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**DRAFT RESOLUTION A-32/DR.[6.4]**

Submitted by Argentina, Angola, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, France, Gabon, Germany, Grenada, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Morocco, Norway, Portugal, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Thailand, Togo, UK, USA, Viet Nam

**GOVERNANCE, PROGRAMMING AND BUDGETING MATTERS OF THE COMMISSION**

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission,

1. **Having examined** documents:
2. IOC/A-32/3.2.Doc(2) – Report on 2022–2023 (41 C/5) budget implementation as at 31 December 2022,
3. IOC/A-32/3.2.Doc(3) – Financial situation of the IOC Special Account as at year end 2022 and forecast for 2023,
4. IOC/A-32/6.1.Doc(1) – Draft Programme and Budget for 2022–2025 (Second Biennium 2024–2025—42 C/5),
5. IOC/A-32/6.2.Doc(1) – Second Proposed Revision of the IOC Rules of Procedure,
6. IOC/A-32/6.2.Doc(2) – Report of the Chairperson of the Intersessional Financial Advisory Group (intersessional period December 2022–June 2023),
7. IOC/A-32/6.3.Doc(1) – Draft Action Plan in response to the IOS Evaluation of the IOC Strategic Positioning,

**I.  
Report on 2022–2023 (41 C/5) budget implementation as at 31 December 2022   
and Financial situation of the IOC Special Account as at year end 2022   
and forecast for 2023**

1. **Confirms** that the IOC budget for 2022–2023, as reported in IOC/A-32/3.2.Doc(2), has been executed in accordance with the Approved Programme and Budget 2022–2023 (41 C/5), including the adjusted budgetary appropriations for the IOC Special Account as approved by the IOC Assembly at its 31st session through IOC Resolution A-31/2 and further reviewed by the IOC Executive Council at its 55th session through Resolution EC-55/2;
2. **Notes** that while the overall extrabudgetary resource mobilisation targets set for the 2022–2023 biennium has been achieved, there were still some gaps in funding for Functions B, C and F as at year end 2022;
3. **Thanks** Member States who have contributed extrabudgetary funds for the 2022–2023 programme implementation;
4. **Acknowledges** the information on the financial situation of the IOC Special Account as at year end 2022 and forecast for 2023 provided in IOC/A-32/3.2.Doc(3);
5. **Approves** the revised budgetary allocations for 2022–2023 for the IOC Special Account as proposed in Table 1 of IOC/A-32/3.2.Doc(3);
6. **Encourages** all Member States to provide voluntary contributions to ensure full achievement of the collectively agreed extrabudgetary resource mobilization targets for 2022–2023 for all IOC Functions, preferably to the IOC Special Account;
7. **Requests** the IOC Executive Secretary to continue efforts to obtain further voluntary contributions, including from private sector donors and other partners, and to achieve full implementation of the Commission’s programmatic targets for 2022–2023;

