

Such international procedures may involve the services of appropriate international organizations (e.g., WHO), as well as the services of the Advisory Committee established under this Protocol.

IV. Advisory Committee

1. An Advisory Committee shall be established as soon as this protocol enters into force. Its composition shall be as follows:

(a) Institutional arrangements

The Advisory Committee shall be composed of States parties to this Protocol, as well as States parties to the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and the 1972 Convention on biological weapons.

It shall be presided over by the depositary of this Protocol.

It shall meet every four years to define and assess its methods of work and to discuss technical and budgetary questions.

It may meet at other times, if special circumstances so warrant.

(b) Permanent Committee

Upon the entry into force of this Protocol, questions relating to its application shall be dealt with, between sessions of the Advisory Committee, by a Permanent Committee, which shall act on behalf of the Advisory Committee and subject to its approval.

The Permanent Committee shall have 10 members, appointed for a renewable four-year term by the depositary of this Protocol in consultation with the members of the Advisory Committee, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

The chairmanship of the Permanent Committee shall rotate among its members, who must be nationals of States members of the Advisory Committee.

The members of the Permanent Committee may be assisted by experts.

A State member of the Advisory Committee which files a complaint or against which a complaint is filed shall be entitled, upon simply notifying the Chairman of the Permanent Committee, to designate a representative to sit on the Permanent Committee when the complaint is before it, if the membership of the Permanent Committee does not include a national of that member State.

The Permanent Committee shall have its seat in (New York) (Geneva).