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PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT ITS FIRST MEETING  
AND AMENDED AT ITS THIRTY-FIRST MEETING, 9 APRIL 1946.

I. MEETINGS

Rule 1

Meetings of the Security Council shall, with the exception of the periodic meetings referred to in Rule 4, be held at the call of the President at any time he deems necessary, but the interval between meetings shall not exceed fourteen days.

Rule 2

The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council at the request of any member of the Security 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 Security Council under Article 35 or under Article 11(3) of the Charter, or if the General Assembly makes recommendations or refers any question to the Security Council under Article 11(2), or if the Secretary-General brings to the attention of the Security Council any matter under Article 99.

Rule 4

Periodic meetings of the Security Council called for in Article 28(2) of the Charter shall be held twice a year, at such times as the Security Council may decide.

Rule 5

Meetings of the Security Council shall normally be held at the seat of the United Nations.

Any member of the Security Council or the Secretary-General may propose that the Security Council should meet at another place. Should the Security Council accept any such proposal, it shall decide upon the place, and the period during which the Council shall meet at such place.

## II. AGENDA

### Rule 6

The Secretary-General shall immediately bring to the attention of all representatives on the Security Council all communications from States, organs of the United Nations, or the Secretary-General concerning any matter for the consideration of the Security Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.

### Rule 7

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

Only items which have been brought to the attention of the representatives on the Security Council in accordance with Rule 6, items covered by Rule 10, or matters which the Security Council has previously decided to defer, may be included in the Provisional Agenda.

### Rule 8

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 9

The first item of the Provisional Agenda for each meeting of the Security Council shall be the adoption of the Agenda.

### Rule 10

Any item of the Agenda of a meeting of the Security Council, consideration of which has not been completed at that meeting, shall,

unless the Security Council otherwise decides, automatically be included in the Agenda of the next meeting.

Rule 11

The Secretary-General shall communicate each week to the representatives on the Security Council a summary statement of matters of which the Security Council is seized and of the stage reached in their consideration.

Rule 12

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 Security Council may, however, in urgent circumstances, make additions to the Agenda at any time during a periodic meeting.

The provisions of Rule 7 paragraph 1, and of Rule 9, shall apply also to periodic meetings.

III. REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Rule 13

Each member of the Security Council shall be represented at the meetings of the Security Council by an accredited representative. The credentials of a representative on the Security Council shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before he takes his seat on the Security Council. The Head of Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs of each member of the Security Council shall be entitled to sit on the Security Council without submitting credentials.

Rule 14

Any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Security Council and any State not a Member of the United Nations, if invited to participate in a meeting or meetings of the Security Council, shall

submit credentials for the representative appointed by it for this purpose. The credentials of such a representative shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before the first meeting which he is invited to attend.

Rule 15

The credentials of representatives on the Security Council and of any representative appointed in accordance with Rule 14 shall be examined by the Secretary-General who shall submit a report to the Security Council for approval.

Rule 16

Pending the approval of the credentials of a representative on the Security Council in accordance with Rule 15, such representative shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives.

Rule 17

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

IV. PRESIDENCY

Rule 18

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 19

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

V. SECRETARIAT

Rule 20

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 21

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

Rule 22

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

Rule 23

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.

VI. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Rule 24

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

Rule 25

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.

VII. LANGUAGES

Rule 26

The rules adopted at the San Francisco Conference regarding languages shall prevail until otherwise decided.

VIII. VOTING

Rule 27

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.

#### IX. PUBLICITY OF MEETINGS

##### Rule 28

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

##### Rule 29

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

##### Rule 30

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

#### X. RECORDS

##### Rule 31

Subject to the provisions of Rule 32, the Secretary-General shall keep a verbatim record of all meetings and shall send it as soon as possible to the representatives on the Council, who shall within forty-eight hours inform the Secretariat of any corrections they wish to have made.

##### Rule 32

The Security Council may decide that, for a private meeting, a summary record in a single copy shall alone be made. This record shall be kept by the Secretary-General, and the representatives of states who have taken part in the meeting may have corrections made in their own speeches within a period of ten days. On the expiry of this period the record shall be considered as approved, and shall be signed by the Secretary-General.

#### XI. ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

##### Rule 33

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 34

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 35

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.

ANNEX

PROVISIONAL PROCEDURE FOR DEALING WITH COMMUNICATIONS  
FROM PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS  
AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL BODIES

- A. A list of all communications from private individuals and non-governmental bodies relating to matters of which the Security Council is seized shall be circulated to all representatives on the Security Council.
- B. A copy of any communication on the list shall be given by the Secretariat to any representative on the Security Council at his request.

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