COMMITTEE FOR INLAND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE OF AFRICA

Sixteenth Session

Maputo, Mozambique, 16-18 November 2010

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES AND RULES OF PROCEDURE

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This document deals with a set of proposed amendments to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Committee for Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa, hereinafter referred to as CIFAA or the Committee. The Committee was established by the Director-General, under Article VI, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, on the authority of Council Resolution 1/56 adopted by the Council at its Fifty-Sixth Session, in June 1971.

2. Under Article VI, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, the Conference, the Council, or the Director-General on the authority of the Conference or Council, may establish committees and working parties to study and report on matters pertaining to the purpose of the Organization. The terms of reference of these bodies are usually determined by the Conference or the Council. Resolution 1/56 authorized the Director-General to establish under Article VI, paragraph 2 of the Constitution the Committee and to promulgate Statutes on the basis of draft Statutes reviewed at the time by the Council.

3. The Statutes were promulgated by the Director-General in 1971 and the Committee adopted Rules of Procedure at its First Session in 1972. Both instruments remained substantially the same since then. Following a recommendation made by the Committee at its Fourteenth Session held in Accra, Ghana, in November 2006, the

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1 At its Seventeenth and Eighteenth Sessions in 1973 and 1975, the Conference of FAO adopted amendments to the Basic Texts of the Organization with respect to (i) the participation of Non-Member States in FAO bodies and meetings and (ii) the Rules of Procedure of bodies established under Article VI or Article XIV of the Constitution. On that occasion, it invited the bodies concerned to bring their Rules of Procedure and as appropriate their Statutes into line with those amendments. In addition, at its Seventieth Session in 1976, the Council authorized the Director-General to amend the Statutes of bodies under Article VI of the Constitution to bring them into line with the terms of the decisions of the Conference. The Director-General amended the Statutes of CIFAA accordingly. In 1977, CIFAA approved amendments to its Rules of Procedure.
Council agreed that the name of the Committee should be changed into “Committee for Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa”.

II. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES

4. During the Fifteenth Session of CIFAA (Lusaka, Zambia, 9-11 December 2008), Members unanimously supported a review of the Terms of Reference of CIFAA. The Terms of Reference had not been modified since the Committee’s establishment in 1971. The Committee considered that they should be updated to take into account modern over-arching socio-cultural and economic concerns such as biodiversity conservation, climate change, pressure on resources and long-term sustainability. On that occasion, the Committee agreed on the substance of revised Terms of Reference for the Committee contained in document CIFAA/XV/2008/4. Proposed new Terms of Reference, based on the deliberations of the Committee at that session, are reflected in Paragraph 2 of the revised Statutes, set out in Appendix I to this document.

5. Taking advantage of the current process of review of the Statutes of CIFAA, the Committee may wish to advise whether Paragraph 4 of the Statutes of the Committee on reporting should also be amended to reflect a number of actions contained in the Immediate Plan of Action (IPA) for FAO Renewal (2009-11) adopted by the Conference of FAO at its Thirty-fifth (Special) Session in 2008. Two options are envisaged in the attached revised Statutes:

5.1. Under a first option, a limited amendment could be made to Paragraph 4 of the Statutes. This amendment would, in essence, reflect the fact that in accordance with the new governance structure of the Organization and the amendments to the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization approved by the Conference, at its session of 2009, the Conference will deal primarily with policy and regulatory matters and the Council with programme and budget matters. These new “reporting” lines would be reflected through a limited amendment to Paragraph 4 of the revised Statutes.

5.2. Under a second option, consideration would be given not only to the respective new functions of the Conference and the Council, as indicated above, but also to an enhanced role of the Technical Committees, in this particular case the Committee on Fisheries, consistent with the new framework established by the Basic Texts and the IPA. Under this option, a reformulation of proposed Paragraph 4 of the revised Statutes is suggested. The new formulation is based on a revised paragraph on reporting, currently under consideration by the FAO Council, for the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission (EIFAC).

