

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS  
ON THE ALTERATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE  
PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The representatives on the Security Council will find in the following document a re-draft of the Provisional Rules of Procedure for the Council as worked out by the Committee of Experts.

A.

The alterations introduced in the text proposed by the Preparatory Commission affect the following points:

- (1) Meetings and Agenda.
- (2) Representation and credentials.
- (3) Rules regarding Languages.
- (4) Publicity of meetings and Records.

1. Meetings and Agenda:

The draft of the Preparatory Commission mentioned "regular", "periodic", and "extraordinary" meetings. Certain divergences of opinion appeared within the Committee regarding the meaning to be attached to each one of these expressions. It was difficult, in connection with the blanks left in rules 1, 3, and 5 of the original draft to lay down a clear distinction between "regular" and "extraordinary" meetings. In order to overcome this difficulty the Committee adopted a new and more flexible wording which does not expressly provide for "extraordinary" meetings, whilst, however, leaving to the President of the Council the power to call meetings:

- (a) when he deems it necessary (Rule 1)
- (b) at the request of any member of the Council (Rule 2)
- (c) when it is provided for by the Charter (Rule 3).

S/b

This reference in Rule 3 to the initiative given to the Secretary-General under Article 99 of the Charter led the Committee to omit from the new text the former Rule 15 of the Preparatory Commission's draft, which was now superfluous. The Committee was anxious to stress, in Rule 1, the permanent nature of the Security Council and, with this end in view, provided that the interval between any two meetings should not exceed fourteen days. It is to be understood, however, that this provision regarding the interval between meetings will take effect after the installation of the Security Council at the headquarters of the Organization.

As regards the periodic meetings provided under Article 28, paragraph 2, of the Charter, the Committee of Experts did not make any recommendation on the frequency of such meetings, considering that it was for the Council itself to decide this matter.

Lastly, in order to avoid confusion, it was decided to combine, under a single heading, "Meeting and Agenda", the first two headings of the original draft.

2. Representation and Credentials:

The Committee considered it expedient to introduce in the Provisional Rules of Procedure of the Council provisions regarding the representation of Members and the examination of the credentials of their representatives. For this purpose, it worked out Rules 9, 10, 11 and 12, which appear under heading II.

3. Rules regarding Languages:

It was decided, at the meeting held on 29 January, to adopt for the Council the Rules proposed to the Assembly by the First Committee. The Committee therefore included, under heading VI, Rules 21 to 29 which, in a text fitted to the requirements of the Council, are in accordance with the Rules mentioned above. Rule 26 has been included for the sake of uniformity in the text of the language rules. The form in which records are to be kept is laid down in Rules 32 and 35

and Rule 26 is not to be interpreted as imposing any obligation to keep summary records.

4. Publicity of Meetings and Records:

The Committee of Experts combined the two headings VIII and IX of the draft of the Preparatory Commission under the single heading VIII "Publicity of Meetings and Records" and changed the order of certain articles.

The problem as to what form records should take was the subject of long discussions. It was finally decided that the Secretary-General would keep verbatim reports of the meetings of the Council unless the Council should otherwise decide, and subject also to the special provisions of Rule 35 concerning private meetings.

A more precise form has been given to Rule 32 (formerly Rule 23 of the draft of the Preparatory Commission), which limits to forty-eight hours the period within which the Secretariat shall remit the records to representatives on the Council for possible corrections.

B.

Headings III (Presidency), IV (Secretariat), V (Conduct of business), VII (Voting) and IX (Admission of new members to the United Nations, formerly heading X), have been retained unchanged, except however that the former Article 15, referred to in paragraph A, I above, has been struck out.

REDRAFT OF THE PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE  
FOR THE SECURITY COUNCIL

AS APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON  
5 FEBRUARY 1946

I. MEETINGS AND AGENDA

Rule 1

With the exception of the periodic meetings provided for by Article 28(2) of the Charter, meetings of the Security Council shall be held at the call of the President at any time he deems necessary, but not more than fourteen days shall elapse between meetings.

Rule 2

The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council at the request of any member of the Council.

Rule 3

The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council if a dispute or situation is brought to the attention of the Council under Article 35 of the Charter, or if the Secretary-General brings to the attention of the Council any matter under Article 99.

Rule 4

The provisional Agenda for a meeting shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to the representatives on the Security Council at least three days before the meeting, but in urgent circumstances it may be communicated simultaneously with the notice of the meeting.

Rule 5

The periodic meetings of the Security Council called for in Article 28 (2) of the Charter shall be held .....\*

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\* The Committee of Experts makes no recommendation as to the frequency of Periodic Meetings as it is of the opinion that it is for the Security Council to form a judgment regarding the frequency of Periodic Meetings.

