PROCESS OF REVISION OF INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGICAL PROGRAMME'S STATUTES AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

[Draft Rules of Procedure of IHP's Intergovernmental Council as modified by the openended working group (as of 18 May 2018) in annex]

- The **Statutes** of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) have been approved by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 18th session and amended at its 20th, 21st, 23rd, 27th and 28th sessions.
- The **Rules of Procedures (RoP)** of the IHP's Intergovernmental Council (IGC) were approved at the Council's first session and modified in accordance with the amendment of the Council's Statutes by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 21st, 23rd and 28th sessions.
- At its 52nd session (June 2015), the Bureau stressed the need to update the Statutes and RoP. Following up to the Bureau's request, the Secretariat conducted in autumn 2015 a survey, whose outcomes were presented at the 53rd session of the Bureau (April 2016) for further direction.
- IHP's Council, at its 22nd session (June 2016), endorsed Bureau's decision aiming to update the Statutes and RoP by its Resolution XII-1. The IHP Secretariat proposed then its revisions to the articles and launched a consultation among Member States between October and December 2016 for collecting their views. Member States reverted with their revisions and comments.
- The Secretariat received several replies, both regional and individual, and rephrased the responses in order to create a coherent document to be debated upon. The consolidated draft documents were circulated to Member States in October 2017, requesting them to confirm their agreement, or disagreement, that the Secretariat's rephrasing of the articles mirrored accurately their input. Some Member States/Regions considered that their standpoints were not precisely reflected and proposed concrete, reformulated articles during this last phase of the consultation process. This comments were taken into account and a new formulation was then proposed to Member States. The Secretariat synthetized, for ease of comparison, the responses.
- This consolidated document has been further edited following the comments received by the Bureau Members at the 56th Bureau session (20-22 February 2018). In particular, the Bureau requested the Secretariat to create an open-ended group, led by the Permanent Delegations of the countries member of the Bureau, but composed by all interested Member States represented by their PDs, that would work on the Statutes and Rules of Procedure prior to the 23rd IGC, taking into consideration the recommendations of the UNESCO open-ended group on governance.
- The open-ended group met on 19 April 2018, 27 April 2018 and 3 May 2018. On Friday 18 May 2018 (10 a.m. to 1 p.m.), all PDs were invited to the last meeting (Room VII) of the group prior to the 23rd session of the Council (11-15 June 2018), in order to have a consolidated document to be presented to the Council.
- This final draft of the text of the Statutes was then submitted to the 23rd session of the Council. After its adoption by the Council, the IHP Secretariat conducted

consultations with UNESCO's Central Services (Legal Affairs, Bureau of Strategic Planning, Bureau of Financial Management). Their comments were taken into account.

- The revised Statutes were presented to the 206th session of the Executive Board (April 2019). Zambia proposed an amendment: the Programme shall cover the travel expenses of LDCs and SIDS representatives member of the IHP Council to IHP statutory meetings. The amendment was adopted.
- The revised Statutes have been adopted at the 40th General Conference.
- The Council may want to consider that an open-ended group resumes the work on the Rules of Procedure, in view of according them with the revision of the Council's Statutes by the 40th General Conference and their submission to the 24th session of the IHP Council (envisaged for May 2019) for adoption. This group could be led by the Permanent Delegations to UNESCO of the country members of the IHP Bureau and should include, for their institutional memory, the Permanent Delegations of the country members of the outgoing IHP Bureau, inviting all the Permanent Delegations that wish to participate. The Secretariat would facilitate the working meetings.

Proposed modifications on IHP Intergovernmental Council Rules of Procedure

This part of the document contains:

- 1. In the first column ("Current articles"), the text of the RoP currently in force, that is, without proposed revisions.
- 2. In the second column ("Revisions by IHP Secretariat"), the text of the RoP with the revisions proposed by the IHP Secretariat in October 2016.
- 3. In the third column ("Revisions and comments by Member States"), the text of the RoP with the comments and revisions proposed by Member States after the consultation held in October 2016.
- 4. In the fourth column, the comments of the informal Working Group.

Notes:

- Proposed additions are in bold.
- Proposed deletions are in strikethrough.
- Please note that final numbering will be made after adjustments.