2 CL 133/REP, paragraph 52.

3 It should be mentioned that the Section of Volume II of the Basic Texts entitled “Principles and Procedures which Should Govern Conventions and and Agreements Concluded under Articles XIV and XV of the Constitution, and Commissions and Committees Established under Article VI of the Constitution” will be amended in future. In that context, the Principles and Procedures on reporting will certainly be amended. In addition, the issue of possible reporting to the Technical Committees by statutory bodies under Articles VI and and XIV of the Constitution in general, and of reporting by fisheries bodies under Articles VI and XIV of the Constitution to the Technical Committees is a complex one, involving many dimensions. There will be a need, inter alia, to define a format for such reporting and the respective expectations of the statutory bodies, the Technical Committees and their membership in respect to the reporting.
6. Also taking advantage of the proposed revision of the Statutes, some references to aquaculture have been included in Paragraphs 1, 5 and 6 of the Statutes, as appropriate, in order to reflect the new name and current activities of the Committee.

7. The Committee is invited to review and endorse the proposed amendments to Paragraphs 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 of the Statutes of CIFAA contained in Appendix I to this document. The proposed amendments to the Statutes would be referred to the Council at its Hundred and Forty-first Session, in April 2011, for approval, through the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM), at its Ninety-second Session, in March 2011. The Council Resolution approving the revised Statutes would authorize the Director-General to promulgate them. The revised Statutes would enter into force on the date of promulgation by the Director-General.

III. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

8. During the Fifteenth Session of CIFAA (Lusaka, Zambia, 9-11 December 2008), the Committee also supported a proposal to amend Rule II of its Rules of Procedure in order for the Committee to elect its Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the end of the session, instead of doing so at the beginning of the session, as currently established in the Rules of Procedure. It may be of interest to mention that when CIFAA adopted its Rules of Procedure in 1972, these made provision for the election of officers at the end of sessions. This provision was amended by CIFAA in 1983 to the effect that election should take place at the beginning of sessions. However, with some exceptions, there has now been a trend in a number of Governing Bodies and statutory bodies of FAO to elect their officers at the end of sessions. The rationale for this is that the officers elected at the end of sessions will be following during the inter-session period the development of a programme of work, which will be examined at the next session of the Committee in the course of which they will hold office.

9. Again, taking advantage of the review of the Rules of Procedure it is proposed to make the Rules gender neutral by using the words “Chairperson” instead of “Chairman”, “Vice-Chairperson” instead of “Vice-Chairman”, and “Vice-Chairpersons” instead of “Vice-Chairmen”.

10. Furthermore, as anticipated above, amendments are also proposed to Rule VIII, paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure (in order to bring it into line with Article V, paragraph 6 of the Constitution and pertinent Rules of the GRO) and to Rule I, (including aquaculture among the activities of the Committee). The considerations made in paragraph 10 of this document on reporting in connection with the revised Statutes of the Committee apply to the Rules of Procedure.

11. The Committee is invited to review and adopt the proposed amendments to its Rules of Procedure set out in Appendix II of this document.

12. Pursuant to Paragraph 8 of the CIFAA Statutes, the amended Rules of Procedure “shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General”. No endorsement by the Council of the amendments is required. Given the connection between these amendments

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4 Under Rule XII, paragraph 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee, amendments to the Rules are approved at a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.
and the amendments to the Committee’s Statutes, the approval by the Director-General of the revised Rules of Procedure would likely be given at the time of promulgation of the amended Statutes.

IV. SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE COMMITTEE

13. The Committee is invited to review the proposed amendments to its Statutes and Rules of Procedure as set out in Appendixes I and II hereto, and make such comments and observations thereon as appropriate.

14. The Committee is, in particular, invited to:

   a) endorse the proposed amendments to Paragraphs 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 of the Statutes and refer them to the Council for approval, through the CCLM; and

   b) adopt the proposed amendments to Rules I, II, III, IV, V, VII and VIII of the Rules of Procedure and refer them to the Director-General for approval.
COMMITTEE FOR INLAND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE OF AFRICA

THE COUNCIL,

Recognizing the demonstrated importance of inland fisheries and aquaculture to Africa and the urgent need for consolidation of efforts in the further development of these areas;

Considering that the “Committee for Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa (CIFAA)” was established under Article VI, paragraph 2 of the Constitution, on the authority of Council Resolution 1/56, adopted by the Fifty-Sixth Session of the Council, which took place in Rome from 7 to 18 June 1971;

Noting that CIFAA Statutes were amended by the Director-General pursuant to Resolutions 10/73 and 26/75 of the FAO Conference and that the Committee’s name was changed by the Hundred and Thirtieth-third Session of the Council which took place in Rome, in November 2007, in order to reflect aquaculture activities;