**II.  
Draft Programme and Budget for 2022–2025 (Second Biennium 2024–2025 – 42 C/5)**

1. **Acknowledges** the Secretariat’s proposal contained in IOC/A-32/6.1.Doc(1) and prepared as an integral part of the UNESCO Draft Programme and Budget for 2024–2025 (42 C/5), submitted by the Director-General of UNESCO to the UNESCO Executive Board at its 216th session, as consistent with the guiding principles set out in Resolution EC-53/2 and the High Level Objectives defined in the IOC Medium-Term Strategy 2022–2029;
2. **Notes with appreciation** the increase in regular budget allocation to the IOC proposed by the Director-General of UNESCO to the 216th session of the UNESCO Executive Board in the Base Case scenario as responding to Member States priorities, while also expressing concern regarding the negative impact of the Zero Nominal Growth scenario on the IOC’s ability to maintain its core programmes and to fulfil its role in the implementation of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030), hereafter the Ocean Decade;
3. **Thanks** Member States for including in the agenda of the 216th session of the UNESCO Executive Board item 44 ‘Urgent requirement for increased and more stable resources to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)’;
4. **Welcomes** the UNESCO Executive Board’s decision to recommend that the UNESCO General Conference at its 42nd session agree to an increase in the IOC’s share of the UNESCO regular budget of [1%], not to be decreased by transfers of funds to other parts of the budget and ‘that a baseline be identified and agreed for the IOC’s share of UNESCO’s regular budget under document 42 C/5 and future C/5 documents and that no reduction to this baseline be made in the future unless agreed by the General Conference’;
5. **Noting** the High Level Objectives defined in the IOC Medium-Term Strategy 2022–2029, the information contained in the IOC Circular Letter 2912 and recommendations reflected in 216 EX/Decision 44, including the invitation to ‘take into consideration the budgetary necessities for capacity development, staff allocation and proper functioning of the regional subsidiary bodies, while planning for disbursement of the additional allocation’,
6. **Recommends** to the IOC Executive Secretary that the following high-level principles should guide allocation of additional regular budget resources resulting from uplift of the IOC budget by 1% of the UNESCO budget:
7. priority should be given to stabilizing the functions of the IOC, including human resources, to address shortfalls and critical risks in order to provide a strong platform for the future;
8. ensure that an increase of no less than 1% of the IOC regular budget is allocated to IOCAFRICA, in line with the UNESCO Global Priority Africa, taking into account the need to avail adequate resources for programme implementation;
9. supplementary to fulfilment of (i), input on specific needs for regular budget investments in the targeted activities identified in paragraph 15(ii) should be informed by appropriate input from:
10. requests to the relevant IOC programmes and/or subsidiary bodies for their top one or two priority activities;
11. the estimate of resources required, prepared by the IOC Executive Secretary distributed to Member States in Circular Letter 2912 in October 2022;
12. any further consultations with Member States or programmes or bodies as may be needed or appropriate to facilitate targeted investment in activities;
13. aim at respecting the ratio of staff- versus non-staff costs supported from regular budget, as previously advised by the IOC Assembly in Resolution XXVII-2;
14. stabilization of regular budget allocations across all IOC Functions should permit the IOC to secure and assimilate targeted additional investments and to continue to seek voluntary contributions to fully achieve the integrated budgetary framework targets;
15. **Requests** the IOC Executive Secretary that additional regular budget for 2024–2025 be allocated to IOC Functions in two respects, with the advice that each of these should receive at least one third of additional resources:
16. recognizing the importance and existing balance of all IOC Functions, the uplifted regular budget for 2024–2025 should be allocated, for example pro-rata to stabilize all IOC existing functions, where the indicative pro-rata basis for distribution is based on the IOC Executive Secretary’s proposal for the regular budget distribution in the Draft 42 C/5 presented to the UNESCO Executive Board at its 216th session, including non-staff and staff costs as included in Annex 1 to this Resolution;
17. recognizing also the need for targeted additional regular budget investment focused on critically vulnerable areas, the increased regular budget for 2024–2025 should be allocated to:
18. IODE
19. GOOS
20. Capacity Development
21. Regional Subsidiary bodies;
22. **Further** **requests** the IOC Executive Secretary to compile scenarios from the above-mentioned consultations and provide the appropriate input to Intersessional Financial Advisory Group for their deliberation and for the purposes of developing and providing recommended allocations to the programmes or bodies in paragraph 15(ii) to the IOC Executive Council at its 57th session in 2024;