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
I. Memberships			
1. The Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme (hereinafter called the "Council") is composed of 36 Member States of UNESCO, elected by the General Conference in accordance with Article II of the Statutes of the Council.			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	2. Each State member of the Council shall notify the Secretariat of UNESCO of the names of the designated representatives as well as of the advisers and experts, to the extent possible at least one month before the beginning of each session.		Agreed with Secretariat's suggestion
	3. Each Member State is encouraged to observe, to the extent possible, gender balance among its designated representatives in line with UNESCO's Priority Gender Equality Action Plan.		Agreed with the edited suggestion

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
II. Sessions			
1. Date and Place			
1. The first session of the Council shall be convened by the Director-General of UNESCO. The place and date of that session shall be communicated in advance to all interested Member States and organizations.			Original first para deleted
	1.a Other The sessions of the Council shall be convened by the Secretariat of the Council in accordance with the instructions of the Bureau of the Council (hereinafter called "the Bureau").		Agreed

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		<u>Turkey:</u>	Agreed
		3.1.b. The Council sessions shall normally meet take place at the Headquarters of UNESCO. It may meet elsewhere if so decided by a majority of the Council members provided that it does not imply additional costs to the regular budget of UNESCO. Whenever modifications to the Statutes, the Rules of Procedure of the Council or any organizational related matter are on the agenda of a session of	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		the Council, the session shall be held at the Headquarters of UNESCO.	
		Turkey's additional comment: New para:	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		The Council shall hold ordinary sessions at least once and not more than twice every two years. (Reference: Recommendation 81 of the WG on Governance)	
III. Agenda 1. Provisional agenda			
1. The provisional agenda of the first session of the Council shall be prepared by the Director-General of UNESCO.			Agreed on the deletion of the original first para
		Turkey's additional comment:	Agreed

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	a. The provisional agenda of the following sessions of the Council shall be prepared by the Secretariat of the Council in consultation with the members of the Bureau	The provisional agenda of the sessions of the Council shall be prepared by the Secretariat of the Council in consultation with the members of the Bureau, taking into account the UNESCO calendar of events to avoid overlap among meetings within UNESCO	
		(Reference: Recommendation of the WG on Governance)	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	b. The provisional agenda shall be communicated at the same time to Member States—and—Associate Members—of—UNESCO—which are not members of the Council, as well—as—including—but—not—limited—to—the—United—Nations,—FAO,—WHO,—WMO,—the—IAEA—and—ICSU——International—Intergovernmental—Organizations——and—Nongovernmental—Organizations—as—listed—in rule V.3.	Turkey's additional comment: The provisional agenda shall be communicated to the Members of the Council at least two months before the opening of each session. The provisional agenda shall be communicated at the same time to the Members and Associate Members of UNESCO which are not members of the Council, including but not limited to the International Intergovernmental Organizations and Nongovernmental	Agree with merger but need to ensure the para for UN and other organizations

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		Organizations as listed in rule V.3.	
c. The provisional agenda of a session of the Council shall include:			
 all items previously decided by the Council; all items proposed by Member States of the Council; 			
- all items proposed by the United Nations or by its agencies;			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
- all items proposed by the Director-General of UNESCO.			
2. Adoption of the agenda			
At the beginning of each session, the Council shall adopt the agenda for that session.			
3. Amendments, deletions and new items			
The Council may, during a session, modify the order of items of the agenda or add or delete items. A majority of two-thirds shall be required for the addition or deletion of items during a session.			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
IV. Officers			IV. Bureau
1. Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons			
	1. At the beginning of its each ordinary session, following an ordinary session of the General Conference at which elections to the Council have been held, the Council shall elect Member States to provide a Chairperson and four Vice-Chairpersons. These, with the Chairperson of the previous Bureau, who	Turkey's additional comment: New para: (For the following paragraphs as a reference, check Article VIII of the MOST Statutes as adopted at the 39th session of the GC) Whenever the membership of the Council is modified by the General Conference in accordance with Article	Secretariat to provide the information on the Bureau documents related to the various scenarios on the Bureau Membership (3 scenarios). Especially concerning in how, where and when a new representative of an incapacitated Member of the Bureau has to be replaced, and in the case that the country that is no longer member of the council (after the GC