Bearing in mind that CIFAA has operated in an effective manner since its creation in 1971 and that, as a result of the experience it has gained over the years, the need has arisen to introduce a series of changes to its Statutes;

Taking note that the Sixteenth Session of CIFAA, held in Maputo, Mozambique, from 16 to 18 November 2010, agreed to amend the Statutes of CIFAA to better reflect new realities in the region, including by taking into account modern overarching socio-cultural and economic concerns, such as biodiversity, conservation, climate change, pressure on resources and long-term sustainability;

Hereby amends the Statutes of the “Committee for Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa (CIFAA)” and authorizes the Director-General to promulgate the Statutes contained in the Appendix to this Resolution.
1. **Membership**

The Committee shall be composed of African Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization selected by the Director-General of the Organization on the basis of their active interest in inland fishery and aquaculture development in Africa and of their potential contribution to the effective discharge of the functions of the Committee.

2. **Terms of reference**

The terms of reference of the Committee shall be:

- (a) to promote, coordinate and assist national and regional fishery and limnological surveys and programmes of research and development leading to the rational utilization of inland fishery resources

- (b) to assist Member Governments in establishing the scientific basis for regulatory and other measures for the conservation and improvement of inland fishery resources, to formulate such measures through subsidiary bodies as required, and to make appropriate recommendations for the adoption and implementation of these measures

- (c) to promote and coordinate efforts on a national and regional basis to prevent damage to the aquatic environment, including the prevention and control of water pollution

- (d) to assist in the development of fish culture and stock improvement, including the control of fish diseases and the importation of exotic species

- (e) to promote and assist in the utilization of the most effective fishing craft, gear and techniques

- (f) to promote and assist activities concerned with the processing, preservation and marketing of fish and fish products

- (g) to encourage education and training through the establishment or improvement of national and regional institutions and by the promotion and the organization of symposia, seminars, study-tours and training-centres

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5 In the text of the draft amendments reproduced below, the proposals regarding deletions are indicated using **strikethrough text** and the proposals for insertions are indicated using **underlined italics**.
(h) to assist in the collection, interchange, dissemination and analysis of statistical, biological and environmental data and other inland fishery information

(i) to assist Member Governments in formulating national and regional programmes to be implemented through sources of international aid to help achieve the objectives referred to in the preceding paragraphs.

(a) to co-ordinate and serve as a platform for intra-regional discussion, planning and exchange of experiences to promote wide application of best practices leading to sustainable development of aquaculture and sustainable use of capture fisheries;

(b) to promote collaboration amongst all stakeholders with special attention given to regional and sub-regional structures;

(c) to promote and support enhanced communications and information exchange among Members and their stakeholders, including to actively collaborate with specific regional networks;

(d) to promote sustainable management and the application of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) and aquaculture development as well as relevant best practices;

(e) to promote equitable access to the Region’s land and water resources whilst supporting responsible and sustainable use;

(f) to assist Members to develop and implement aquaculture programs that are consistent with national food security strategies and poverty reduction, to support Members to adopt an ecosystem approach to aquaculture development and to support the increased role of private sector and other non-state institutions in national and regional aquaculture development initiatives;

(g) to assist Members to develop and implement inland fisheries programs that are consistent with national food security strategies and poverty reduction as well as support Members to adopt an ecosystem approach to inland fisheries development;

(h) to promote the collection, management, analysis and use of valid and credible statistics in the management of the Region’s resources;
(i) to benchmark and promote the adoption of appropriate policies, strategies and plans for the management of the sub-sectors at national, sub-regional and regional levels;

(j) to serve as a focal point for coordination, harmonization and facilitation of education and research on inland fisheries and aquaculture undertaken in the Region;

(k) to endorse proactive monitoring and evaluation programmes, and provide guidance for the implementation of those programmes at national, sub-regional and regional levels;

(l) to promote effective representation and participation of fishing communities in fisheries management;

(m) to assist Members in formulating regional and national programmes in aquaculture and capture fisheries and assist in the mobilization of resources as well as encourage Members to mobilize and utilise their own national resources so as to increases the sense of ownership of CIFAA;

(n) to promote and sponsor environmental and biodiversity conservation including the adoption of appropriate technologies, advise on trans-boundary movement of aquatic organisms including the use of genetically modified organisms, the establishment of conservation areas as appropriate, accurate and timely monitoring as well as proactive engagement to protect endangered resources; and

(o) to advance quality control and consumer protection by supporting Members and formulate and implement quality standards.

