



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

31st session of the IOC Assembly

Item 4.3 – Follow-up to Resolution EC-53/2

IOC/A-31/4.3.Doc(1)

Karim Hilmi, IOC Vice-Chair & Chair of IFAG

April – June 2021 IFAG CORE MEMBERSHIP

(responses to CL 2837 of 18 March 2021)

23 Member States:

Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Canada,
China, Egypt, France, Germany, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait,
Madagascar, Morocco, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Russian
Federation, Turkey, UK, USA



OUR MANDATE: Documentation to review & discuss

IOC/A-31/3.2.Doc(2) – Report on 2020–2021 (40 C/5) budget implementation as at 31 December 2020

IOC/A-31/3.2.Doc(3) – Financial situation of the IOC Special Account as at year end 2020 and Forecast for 2021

IOC/A-31/4.1.Doc(1) – Draft IOC Medium Term Strategy for 2022–2029 (41 C/4)

IOC/A-31/4.2.Doc(1) – Draft Programme and Budget for 2022–2025 (41 C/5) – First Biennium 2022–2023

OUR MANDATE: Documentation to review & discuss

- + Revision of the IOC Rules of Procedure – IFAG2021/Note 1
- + Reporting on in-kind contributions – IFAG2021/Note 2

<https://oceanexpert.org/event/2996>



**IOC/A-31/4.3.Doc(1) – Report of the Chairperson of the IOC
Intersessional Financial Advisory Group (2021)**

Resolution EC-53/2

IFAG 2021 to consider ‘the need to review and possibly update the IOC’s Rules of Procedure in order to align and adapt them to the prevailing United Nations’ best practices concerning online meetings facilitating informed and timely decision-making by IOC Member States’

Main findings from consultations with the UNESCO Legal Advisor:

- IOC RoP do not prohibit online meetings but some clauses ‘imply’ presence for technical reasons (ex. secret ballot for elections)
- UNESCO did not update its RoP but adopted Guidelines for on-line meetings
- A number of issues in the current RoP could benefit from clarification (ex. discrepancies between language versions, procedure for consultation by correspondence etc)
- Two sets of rules – one for the Assembly and one for the EC – are suggested

Proposed timeline:

- EC to review the first draft of its RoPs at the 55th session in 2022
- Assembly to adopt its RoPs at its 32nd session in 2023
- EC extraordinary session after the 32nd session of the Assembly to adopt its RoPs
- Guidelines for online meeting to be adopted by both GBs at the same time as the RoPs

**Review to focus on clarifications and alignment of
without substantive changes to existing Rules**

Concern: Current reporting – IOC/A-31/3.2.Doc(2), table 5 – does not provide a comprehensive overview and is not based on a collectively agreed approach

Proposal: Annex I the report of IFAG Chair - IOC/A-31/4.3.Doc(1) – provides a discussion paper for the Financial Committee

Objectives: agree on reporting criteria (what to report) and adopt a systematic approach to information collection through an annual Circular Letter

THANK YOU