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	shall be an ex-officio member_remaining in office as Vice-Chairperson for his/her respective electoral group for one additional term, shall constitute the Council's Bureau. The composition of the Bureau so formed shall reflect an equitable geographical distribution and, to the extent possible, gender	II.2 of the Statutes, the Council shall elect a Chairperson, four Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, on the basis of equitable geographical representation and to the extent possible gender equality, appropriate rotation; these shall form the Council's Bureau.	elects new Members). Otherwise we agree thus far with the edited version of the Secretariat with elements from Turkey and UK & Group I.
	The members of the Bureau who are representatives of Member States of UNESCO shall remain in office until a new Bureau has been elected. If the Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson of the Chairperson of the previous Bureau ceases to represent a State Member of the Council or is so	(Reference: In accordance with the Recommendation 66 of the WG on Governance) The election of the Bureau shall take place during an extraordinary session of the Council to be convened by the Director-General during the ordinary session of the General Conference at which the members of	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	incapacitated that he/she can no longer hold office, his/her Member State shall designate a suitably qualified replacement. If for any reason, the Member State does not designate an alternate, other Member States of the Council from that Region shall be consulted in an out-of-session election to find a new representative and ensure that all Regions remain represented.	the Council are elected or as soon as thereafter. (Note: We are flexible on any arrangement as long as the election to the Bureau takes place immediately after the elections to the Council, in accordance with the recommendation 70 of the Working Group on Governance)	
	It is the Member State, and not the individual in its personal capacity, who is elected as a Member of the Bureau. The Member State designates a suitably qualified person for acting	The term of office of members of the Bureau shall expire in any event upon the expiry of their term office in the Council. -Norway/Group I:	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	as Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson.	Following the election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons at a Council session, these shall serve as observers to the Bureau for a period of twelve months with a view to ensuring institutional memory and a good knowledge of Bureau's working procedures. The outgoing Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons shall continue in functions during this time. After this period,	
		the incoming members start their two-year term. St Vincent and the Grenadines proposal missed (as proposed in the statutes):	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		If the Chairperson ceases to represent a State member of the Council or is so incapacitated that he/she can no longer hold office, the Vice-Chairperson representing the subsequent country by alphabetical order shall become chairperson for the unexpired portion of the term of office.	
		Turkey:	Agreed with Turkey
		2. Members of the Bureau are elegible for re-election shall be eligible for immediate election for a second term of office. No member of the Bureau shall serve more than two consecutive terms.	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
2. General powers of the Chairperson			
In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere by these rules, the Chairperson shall have the following powers: He/she shall declare the opening and closing of meetings, direct the discussions, ensure the observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. He/she shall rule on points of order and subject to these rules shall control the proceedings and maintenance of order.			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	2. If the Chairperson ceases to represent a State member of the Council or is so incapacitated that he/she can no longer hold office, a Vice-Chairperson shall become Chairperson for the unexpired portion of the term of office. If such Vice-Chairperson also ceases to represent a State member of the Council or is so incapacitated that he/she can no longer hold office, another Vice-Chairperson shall become Chairperson for the unexpired portion of the term of office. [See IV. 5. 1.]		

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
3. Functions of the Vice- Chairpersons			
	If the Chairperson is unable to attend at any session of the Council or Bureau or part there of, his functions shall be exercised by a Vice-Chairperson.		Agreed
		Turkey's additional comments: New para proposal:	
		Members of the Bureau shall fulfill their roles and responsibilities in accordance with the "Guidelines on Responsibilities of Representatives of Electoral Groups in	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		at the 39 th session of the General Conference, contained in document 39 C/20. (Reference: Recommendation of the WG on Governance)	
		Turkey's additional comments: New para proposals: The working documents of each Bureau meeting shall be communicated to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO one month before the opening of each meeting and shall be made available online.	
		The final report of each Bureau meeting shall be sent to all Member States and Associate	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		Members of UNESCO and shall be made available online.	
V. Committees and working groups 1. Committees		Saint Vincent and the Grenadines: V. Regional/Sub-Regional Committees and working groups	
1. Committees, including regional and subregional, set up by the Council in accordance with Article V, paragraphs 1, 3 and 4, of the Statutes of the Council shall meet in accordance with the decisions of the Council or of the Bureau.			Added para 4 based on Turkey's suggestion