3. Subsidiary bodies

(a) The Committee may establish an Executive Committee and such other subsidiary bodies as may be required for the effective discharge of its functions.

(b) The establishment of any subsidiary body shall be subject to the determination by the Director-General that the necessary funds are available in the relevant chapter of the budget of the Organization. Before taking any decision involving expenditure in connection with the establishment of subsidiary bodies, the Committee must have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications thereof.
4. **Reporting**

**OPTION 1**

The Committee shall submit to the Director-General reports on its activities and recommendations at such appropriate intervals as to enable the Director-General to take them into consideration when preparing the draft Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization and other submissions to the Conference, Council or the Standing Committees of the Council. The Director-General shall bring to the attention of the Conference through the Council any recommendations adopted by the Committee which have policy implications or which affect the programme or finances of the Organization. Recommendations of the Committee having policy and regulatory or programme and budgetary implications shall be reported to the Conference or Council, as the case may be, through the Committee on Fisheries. Copies of each report of the Committee will be circulated to Members of the Committee and to other Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and international organizations for their information as soon as they become available.

**OPTION 2 (similar to the reporting provisions of the Statutes of the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission)**

Copies of reports of the Committee shall be circulated to Members of the Committee and to other Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and international organizations for their information as soon as they become available. The activities of the Committee shall be reported to the Committee on Fisheries as appropriate. The Committee shall submit to the Director-General reports on its activities and recommendations at such appropriate intervals as to enable the Director-General to take them into consideration when preparing the Programme of Work and Budget and other submissions to the Governing Bodies. Recommendations of the Committee having policy and regulatory or programme and budgetary implications shall be reported to the Conference or Council, as the case may be, through the Committee on Fisheries.

5. **Expenses**

(a) The expenses of the Secretariat of the Committee shall be determined and paid by the Organization within the limits of the relevant appropriations in the approved budget of the Organization.

(b) With a view to promoting the development of inland fisheries and aquaculture, the Organization may also establish trust funds comprising voluntary contributions from the Members of the Committee or from private or public sources, and the Committee may advise on the use of such funds which shall be administered by the Director-General in accordance with the financial regulations of the Organization.
6. Observers

(a) Any Member Nation or Associate Member of the Organization that is not a Member of the Committee but has an interest in the development of the inland fishery and aquaculture resources of Africa, may upon its request, be invited by the Director-General to attend meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies in an observer capacity if the Director-General deems such attendance to be in the interests of the effective discharge of the functions of the Committee.

(b) States which, while not Member Nations of the Organization, are members of the United Nations, any of its Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, may, upon their request and subject to the provisions adopted by the Conference of the Organization relating to the granting of observer status to nations, be invited to attend sessions of the Committee, its subsidiary bodies, and ad hoc meetings in an observer capacity. The status of the States invited to such sessions or meetings shall be governed by the relevant provisions adopted by the Conference of the Organization.

7. Participation of international organizations

Participation of international organizations in the work of the Committee and relations between the Committee and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization, as well as the rules on relations with international organizations adopted by the Conference and Council of the Organization.

8. Rules of Procedure

The Committee may adopt and amend its own rules of procedure which shall be in conformity with the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization and with the Statement of Principles Governing Commissions and Committees adopted by the Conference. The rules of procedure and amendments thereto shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General.
RULES OF PROCEDURE*

Rule I – Membership

1. Members of the Committee are selected by the Director-General of the Organization from among African Member Nations and Associate Members on the basis of their active interest in inland fishery and aquaculture development in Africa and on their potential contribution to the effective discharge of the functions of the Committee. Member Nations and Associated Members shall be considered as Members of the Committee upon receipt by the Director-General of notification of their acceptance of the invitation to be so considered.

2. Each Member of the Committee shall, before the opening of each session, communicate to the Director-General the name of its representative who should, as far as possible, be its most senior officer responsible for inland fishery and aquaculture research and development.

Rule II – Officers

1. The Committee shall elect, at the beginning end of every session, a Chairperson and a maximum of three Vice-Chairpersons who shall remain in office until the election of the new Chairperson and new Vice-Chairpersons.

