution 456 B (XIV) (E/2336, rule 34). Taking into account financial

Nations. the rule was further amended and

renumbered by resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 32: Adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rule 27), renumbered as a consequence of decision of 4 June 1946, second session (7th meeting) (E/33/Rev.1, rule 28), and of decisions of 28 February and 11 March 1947, fourth session (52nd and 65th meetings) (E/33/Rev.3, rule 31), and by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 34) and resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 35), amended by resolution 481 (XV) and renumbered by resolution 1949 (LVIII), and further amended by decision 1982/147 of 15 April 1982;

Rule 33: Adopted by resolution 1949 (LVIII). The provisions of rules 36 to 38 (E/3063/Rev.1) were amended and restructured within the present rule 33. Rules 36-38 (E/3063/Rev.1): adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rules 28-30), renumbered as a consequence of decision of 4 June 1946, second session (7th meeting) (E/33/Rev.1, rules 29-31), and decisions of

(E/33/Rev.5, rules 35-37) and resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rules 36-38); rules 36 to 37 were amended by resolution 481 (XV);

rule 31), renumbered as a consequence of decision of 4 June 1946, second session (7th meeting) (E/33/Rev.1, rule 32), and of decisions of 28 February and 11 March 1947, fourth session (52nd and 65th meetings) (E/33/Rev.3, rule 35), amended and renumbered by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 38), renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336

1949 (LVIII). Former rule 42 (E/3063/Rev.1), providing that "at the close of each private meeting, the Council may issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General", originally adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rule 44), was deleted during the consideration of the present rules;

Rule 37: Adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rule 45), succeeded by resolution 129 (VII) and

176 (VII) and replaced by a new rule in accordance with resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 46), and amended and renumbered by resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 38: Adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rule 45), renumbered as a consequence of decision of 4 June 1946, second session

(7th meeting) (E/33/Rev.1, rule 46), and decisions of 28 February and 11 March 1947, fourth session (52nd and 65th meetings) (E/33/Rev.3, rule 49), and amended and renumbered by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 42), resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 43) and resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 39: Adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rule 48), renumbered as a consequence of decision of 4 June 1946, second session (7th meeting) (E/33/Rev.1, rule 49), and decisions of 28 February and 11 March 1947, fourth session (52nd and 65th meetings) (E/33/Rev.3, rule 52), and amended and renumbered by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 44), resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 44) and resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 40: Adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rule 47), renumbered as a consequence of decision of 4 June 1946, second session (7th meeting) (E/33/Rev.1, rule 48), and decisions of 28 February and 11 March 1947, fourth session (52nd and 65th meetings) (E/33/Rev.3, rule 51), and amended and renumbered by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 45) and resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rules 41-71: The original rules dealing with conduct of business and voting, adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rules 49-59 and 35-42), were substantially restructured by resolution 217 (VIII), using as far as applicable the text employed in the corresponding rules of the General Assembly (E/33/Rev.5, rules 46-49). Rule 60, first part, reproduced textually Article 67, paragraph 2, of the Charter

456 (XIV) (E/2336, rules 47-70) and substantially restructured by resolution 1949 (LVIII) (rules 41-71), using as far as applicable the text employed in the corresponding rules of the General Assembly

Rule 74: For arrangements for cooperation between the Economic and Social Council and the

concern, see Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Second Year, Fifth Session, annex 20, pp. 477-486; pursuant to resolution 216 (VIII), a new rule was adopted by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 76); renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 77) and resolution 1949 (LVIII);

by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 77) and renumbered as a consequence of resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 78) and resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 76: Adopted by decision of 11 March 1974,

rule 11), amended and renumbered by resolution 217 (VIII) (E/33/Rev.5, rule 12), amended and renumbered by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 79) and renumbered by resolution

1949 (LVIII);

Rules 77-78: Adopted by resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rule 80 and 81) and renumbered as a

consequence of resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 79: Adopted by resolution 1949 (LVIII);

Rule 80: Arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations were originally

(E/5367, p. 41), the Council decided to suspend that part of the rule which stipulates that the

members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall be members of the Council, in order to permit the additional members of the sessional committees also to serve on the Committee; further, by decision 20 (CPC 25) of 20 January 1975, during

the Council decided to suspend that part of the rule which stipulates that the members of the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall serve for one year, in order to permit members of the Committee to serve for four years; amended and renumbered by resolution 1949 (LVIII). The Council decided to enlarge the membership of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations by its resolution 1981/50 of 20 July 1981;

Rules 81-84: Arrangements for consultation with

based on resolution 212 (second session) adopted

rule 87). Rules 88 and 89 were adopted on 16 February 1946 (E/33, rules 65 and 66) and renumbered as a consequence of decision of 6 June 1946, second session (7th meeting) (E/33/Rev.1, rules 66 and 67), and decisions of 28 February and 11 March 1947, fourth session (52nd and 65th meetings) (E/33/Rev.3, rules 69 and 70), and resolution 456 (XIV) (E/2336, rules 88 and 89).
