

4. Sessions shall take place at the headquarters of the Organization unless the Conference of the States Parties decides otherwise.
5. The Conference of the States Parties shall adopt its rules of procedure. At the beginning of each regular session, it shall elect its Chairman and such other officers as may be required. They shall hold office until a new Chairman and other officers are elected at the next regular session.
6. A majority of the members of the Conference of the States Parties shall constitute a quorum.
7. Each member of the Conference of the States Parties shall have one vote.
8. Decisions on questions of procedure, including decisions to convene special sessions of the Conference of the States Parties, shall be taken by a simple majority of the members present and voting. Decisions on questions of substance shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting unless otherwise specifically provided for in the Convention. When the issue arises as to whether a question is one of substance or not, that question shall be treated as one of substance unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the States Parties by the majority required for decisions on questions of substance. 1/ 2/

(b) Powers and functions

1. The Conference of the States Parties shall be the [principal] [supreme] organ of the Organization. It shall consider any questions, matters or issues within the scope of the Convention, including those relating to the powers and functions of the Executive Council and Technical Secretariat. It may make recommendations and take decisions 2/ on any questions, matters or issues related to the Convention raised by a State Party or brought to its attention by the Executive Council.
2. The Conference of the States Parties shall oversee the implementation of the Convention, and promote and [assess] review compliance with it. It shall also oversee the activities of the Executive Council and the Technical Secretariat and may issue guidelines in accordance with the Convention to either of them in the exercise of their functions.

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1/ It has also been proposed that decisions should be taken by consensus, except as specified elsewhere and, if a consensus were not possible within 24 hours, by a simple majority of the members present and voting. It has also been pointed out that there should be no differentiation between decisions on questions of procedure and those of substance.

2/ A view was expressed that the report of a fact-finding inquiry should not be put to a vote, nor should any decision be taken as to whether a Party is complying with the provisions of the Convention.