2. The Chairperson, or in his absence a Vice-Chairperson, shall preside at meetings of the Committee and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate the work of the Committee. The Vice-Chairperson acting as Chairperson shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairperson.

3. In the event that both the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons are unable to serve, the Director-General or his representative shall act as Chairperson, until an ad hoc Chairperson is elected.

4. The Director-General shall appoint from among the staff of the Organization a Secretary of the Committee, who shall be responsible to him.

*In the text of the draft amendments reproduced below, the proposals regarding deletions are indicated using struck out text and the proposals for insertions are indicated using underlined italics.
Rule III – Steering Committee

The Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson of the Committee will act as a Steering Committee during sessions.

Rule IV – Sessions

1. The Committee shall normally hold only such sessions in each biennium as are listed in the Programme of Work of the Organization for the relevant period, subject, however, to the authority of the Director-General to make exceptions when in consultation with the Committee and in his view such action is necessary for the fulfillment of the Programme of Work as approved by the Conference; such exceptions being reported to the session of the Council immediately following such action.

2. The sessions of the Committee shall be convened by the Director-General, who shall decide on the place where they are to be held, in consultation with the Chairperson and the competent authorities of the host country, taking into account the views expressed by the Committee.

3. Notice of the date and place of each session of the Committee shall normally be communicated at least three months before the session to all Members of the Committee, to such Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization that are not Members of the Committee and to such non-Member Nations of the Organization and international organizations as may have been invited to attend the session.

4. Each Member of the Committee shall have one representative who may be accompanied by alternates and advisers. An alternate or adviser shall not have the right to vote except when substituting for a representative.

5. Meetings of the Committee shall be held in public unless the Committee decides otherwise.

6. A majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum that is half the number of members plus one.
Rule V – Agenda

1. The Director-General, in consultation with the Chairperson, shall prepare a provisional agenda for each session of the Committee.

2. The first item on the provisional agenda shall be the adoption of the agenda. No matter referred to the Committee by the Conference or Council or the Organization may be omitted from the agenda.

3. Any Member of the Committee may request the Director-General to include any specific item in the provisional agenda.

4. The provisional agenda shall be circulated by the Director-General at least two months before the date on which the opening of the session is scheduled to take place, to all Members of the Committee, to such Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization that are not Members of the Committee and to such non–Member nations of the Organization and international organizations as may have been invited to attend the session.

5. Any Member of the Committee and the Director-General may, after the dispatch of the provisional agenda but not later than one month before the date on which the opening of the session is scheduled to take place, propose the inclusion of specific items in the agenda. Such proposals shall be accompanied by a written explanation of the reasons why the inclusion of the items in the agenda is considered desirable. These items shall be placed on a supplementary list, which shall be dispatched by the Director-General to all Members of the Committee, other Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization attending the session and to such non–Member Nations and international organizations invited to the session, failing which the items shall be communicated to the Chairperson for submission to the Committee.

6. Documents to be submitted to the Committee at any session shall be furnished by the Director-General to the Members of the Committee, the other Members of the Organization attending the session and to the non–Member Nations and international organizations invited to the session, at the time the agenda is dispatched or as soon as possible thereafter.

7. Subject to paragraph 2 of this Rule, the Committee may, at any session, decide by a two-thirds majority to amend the agenda by the deletion, addition or modification of any item.
Rule VI – Voting and Procedures

1. Each Member of the Committee shall have one vote.

2. Decisions of the Committee shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast, unless otherwise provided in these Rules.

3. Upon the request of any Member of the Committee, voting shall be by roll call, in which case the vote of each Member shall be recorded.

4. When the Committee so decides, voting shall be by secret ballot.

5. Voting in the Committee shall be carried out *mutatis mutandis* in accordance with the pertinent provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization.

Rule VII – Observers

1. Any Member Nations or Associate Member of the Organization that is not a Member of the Committee but has an interest in the development of the inland fishery *and aquaculture* resources of Africa, may, upon its request, be invited by the Director-General to attend meetings of the Committee or its subsidiary bodies in an observer capacity if the Director-General deems such attendance to be in the interests of the effective discharge of the functions of the Committee.

2. States which, while not Member Nations of the Organization, are members of the United Nations, any of its Specialized Agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency, may, upon their request and subject to the provisions adopted by the Conference of the Organization relating to the granting of observer status to nations, be invited to attend sessions of the Committee, its subsidiary bodies, and *ad hoc* meetings in an observer capacity. The status of States invited to such sessions or meetings shall be governed by the relevant provisions adopted by the Conference of the Organization.

