

4. No ECE may be convened regarding any matter that was previously the subject of an ECE report in the absence of such new information as would warrant a further report.

Article 22: Rules of Procedure

1. The Council shall establish rules of procedure for ECEs, which shall apply unless the Council otherwise decides. The rules of procedure shall provide that:

- (a) an ECE shall normally comprise three members;
- (b) the chair shall be selected by the Council from a roster of experts developed in consultation with the International Labour Organization (ILO) pursuant to Article 42 and, where possible, other members shall be selected from a roster developed by the Parties;
- (c) ECE members shall
 - (i) have expertise or experience in labour matters or other appropriate disciplines,
 - (ii) be chosen strictly on the basis of objectivity, reliability and sound judgment,
 - (iii) be independent of, and not be affiliated with or take instructions from, either Party, and
 - (iv) comply with a code of conduct to be established by the Council;
- (d) an ECE may invite written submissions from the Parties and the public;
- (e) an ECE may consider, in preparing its report, any information provided by
 - (i) the National Secretariat of each Party,
 - (ii) organizations, institutions and persons with relevant expertise, and
 - (iii) the public; and
- (f) each Party shall have a reasonable opportunity to review and comment on information that the ECE receives and to make written submissions to the ECE.

2. The National Secretariats shall provide appropriate administrative assistance to an ECE, in accordance with the rules of procedure established by the Council under paragraph 1.

3. The Parties shall agree on a separate budget for each ECE. The Parties shall contribute equally to the ECE budget.