

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Preparatory Commission 1/

1. For the purpose of carrying out the necessary preparations for the effective operation of the provisions of the Convention and for preparing for the first session of the Conference of the States Parties, the Depositary of the Convention shall convene a Preparatory Commission not later than [30] days after the Convention has been signed by (to be determined) States.
2. The Preparatory Commission shall be composed of all States which sign the Convention before its entry into force. Each signatory State shall have one representative in the Preparatory Commission, who may be accompanied by alternates and advisers.
3. The Commission shall be convened at [...] and remain in existence until the first session of the Conference of the States Parties has convened.
4. The expenses of the Commission shall be met by the States signatories to the Convention, participating in the Commission, [in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment, adjusted to take into account differences between the United Nations membership and the participation of States signatories in the Commission].
5. All decisions of the Preparatory Commission should be taken by consensus. If notwithstanding the efforts of representatives to achieve consensus, an issue comes up for voting, the Chairman of the Preparatory Commission shall defer the vote for 24 hours and during this period of deferment shall make every effort to facilitate achievement of consensus, and shall report to the Commission prior to the end of the period. If consensus is not possible at the end of 24 hours, the Commission shall take decisions on questions of procedure by a simple majority of the members present and voting. Decisions on questions of substance shall be taken by two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. When the issue arises as to whether the question is one of substance or not, that question shall be treated as one of substance unless otherwise decided by the Preparatory Commission by the majority required for decisions on questions of substance. 2/
6. The Commission shall:
  - (a) elect its own officers, adopt its own rules of procedures, determine its place of meeting, meet as often as necessary and establish such committees as it deems useful;
  - (b) appoint an executive secretary and staff to exercise such functions as the Commission may determine with a view to establishing a provisional

1/ Provisions on the Commission could be contained in a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly commending the Convention or in an appropriate document associated with the Convention.

2/ It has also been proposed that decisions should be taken by consensus only.