3. Subject to the provisions of the following paragraph the Director-General may invite international organizations to attend sessions of the Committee in an observer capacity.

4. Participation of international organizations in the work of the Committee and the relations between the Committee and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution of the Organization and the General Rules of the Organization as well as by the general regulations of
the Organization on relations with international organizations. All such relations shall be dealt with by the Director-General.

Rule VIII – Records and Reports

1. At each session, the Committee shall approve a report embodying its views, recommendations and decisions, including when requested a statement of minority views. Such other records for its own use as the Committee may on occasion decide shall also be maintained.

2. The conclusions and recommendations of the Committee shall be transmitted to the Director-General at the close of each session, and he shall circulate them to Members of the Committee and to nations and international organizations that were represented at the session and, upon request, to other Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization for their information.

3. Recommendations of the Committee having policy and regulatory, or programme and financial and budgetary implications for the Organization shall be brought by the Director-General to the attention of the Conference through the Council or to the Conference or Council as the case may be, through the Committee on Fisheries, as appropriate.

4. The Director-General may request Members of the Committee to supply information to him in order to keep the Committee informed on action taken by its Members on the basis of its recommendations.

Rule IX – Subsidiary Bodies

1. The Committee may establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary for the accomplishment of its task.

2. Membership in subsidiary bodies may be made up of all or selected Members of the Committee or of individuals appointed in their personal capacity.

3. The Committee may recommend to the Director-General the convening of ad hoc meetings, either of representatives of Members of the Committee or of experts serving in an individual capacity, in order to study problems that because of their specialized nature could not fruitfully be discussed during the normal sessions of the Committee.
4. Experts who are to serve in their personal capacity as members of any subsidiary body or who are to be invited to attend ad hoc meetings shall be chosen by the Committee unless the Committee decides otherwise, and shall be appointed by the Director-General in accordance with established procedures.

5. The terms of reference of the subsidiary bodies and the questions to be discussed by ad hoc meetings shall be determined by the Committee.

6. The establishment of subsidiary bodies and the convening of ad hoc meetings shall be subject to the availability of the necessary funds in the relevant chapter of the approved budget of the Organization. The determination of such availability shall be made by the Director-General. Only such sessions of subsidiary bodies and ad hoc meetings shall be convened in each biennium as are listed in the Programme of Work of the Organizations for the relevant period, subject, however, to the authority of the Director-General to make exceptions when in his view much action is necessary for the fulfillment of the Programme of the Work as approved by the Conference; these exceptions being reported to the Session of the Council immediately following such action.

7. Before taking any decision involving expenditures in connection with the establishment of subsidiary bodies or the convening of an ad hoc meeting, the Committee shall have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implication thereof.

8. Each subsidiary body and ad hoc meeting shall elect its own officers.

9. The Rules of the Committee shall apply mutatis mutandis to its subsidiary bodies and ad hoc meetings.

Rule X – Expenses

1. Expenses incurred by representatives of Members of the Committee, their alternates or advisers, when attending sessions of the Committee, sub-committees working parties or ad hoc meetings, as well as the expenses incurred by observers at sessions, shall be borne by the respective governments or organizations.

2. Expenses of experts invited by the Director-General to attend sessions or meetings in their individual capacity shall be borne by the Organization.

3. Any financial operations relating to the Committees and its subsidiary bodies shall be governed by the appropriate provisions of the Financial Regulations of the Organization.
Rule XI – Languages

English and French shall be the working languages of the Committee.

Rule XII – Amendment and Suspension of Rules

1. Amendment of, or additions to, these Rules may be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the membership of the Committee provided that 24 hours’ notice of the proposal for the amendment or addition has been given. Amendments or additions to these Rules shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General.

2. Any of the above Rules of the Committee, other than Rule I-1, Rule II-4, Rule IV-1, 2 and 6, Rule V-2, Rule VI-1 and 2, Rule VII, Rule VIII-3 and 4, Rule IX-5, 6 and 7, Rule X and Rule XII-1 may be suspended by the Committee by a two thirds majority of the votes cast, provided that 24 hours’ notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given. Such notice may be waived if no Member of the Committee objects.