**III.  
Governance and Working Methods**

1. Review of the IOC Rules of Procedure
2. **Recalls** that the IOC Assembly at its 31st session through IOC Resolution A-31/2 requested the IOC Executive Secretary ‘to prepare, in consultation with the UNESCO Legal Advisor and IFAG, a preliminary proposal for the revised separate sets of Rules of Procedure for the IOC Assembly and Rules of Procedure for the IOC Executive Council, making the necessary clarifications and aligning language versions, for review and adoption by these two Governing Bodies’;
3. **Further recalls** that the IOC Executive Council at its 55th session through Resolution EC-55/2:
4. acknowledged that, upon further examination of the matter by legal experts and IFAG, the preparation of such separate sets of Rules of Procedure constituted a more challenging exercise than appeared *prima facie*;
5. agreed that the separation process had to be assessed against statutory constraints and notably Article 6.B.3 of the IOC Statutes stating that ‘the Assembly shall determine the Commission’s Rules of Procedure’,
6. welcomed the proposal contained in IOC/EC-55/5.1.Doc(1) as respectful of Member States’ wish to refrain from any substantial review of the Rules of Procedure by reorganizing them, rather than truly reviewing them,
7. recommended that the IOC Assembly at its 32nd session adopt the overall approach as presented in IOC/EC-55/5.1.Doc(1) and based on the proposal to:
8. refrain from engaging in a procedure of amendment of the IOC Statutes;
9. in conformity with Article 6.B.3 of the Statutes, maintain a single set of the Commission’s Rules of Procedure, to be formally determined by the Assembly;
10. revise the current Rules of Procedure on the basis of a distinction among general rules, rules applicable to the Assembly and the Executive Council, and rules applicable only to one of these Governing Bodies,
11. amend Rules 55 and 56 in order to acknowledge and specify the competence of the Executive Council to amend or suspend rules relating to its organization and functioning;
12. noted the non-exhaustive set of comments provided by legal experts in the Annex of IOC/EC-55/5.1.Doc(1) highlighting areas where Member States could consider the benefit of further clarifications, requiring a more in-depth review of the Rules of Procedure;
13. invited the IOC Executive Secretary to prepare the revised draft Rules of Procedure for review and adoption by the IOC Assembly at its 32nd session in 2023 without any substantive changes, based on the discussions at the IOC Executive Council;
14. **Welcomes** the Second Proposed Revision of the IOC Rules of Procedure as respectful of Member States recommendations and decisions;
15. **Endorses** the text as proposed in IOC/A-32/6.2.Doc(1), with modifications to Appendix IV ‘Guidelines on the working methods for online sessions’, as presented in Annex 2 to this Resolution;
16. **Invites** the IOC Executive Secretary to prepare guidelines to support Member States’ preparation for and participation in the elections, in accordance with the IOC Statutes and Rules of Procedure, and to consider having an information session prior to the vote;
17. Reporting on In-Kind Contributions (IKC)
18. **Recalls** that the IOC Assembly through IOC Resolution A-31/2 invited IFAG ‘to develop a proposal for a systematic approach and methodology for reporting IKC, consistent with the updated Guiding Principles for Programming and Budgeting (Annex I to Resolution EC-53/2) and Article 10 of the IOC Statutes, to be considered by the IOC Assembly at its 32nd session’;
19. **Further recalls** that the IOC Executive Council at its 55th session:
20. welcomed the more systematic and inclusive approach to reporting on IKC proposed by IFAG and presented in IOC/EC-55/5.1.Doc(2) as more inclusive and equitable;
21. invited the IOC Executive Secretary to launch the pilot reporting exercise for calendar year 2022 and to submit the resulting report to the IOC Assembly at its 32nd session for review and decision on future reporting;
22. **Expresses satisfaction** with the result of the pilot exercise presented in Table 6 of IOC/A-32/3.2.Doc(2);
23. **Welcomes** the methodology approved by the IOC Executive Council in document IOC/EC-55/5.1.Doc(2);
24. **Invites** Member States and **requests** the IOC Executive Secretary to continue future reporting based on the same approach, in consultation with IFAG, to ensure adherence to the approved methodology;

**IV.  
Draft Action Plan in response to the IOS Evaluation   
of the IOC Strategic Positioning**

1. **Recalls** that the Draft Action Plan in response to the IOS Evaluation of the IOC Strategic Positioning presented in IOC/EC-55/3.2.Doc(1) was positively received by the IOC Executive Council at its 55th session;
2. **Notes** that the Draft Action Plan presented to the IOC Assembly as document IOC/A-32/6.3.Doc(1) benefitted from Member States’ feedback solicited through IOC Circular Letter 2912 and includes updates on progress, where relevant, in line with the decision EC-55/3.2;
3. **Acknowledges** that the specific decision made by the IOC Executive Council at its 55th session requesting the IOC Executive Secretary to prepare ‘an estimate of the budget, including the needs in human resources, necessary to sustainably deliver IOC’s core programmes and to expand its activities in response to increasing demands of Member States and other stakeholders’ was implemented through IOC Circular Letter 2912;
4. **Welcomes** the Draft Action Plan as presented in document IOC/A-32/6.3.Doc(1);
5. **Requests** the IOC Executive Secretary to:

(i) move forward with its implementation considering the IOC’s evolving situation, including the resources available, proposing adjustments accordingly and reporting on progress both to IOC and UNESCO Governing Bodies;

(ii) support the work of IFAG by providing timely information on the relevant governance, programming and budgetary processes and matters, in order to facilitate informed decision-making by IOC Member States at the 57th session of the IOC Executive Council in 2024.

