

II. Fact-finding procedures concerning alleged ambiguities in or violations of the compliance with the Convention.

(a) General formulation encouraging States Parties to hold bilateral contacts in order to clarify ambiguities or settle disputes at the lowest possible level.

(b) Right for every State Party (challenging or challenged) to request the Consultative Committee to carry out fact-finding procedures, including on-site inspections.

(c) Such request must be substantiated.

(d) Obligation to co-operate in fact-finding procedures carried out by the Consultative Committee.

(e) Obligation of the Consultative Committee to inform States Parties about the results of its procedures. Right of the States Parties to be informed about the procedures carried out by the Consultative Committee.

(f) General reference to the right of every State Party to resort to the mechanisms provided with by the Charter of the United Nations.

For further consideration:

- Timeliness of the fact-finding procedure
- Schema (sequences) of the whole process of the fact-finding procedure.

It was suggested:

1. Desirability of bilateral contacts as a first step
2. Substantiated request addressed to the Consultative Committee by the challenging State Party
3. Immediate or automatic transmission of the request to the pertinent suborgan of the Consultative Committee (fact-finding panel)
4. Assessment of the request on scientific basis by the appropriate suborgan of the Consultative Committee (fact-finding panel) with the participation of representatives of the challenging and challenged States.
5. Decision by the appropriate suborgan of the Consultative Committee on the merits of the request and on the appropriate activity to be carried out for a fact-finding procedure concerning alleged ambiguities in or violations of the compliance with the Convention.