

The Executive Council

Composition, procedure and decision-making

19. The membership of the Executive Council shall be composed of thirty States Parties according to the formula set out in the Annex on the Composition of the Executive Council. Each State Party shall have the right to serve on the Executive Council.

20. The Executive Council shall:

(a) Meet for regular sessions. Between regular sessions, it shall meet as often as may be required for the fulfilment of its functions;

(b) Select its Chairman;

(c) Elaborate and submit its Rules of Procedure to the Conference of the States Parties for approval; and

(d) Make arrangements for the sessions of the Conference of the States Parties, including the preparation of a draft agenda.

(e) Consider and submit to the Conference of the States Parties the draft programme and budget of the Organization;

(f) Consider and submit to the Conference of the States Parties the draft report of the Organization on the implementation of the Convention, the report on the performance of its own activities and such special reports as it deems necessary or which the Conference of the States Parties may request;

(g) Conclude agreements with States and international organizations on behalf of the Organization, subject to approval by the Conference of the States Parties, and approve agreements relating to the implementation of verification activities, negotiated by the Director-General of the Secretariat with States Parties;

(h) Conclude agreements with States Parties in connection with Article X and supervise the voluntary fund for the purpose of this Article.

21. The Executive Council may request the convening of a special session of the Conference of the States Parties.

22. Each member of the Executive Council shall have one vote.

23. The Executive Council shall take decisions on questions of procedure by a simple majority of all its members. Unless otherwise specified in the Convention, decisions on matters of substance shall be taken as far as possible by consensus. If consensus is not reached when an issue comes up for decision, the Executive Council shall take the decision by a two-thirds majority of all its members. 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 Executive Council by the majority required for decisions on questions of substance.