Annex 1 to IOC Resolution A-32/DR.[6.4]

A close-up of a spreadsheet

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Annex 2 to IOC Resolution A-32/DR.[6.4]

**Appendix IV: Guidelines on the working methods for online sessions**

1. **General recommendations** 
   1. The IOC Assembly, the Executive Council and their subsidiary bodies shall hold online sessions only during periods of emergency or in exceptional circumstances rendering “in-person” meetings impracticable*.*
   2. The Rules of Procedure shall apply to online sessions.
   3. Participation and use of online platforms accessible to all Members of the Board, representatives of the United Nations, observers of Member States and of non-Member States and observers of intergovernmental or international non-governmental organizations shall be ensured on equal terms in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, while at the same time ensuring the security of the online platforms.
   4. Taking into consideration the practical and technological limitations of an online session, the agenda and timetable of work shall be adopted keeping in mind the need to maximize time for quality decision-making.
   5. Efforts should be made to consider as many items on the agenda as possible without debate.
   6. The online platform for an online session should be safe, secure and user friendly. All efforts shall be made by the Secretariat to ensure confidentiality of the private meetings.
   7. Keeping in mind the differences in time zones, efforts shall be made to facilitate the full participation of all as per the Rules of Procedure.
   8. Considering the technological means available to the Secretariat at the moment of the adoption of these Guidelines, secret ballots will be held in praesentia. All possible efforts will be made to ensure the participation of all Member States in secret ballots.
   9. As per the current practice, all possible efforts shall be made to adopt decisions on the basis of consensus in online sessions.
   10. Since negotiation of a text during an online session could be time consuming and complicated due to technological constraints, Member States may consider convening informal meetings and negotiations as appropriate on draft decisions and amendments before the session. In order to better prepare the formal discussion in session, the Secretariat is also encouraged to organize online information meetings and open-ended informal consultations on relevant items of the agenda.
   11. It is of utmost importance that the Secretariat provide enough staff to be able to follow the questions and demands communicated through the appropriate tool or other functions of the online platform.
2. **Guidelines on the working methods for online sessions**

