

ARTICLE IX

(Text under consultation)

CONSULTATIONS, CLARIFICATION AND INSPECTIONS ON REQUEST

A. Consultations

1. States Parties to the Convention shall make every possible effort to clarify and resolve, through exchange of information and consultations, any matter regarding compliance with or implementation of this Convention.
2. States Parties shall consult and co-operate directly among themselves or through the Organization or other appropriate international procedures, including procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with its Charter, on any matter which may be raised by States Parties in relation to the objectives or the implementation of the provisions of this Convention.
3. Nothing in this Convention affects the right of any two or more States Parties to arrange by mutual consent for inspections or any other procedures among themselves to assist in the implementation of this Convention or to clarify and resolve any matter regarding compliance with or implementation of it. Such arrangements shall not affect the rights and obligations of any State Party under any provision of this Convention.
4. The Technical Secretariat, if so requested, shall provide all possible assistance to facilitate consultations among States Parties.

B. Clarification

1. A State Party shall have the right to request the Organization 1/ to assist it in clarifying any situation regarding its compliance with the Convention. The Executive Council or the Technical Secretariat shall respond by providing such assistance as appropriate.
2. A State Party shall have the right to request the Organization 1/ to assist in clarifying any situation regarding compliance with the Convention which involves another State Party. The Technical Secretariat shall provide information and data in its possession relevant to clarifying the matter consistent with the procedures for the handling of confidential information contained in the Annex on the Protection of Confidential Information.
3. A State Party shall have the right to request the Organization 1/ to obtain clarification from another State Party on any situation or activity regarding compliance with or implementation of the Convention. 2/
4. The Director-General of the Technical Secretariat shall inform the Executive Council about activities carried out under this section.
5. States Parties named in a clarification process may request a meeting of the Executive Council in which they shall have the right to take part. 3/ In such a meeting, the Executive Council shall consider the matter and may recommend any measure it deems appropriate to the situation.