Rule 6

The provisional Agenda for each periodic meeting shall be circulated to the members of the Security Council at least twenty-one days before the opening of the meeting. Any subsequent change in or addition to the provisional Agenda shall be brought to the notice of the members at least five days before the meeting. The Council may, however, in urgent circumstances, make additions to the Agenda at any time during a periodic meeting.

Rule 7

The provisional Agenda for each meeting shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and approved by the President of the Security Council.

Rule 8

The first item on the provisional Agenda of any meeting of the Security Council shall be the adoption of the Agenda.

II REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 9

Each member of the Security Council shall be represented at the meetings of the Council by an accredited representative.

Rule 10

The credentials of representatives shall be examined by the President of the Security Council and the representatives of the next two members in the English alphabetical order of the names of members, who will report their findings to the Council for approval.

Rule 11

Pending the approval of the credentials of a representative in accordance with Rule 10 such representative shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives.

Rule 12

Any representative to whose credentials objection has been made within the Security Council shall continue to sit with the same rights as other representatives until the Council has decided the matter.

III PRESIDENCY

Rule 13

The Presidency of the Security Council shall be held in turn by the members of the Security Council in the English alphabetical order of their names. Each President shall hold office for one calendar month.

Rule 14

The President shall preside over the meetings of the Security Council and under the authority of the Council, shall represent it in its capacity as an organ of the United Nations.

IV SECRETARIAT

Rule 15

The Secretary General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Security Council. The Secretary General may authorize a deputy to act in his place at meetings of the Security Council.

Rule 16

The Secretary General shall provide the staff required by the Security Council. This staff shall form a part of the Secretariat.

Rule 17

The Secretary-General shall give to representatives notice of meetings of the Security Council and its committees and of matters on the agenda of those meetings.

Rule 18

The Secretary-General shall be responsible for the preparation of documents required by the Security Council and shall, except in urgent circumstances, distribute them at least forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered.

V. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 19

Any recommendation to the General Assembly regarding the appointment of the Secretary-General shall be discussed and decided at a private meeting.

Rule 20

The Security Council may invite members of the Secretariat or any person, whom it considers competent for the purpose, to supply it with information or to give their assistance in examining matters within its competence.

VI. LANGUAGES

Rule 21

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

Rule 22

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

Rule 23

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

Rule 24

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.

Rule 25

Verbatim records of meetings of the Security Council shall be drawn up in the working languages. A translation of the whole or part of any of the records into any of the other official languages shall be furnished if requested by any Representative.

Rule 26

Summary records shall be drawn up as soon as possible in the official languages

Rule 27

The Journal of the Security Council shall be issued in the working languages.

Rule 28

All resolutions and other important documents shall be made available in the official languages. Upon the request of any representative, any other document shall be made available in any or all of the official languages.

Rule 29

Documents of the Security Council shall, if the Council so decides, be published in any languages other than the official languages.



## VII. VOTING

### Rule 30

Voting in the Security Council shall be in accordance with the relevant Articles of the Charter and of the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

## VIII. PUBLICITY AND RECORDS OF MEETINGS

### Rule 31

Unless it decides otherwise, the Security Council shall meet in public

### Rule 32

Subject to the provisions of Rule 35, the Secretary General shall keep a verbatim record of each meeting, unless the Council otherwise decides. The record shall be sent within forty-eight hours to the representatives on the Council who shall within a further forty eight hours inform the Secretariat of any corrections they wish to have made.

### Rule 33

The records of public meetings and the documents relating thereto shall be published as soon as possible.

### Rule 34

At the close of each private Meeting, the Security Council shall issue a communique through the Secretary-General.

### Rule 35

The Security Council may decide that for a private meeting a record in a single copy shall alone be made. This record shall be kept by the Secretary General. The representatives of states who have taken part in the meeting shall within a period of ten days, inform the Secretariat of any corrections they wish to have made.

Rule 36

If no corrections are submitted within the time limits prescribed by Rules 32 or 35 respectively, the record shall be approved.

Rule 37

If the President is of the opinion that corrections submitted do not require the approval of the Security Council, the record shall be corrected accordingly and shall then be considered as approved.

Rule 38

The approved record shall be signed by the President of the Security Council.

IX ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE UNITED  
NATIONS

Rule 39

Any state which desires to become a Member of the United Nations shall submit an application to the Secretary-General. This application shall be accompanied by a declaration of its readiness to accept the obligations contained in the Charter.

Rule 40

The application for membership in the United Nations shall be placed by the Secretary-General before the Security Council, which shall decide whether in its judgment the applicant is a peace-loving state and is able and willing to carry out the obligations contained in the Charter.

Rule 41

Should the Security Council decide to recommend the applicant state for membership in the United Nations, this recommendation shall be placed before the General Assembly by the Secretary-General.