| **Titles** | Second Proposed Reorganisation and Adaptation of the IOC Rules of Procedure (2023) | **Guidelines  on the working methods for online sessions** |
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| **Regulatory periodicity of governing body and major subsidiary body sessions** | **Rule 12**  The Executive Secretary shall ensure the convening and servicing of all sessions of the Assembly, of the Executive Council and of primary and secondary subsidiary bodies of the Commission. The Executive Secretary shall also ensure that appropriate arrangements are concluded for the convening and servicing of subsidiary bodies established or convened by the Commission jointly with other organizations. The Executive Secretary or designate shall act as the Secretary at each session of the Assembly, of the Executive Council and of subsidiary bodies of the Commission and shall participate appropriately in any body established or convened jointly. | The IOC Statutes and the Rules of Procedure require that one ordinary session of the Assembly be held every two years (Art. 6c) and that two ordinary sessions of the Executive Council be held between two ordinary sessions of the Assembly.  Respecting the periodicity of governing bodies requires that these bodies, during periods of emergency or in exceptional circumstances rendering in-person meeting impracticable, organise their session online.  The Executive Secretary shall ensure the convening and servicing of all sessions of the Assembly, of the Executive Council and of primary and secondary subsidiary bodies of the Commission. The Executive Secretary shall also ensure that appropriate arrangements are concluded for the convening and servicing of subsidiary bodies established or convened by the Commission jointly with other organizations. During periods of emergency or in exceptional circumstances rendering “in-person” meeting impracticable, the Executive Secretary, acting on the decision of the body concerned, will ensure the servicing of online sessions. The Executive Secretary or designate shall act as the Secretary at each session of the Assembly, of the Executive Council and of subsidiary bodies of the Commission and shall participate appropriately in any body established or convened jointly. |
| **Consultation process on holding online sessions** | **Rule 37**   1. The Assembly, the Executive Council and their subsidiary bodies may hold online sessions only during periods of emergency or in exceptional circumstances rendering ‘in-person’ sessions impracticable. Online sessions shall be held in accordance with the “Guidelines on the working methods for online sessions” reproduced in Appendix IV to these Rules of Procedure. 2. At an ordinary or extraordinary session, the Assembly, the Executive Council and their subsidiary bodies may decide to hold an online session by a simple majority of members present and voting. 3. Should the approval of the Assembly or the Executive Council or one of their subsidiary bodies to hold an online session be required while not in session, the chairperson ofthe body concerned, in consultation with the officers of the body concerned and in agreement with the Executive Secretary, shall consult the Member States by correspondence. The Assembly or the Executive Council or one of their subsidiary bodies shall hold an online session unless one-third of the members of the body concerned disagree to the proposal. | The consultation by means of a circular letter of Member States by the Chairperson on the proposal to organize an online session should clearly state the emergency or exceptional circumstances rendering “in-person” session impracticable. The Chairperson may at the same time provide advanced information on the dates considered for the virtual session, the draft provisional agenda and timetable; the online meeting platform used; and the special arrangements notably proposed for the elections, if any.  The Chairperson may convoke an online meeting of the Officers. |
| **Rule 38**  Following the instructions of the Executive Council or the Assembly, the Chairperson or the Executive Secretary may consult Member States of the Commission by correspondence on substantial matters prior to taking action and may establish a reasonable time limit for replies. |
| **Provisional Agenda & Timetable** | **Rule 43**  The opening and closingdates of an ordinary session shall be fixed by the Executive Secretary under guidance from the Executive Council and taking into account any preference which the Assembly may have expressed previously. The opening and closingdates of an extraordinary session shall be fixed by the Executive Secretary after consultation with the Officers of the Commission. | The application of the rules related to the agenda and the duration of a session could be ensured through the adoption of practical arrangements, such as follows:   * Given the complexity of having Member States join the meetings across different time zones, the duration of the meetings should be reduced to a maximum of three hours a day. * Submission of a simplified agenda and timetable taking into account the availability of time and the order of priority of the agenda items. * Consideration of as many agenda items as possible without debate. * Possibility of deferring certain items for decision through a correspondence process or at a future face-to-face meeting. |
| **Rule 45**   1. The Provisional Agenda of an ordinary session of the Assembly shall be made up of items requiring a decision by the Assembly and shall include:    1. statement of the Chairperson on the state of IOC;    2. report by the Executive Secretary on programme implemen tation;    3. report by the Executive Secretary on Programme and Budget for the next biennium;    4. items whose inclusion has been decided by the Assembly itself;    5. items proposed by any Member State of the Commission;    6. items proposed by the Executive Council;    7. items proposed by the Executive Secretary of the Commission;    8. items proposed by the Executive Head of any organization of the United Nations system on behalf of that organization, in particular the organizations referred to in Article 2.2 of the Statutes;    9. items proposed by other organizations invited to participate in the work of the Commission;    10. review of reports and composition of its subsidiary bodies, as covered in Rules 7, 31 and 50. 2. The provisional agenda of an extraordinary session shall include only the items for whose consideration the extraordinary session was convened. 3. The Provisional Agenda of a session of the Assembly shall be prepared by the Executive Secretary in accordance with decisions of the Executive Council. 4. The Provisional Agenda of a session shall be circulated at the same time as the notice of the date and place of session. |
| **Languages** | **Rule 16**   1. The official languages of the Commission shall be English, French, Russian and Spanish.   […]   1. Interpretation needed for conducting meetings of subsidiary bodies shall be provided in the appropriate working languages according to the needs of the representatives of Member States of the Commission or of the individual expert members participating at such meetings. | The online meeting platform shall ensure interpretation in the official languages of the Commission, the organisation of break-out groups and sessional committees and must ensure that the debate are open unless decided otherwise. |