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
2. These committees shall elect their own Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and, if necessary, their own rapporteur.			
3. These rules of procedure shall also apply to meetings of committees unless the Council decides otherwise.			
4. These committees shall function in between the ordinary sessions of the Council unless the Council decides otherwise and shall submit a report on the outcomes of its work to the Council			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
2. Working groups			
1. Working groups set up by the Council in accordance with Article V, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, of the Statutes of the Council shall meet in accordance with the decisions of the Council or the Bureau.			Added para 3 based on Turkey's suggestion
2. These working groups shall elect their own Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and if necessary their own rapporteur.			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
3. These working groups shall function in between the ordinary sessions of the Council unless the Council decides otherwise and shall submit a report on the outcomes of its work to the Council.			
3. Observers			
	1. The Council can decide to invite other actors as observers to all meetings of the Council, of its Committees and of its working groups, meaning that:	St Vincent and the Grenadines remarks missed. To align with the proposal in the statutes and to add if agreed:	Done, taking into consideration the remarks of Czechia and Romania as well as Mexico (partially)
	1 (a) Representatives of the United Nations,	"Category 2 water- related Institutes	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	United Nations Educational,	and Centres, UNESCO Chairs"	
	Scientific and Cultural	ONEGGO GHairs	
	Organization, the		
	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency may take part, without the	Remarks: we do not need to invite UNESCO as it is a UNESCO's intergovernmental body who is inviting for such meeting.	
	right to vote, in all meetings of the Council, of its committees and of its working groups. This includes particular actors under the above-stated organizations, UNESCO-IHE, the World Water Assessment		

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	Programme and UN- Water.		
	1 (b) Representatives of the International Council for Science, of its Committee on Water Research and of its affiliated International Association of the Hydrological Sciences and International Association of Hydrogeologists, of the International Association for Hydraulic Research, of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, the International		
	Commission of Large Dams and of the		

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	International Water Resources Association, of the International Association of Academies of Sciences, of the International Hydropower Association, and of the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research may take part, without the right to vote, in all meetings of the Council, of its committees and of its working groups.		
	(c) Further to the aforementioned entities the Council could consider other		

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	actors for the status of observer that might find appropriate at the time.		
VI. Secretariat 1. Secretariat			
1. The Director-General shall place at the disposal of the Council such members of the Secretariat of UNESCO as may be necessary as well as other means required for its operation.			
2. The Director-General or his/her representative may make oral as well as written			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
statements to the Council, its committees and working groups and to the Bureau concerning any question under consideration.			
VII. Languages 1. Working languages			
	English, French, Spanish, and Russian, Arabic and Chinese shall be the working languages of the Council.		Agreed with the edited version of the Secretariat that reflects the 6 official UN languages
2. Use of other languages			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
	1. Any representative may make a speech in a language other than the working languages currently in use for a particular session of the Council or of a Committee on the condition that he/she provides at least 1 hour before his/her presentation a text for the interpretation of his/her speech translated into one or other of the said working languages.		Agreed
VIII. Reports and documents 1. Report			
		Turkey's additional comment:	Agreed with the proposal from Turkey

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		1. The Secretariat shall submit a report on its activities and all other activities of UNESCO in the field of water as well as the activities of the Water Family to each session of the Council and shall be made available online	
		Turkey's additional comment: 2. The Secretariat shall submit a report on its activities to Council Member States and Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO, which are not members of the	Agreed with the proposal from Turkey

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		Council in between the ordinary sessions of the Council and shall be made available online.	
		Turkey's additional comment: New para proposal: The final report of each Council session shall be sent to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO and shall be made available online.	
3. The Council shall submit reports on its activities to each ordinary session of the General Conference of			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
UNESCO and shall be made available online.			
4. Copies of these reports shall be circulated by the Director-General of UNESCO in accordance with Article X.1 of the Statutes of the Council.			
2. Working Documents			
		Turkey's additional comment: 1. The working documents of each session of the Council shall, as a rule, be communicated to all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO one month	

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016) before the opening of each session in the working languages of the Council as specified in the abovestated Rule VII paragraph 1 and shall be made available online. Draft resolutions should also preferably be sent at the same time, without excluding the possibility of new resolutions to be introduced during the Council session.	Comments of the Working Group
IX. Meetings 1. Quorum			
A simple majority of the States which are members			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
of the Council shall constitute a quorum.			
2. At meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Council a quorum shall be constituted by a simple majority of the States, which are members of the Council and which are members of the body in question.		2. At meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Council a quorum shall be constituted by a simple majority of the States which are members of the Council and which are members of the body in question.	
2. Publicity of meetings			
All meetings of the Council shall be open to the public unless the Council decides otherwise.			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
X. Conduct of business 1. Right to speak			
1. Experts and observers may, with the authorization of the Chairperson, make oral or written statements before the Council and its committees. 2. Order of speeches	1. The Chairperson shall call upon speakers in the order in which they have expressed the desire to speak, starting with the Members of the Council and followed by the observers.		

