

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

REVISED DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE

I. MEMBERSHIP

Rule 1

The delegates to the Conference shall be those persons duly accredited as such by the governments of States members of the United Nations.

Rule 2

Only delegates as defined by Rule 1, shall be entitled to vote.

Rule 3

Each delegation shall be entitled to only one vote.

Only one delegate shall have the right to speak in the name of his delegation on any given question unless the President, at the request of the delegation, authorizes other delegates to speak.

Rule 4

Delegates may be accompanied, at plenary meetings and at meetings of committees and sub-committees, by one or more technical advisers.

Rule 5

Such technical advisers may participate in the proceedings and voting in the absence of, or as substitutes for, the delegates.

Rule 6

Any delegation representing a State member of United Nations shall be entitled to participate in the proceedings and voting of any working committee of the Conference.

Rule 7

Observers duly accredited to the Conference may attend the plenary meetings of the Conference and on the invitation of the President, submit their observations, but they may not vote.

Rule 8

Observers may likewise attend under similar conditions the meetings of the working committees, unless the latter decide otherwise.

Rule 9

Observers may be accompanied by one or more technical advisers whether at plenary meetings or at the meetings of working committees.

Rule 10

The Conference and its working committees may respectively invite to one or more of their meetings any person whose technical advice they may deem to be useful for their work. Consultants thus invited may not speak unless requested by the President. They shall not be entitled to vote.

II. AGENDA

Rule 11

The Conference may decide to revise the agenda and may accord priority to certain items.

III. MEETINGS

Rule 12

In principle the meetings of the Conference shall be public. The committees shall themselves decide whether their meetings shall be private or public. Meetings of sub-committees shall be private.

Rule 13

A quorum shall be constituted by a simple majority of the delegations representing States members of the United Nations.

Rule 14

The texts of resolutions and substantive motions shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Secretary of the Conference when possible 24 hours before they are laid before the Conference.

Rule 15

Decisions of the Conference shall be made by a majority of the delegations present and voting.

Rule 16

If a vote is equally divided on matters other than elections, a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting. If this vote also results in equality the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

Rule 17

At the request of any delegation, parts of a resolution or motion shall be voted on separately.

Rule 18

If two or more amendments are proposed, the Conference shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed and so on until all the amendments have been voted on.

Rule 19

When an amendment revises, adds to or deletes from a resolution or motion, the amendment shall be voted on first, and if it is adopted, the amended resolution or motion shall then be voted on.

Rule 20

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may rise to a point of order and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

Rule 21

During the discussion of any matter, a delegate may move the adjournment of the debate. Any such motion shall have priority in the debate. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one delegate may speak in favour of and one against the motion.

Rule 22

The Conference may limit the time allowed to each speaker.

Rule 23

A delegate may at any time move the closure of the debate whether or not any other delegate has signified his wish to speak. If application is made for permission to speak against the closure, it may be accorded to not more than two delegates.

Rule 24

The President shall take the sense of the Conference on a motion for closure. If the Conference is in favour of the closure, the President shall declare the closure of the debate.

IV. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE CONFERENCE

Rule 25

The Conference shall set up such committees as may be required for the performance of its functions, and shall define the powers and composition of each such committee.

Rule 26

The Conference shall elect at a plenary meeting its own President and four Vice-Presidents, as well as the Chairman of each of its working committees. Each such committee shall elect its own Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur.

Rule 27

The function of President (Chairman) or of Vice-President (Vice Chairman) shall be conferred upon the person elected and not upon the delegation to which he belongs.

Rule 28

The Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Conference and the Chairmen of the working committees together with three delegates elected by the Conference, shall constitute a General Committee and be entrusted with the direction of the business of the Conference and with the co-ordination of the work of its committees.

Rule 29

The Rules of Procedure of each of the working committees shall be the same as those of the Conference; Rules 13-24 of the latter on voting shall be applicable to the working committees and their sub-committees.

Rule 30

Each working committee shall set up such sub-committees as may be required for the effective performance of its functions. It shall define the terms of reference, powers and composition of each such sub-committee.

Rule 31

Unless otherwise decided by the working committee concerned, each sub-committee shall elect its own chairman, as well as his deputy in the event of the chairman being unable to exercise his functions.

Rule 32

The Rules of Procedure of the Conference shall so far as practicable apply to the proceedings of the sub-committee.

V. SECRETARIAT

Rule 33

The technical secretariat of the Conference and of its committees and sub-committees shall be provided under the authority of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, by the Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Social Affairs, Secretary-General ex-officio of the Conference, and by the personnel of the Health Division of this Department.

Rule 34

The Secretary-General of the Conference and his deputies may at any time, on the invitation of the President of the Conference or the Chairman of committees and sub-committees, make either oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

Rule 35

In accordance with a decision of the competent organs of the United Nations, no verbatim report of the meetings of the committees and sub-committees shall be drawn up. A summary record of each meeting shall, however, be drawn up by the secretariat in the working languages.

VI. LANGUAGES

Rule 36

In respect of languages, the business of the Conference and of its committees and sub-committees shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of Procedure adopted by the Economic and Social

Council of the United Nations.*

VII. AMENDMENT AND SUSPENSION OF RULES

Rule 37

Any of these Rules may be amended or suspended by a two-thirds majority of the delegations of the Conference present and voting.

Excerpts from Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council

Rule 27

Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the official languages, and English and French the working languages of the Council.

Rule 28

Speeches made in either of the working languages shall be interpreted into the other working language.

Rule 29

Speeches made in any other of the three official languages shall be interpreted into both working languages.

Rule 30

Any representative may make a speech in a language other than the official languages. In this case he shall himself provide for interpretation into one of the working languages. Interpretation into the other working language by an interpreter of the Secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first working language.