| **Sessional Committees, side meetings** | Rule 49  1. During the course of a session, the Assembly shall establish such committees and such other subsidiary bodies as may be required for the transaction of its business. 2. The Committees of the Assembly shall include a Nominations Committee, a Resolutions Committee, upon the proposal of the Executive Council pursuant to Rule 53.2, and a Financial Committee. 3. A Financial Committee shall be established by the Assembly and be open to all Member States of the Commission. | The full application of these Rules may be ensured by holding all sessional committees and working group meetings in the format of separate online events. The Secretariat shall avoid the overlapping of meetings.  The technological means would allow the holding of private meetings during an online session. |
| **Publicity of debate** | **Rule 24**  Meetings of the Assembly or the Executive Council shall be open unless the Assembly or the Executive Council decides otherwise. | The application of this rule is ensured by the setting up of a webcast allowing the public to view the meeting without interaction with it. |
| **Members present and voting** | **Rule 26**  For the purpose of these Rules, the phrase “members present and voting” means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members who abstain from voting are considered as not voting. | The “members present” shall refer to the Member States actually attending in the online meeting and officially recorded by the Secretariat after formal notification prior to the session. |
| **Identification of members** | Rule 39 Each Member State of the Commission shall notify the Executive Secretary of the Commission of the names of its designated representatives, alternates and advisers for each session of the Assembly. | Additionally, the Secretariat should inform the Member States and the participants of the naming convention set up for the meeting to quickly identify the entity represented and role and status of each participant on the online meeting platform (Head of delegation, delegate, expert, observer organisation, observer Member States, speakers, Officers, member of the secretariat, etc.). |
| **Quorum** | **Rule 18**   1. A simple majority of the Member States of the Commission shall constitute a quorum in the Assembly. 2. A simple majority of the members of the Executive Council and of subsidiary bodies shall constitute a quorum therein. | The application of this rule requires the following arrangements:   * Adoption of a naming convention for participants according to their officially designated role during the session (Head of delegation, delegate, expert, observer organisation, observer Member States, speakers, Officers, member of the secretariat, etc.) * Access by all participants to the meeting’s virtual room approximately 15 minutes before the scheduled start time. * Authentication by the Secretariat of the identity of the participants before giving access to the meeting. * After checking the presence of the members present on the platform, the Chairperson shall announce whether the quorum has been established. |
| **List of speakers** | **Rule 20**  The Chairperson shall call upon speakers in the order in which they have expressed the desire to speak. | The application of this Rule is ensured through the adoption of practical arrangements, such as follows:   * Request for the floor by participants by clicking on the appropriate icon on the meeting platform. * The Chairperson has access to the list of participants where the “shows of hand”, requests to speaks, appear in the order of requests (List of speakers). The naming convention of participants allows the chairperson to call upon speakers in the order of precedence appropriate to the body concerned. * Showing an updated list of participants ensure that delegations know when it is their turn to speak. * The Secretariat will ensure that all participants receive good practice instructions during online meetings according to the meeting platform used regarding the request for the floor, audio and video settings etc. |
| **Point of order** | **Rule 19**   1. The Chairperson shall declare the opening and closing of each session, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these Rules of Procedure, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. He shall rule on points of order and, subject to these Rules, shall control the proceedings and the maintenance of order. […] | The application of this Rule as regards the maintenance of order by the Chairperson is ensured through the adoption of practical arrangements, such as follows:   * Using appropriate tools on the meeting platform to allow participants to formally raise procedural motions andpoints of order. * Ensuring that the Secretariat shall immediately draw the attention of the Chairperson to the fact that such a motion **and point of order** has been raised. |
| **Rule 21**  During the discussion on any matter, a Member State of the Commission participating in the Assembly, or a member of the Executive Council, or subsidiary body, as the case may be, may at any time raise a point of order, and the point of order shall be forthwith decided by the Chairperson. Any such member may appeal against the ruling of the Chairperson which can only be overruled by a majority of the members present and voting. Such member may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion. |
| **Voting by secret ballot** | **Rule 2**  […]   1. The five Vice-Chairpersons shall be nationals of Member States of different electoral groups (listed in Appendix II to these Rules of Procedure) and shall be elected in a single ballot following the procedure set forth in Appendix I to these Rules of Procedure. | Considering the technological means available to the Secretariat at the moment of the adoption of these Guidelines, secret ballots will be held in praesentia. All possible efforts will be made to ensure the participation of all Member States in secret ballots.. |
| **Voting by show of hand or roll call** | **Rule 25**   1. Unless otherwise provided in these Rules of Procedure, or unless the Assembly or the Executive Council shall decide that a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting is required on a particular matter, decisions shall be made by a simple majority of the members present and voting. 2. Decisions whether a particular matter, not specified in these Rules of Procedure, shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting at the Assembly or the Executive Council, shall be made by a simple majority of the members present and voting. | If consensus, which is desirable, is not reached, the application of the Rules on a vote by show of hands and roll call is possible as long as the security of the online platform and authentication and identification of participants are in place.  The Chairperson may use the “show of hand” tool of the online platform to organise a silent vote and check with the assistance of the secretariat whether the simple or the two-thirds majority of the members present and voting is reached.  The members, represented by the Head of delegation, who have raised hands are considered as the members present and voting. |
| **Rule 27**  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 a roll call shall be inserted in the record. |