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
		Turkey's additional comments: New para proposal: Observers shall not be given the right to speak during the adoption of decisions and voting.	
3. Time limit on speeches			
The Council may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker.			
4. Points of order			
During the discussion on any matter, a representative may at any time raise a point of order and the point of			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
order shall be forthwith decided by the Chairperson. Any representative may appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson which can only be overruled by a majority of the members present and voting. A representative may not in raising a point of order speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.			
	Each resolution will be discussed and adopted under the relevant agenda item.		
5. Suspension, adjournment, closure			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
1. Any representative may, at any time, propose the suspension, adjournment or closure of a meeting or of a debate. Such a motion shall be put to the vote immediately. The order of priority of such motions shall be as follows: (a) suspension of the meeting; (b) adjournment of the meeting; (c) adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion; (d) closure of the debate on the item under discussion.			
XI. Voting			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
1. Voting rights			
Each Member State which is a member of the Council shall have one vote.			
2. Simple majority			
1. Unless otherwise provided in these rules, decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of 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 who abstain from			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
voting are considered as not voting.			
3. Show of hands and roll call			
1. Voting shall normally be by show of hands, except that any member may request a roll call. The vote and abstention of each member participating in the roll call shall be inserted in the report.			
4. Voting on amendments			
		 When an amendment to a proposal is moved, the amendment shall be voted on first. 	Added comma

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
2. When two or more amendments to a proposal are moved, the Council shall first vote on the amendment deemed by the Chairperson to be the furthest removed from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest therefrom, and so on, until all amendments have been put to a vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on. If no amendment is adopted, the proposal shall be put to the vote in its original form.			
3. A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
it adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal.			
5. Secret ballot (As amended by the IHP Council at its 14 th session in June 2000)			
1. All elections shall be decided by secret ballot unless, in the absence of objections, the Council decides otherwise.			
2 (a) Before the voting begins, the Chairperson shall appoint two tellers to scrutinize the votes cast.			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
2 (b) When the counting of the votes is completed and the tellers have reported to the Chairperson, he/she shall announce the results of the ballot bearing in mind that the voting will be recorded as follows:			
 i. From the total number of Members of the Council will be deducted: the number of Members absent, if any; the number of blank ballots, if any; the number of invalid ballots, if any. 			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
ii. The remaining number will constitute the number of votes cast. The majority required will be more than half that number.			
iii. Those receiving a number of votes in favor, equal or superior to the majority required shall be declared elected.			
3 (a) When a single elective place is to be filled, any candidate obtaining in the first ballot an absolute majority (i.e. more than half) of the votes cast shall be declared elected.			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
3 (b) If no candidate obtains absolute majority in the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken, restricted to the two candidates who obtained the most votes in the first ballot. The candidate obtaining a majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected.		October 2010)	
4. When two or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same condition, those candidates obtaining in the first ballot an absolute majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected. If the number of candidates obtaining such a majority is			

Current articles	Revisions by IHP Secretariat (circulated among Member States in October 2016)	Revisions and comments by Member States (as proposed after consultation in October 2016)	Comments of the Working Group
less than the number of places to be filled, there shall be additional ballots to fill the remaining places, the voting being restricted to the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot, to a number not exceeding twice the number of places remaining to be filled.			
5. If necessary, in order to determine the candidates to participate in a restricted ballot, an eliminating ballot may be taken restricted to the candidates having obtained the same number of votes in the previous ballot.			

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6. If, in the final ballot or an eliminating ballot, two or more candidates obtain the same number of votes, the Chairperson shall decide between them by drawing lots.			
6. Equally divided votes			
If a vote is equally divided on matters other than elections, the proposal shall be registered as rejected.			
XII. Special procedures 1. Special consultation by correspondence			
	Should the approval of the Council be required for measures of		Agreed

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	exceptional urgency and importance while the Council is not in session, the Chairperson may, by means of the Secretariat, consult the members by correspondence or electronic means. The proposed measures shall be adopted if it is approved by two thirds of the members.		
XIII. Amendment 1. Amendment			
These rules of procedure, except where they reproduce provisions of the Council Statutes or			

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decisions of the General Conference, may be amended by a decision of the Council taken by a simple majority of the members present and voting, provided the proposal for amendment has been placed on the agenda.			
30. Suspension			
Suspension of any of these rules shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.			