



ORGANISMO PARA LA PROSCRIPCIÓN DE LAS ARMAS NUCLEARES EN LA
AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE

Inf.26/2016

Rules Governing the Council

Amended on 10 November 2016.

The present Rules were adopted in the Fourth Session of the Council, held on the 19th of January 1971 and originally distributed as document OPANAL/C/PV/4.

It was amended by Resolution:

- CG/E/Res.01/2016 at the Twenty-Fourth Session of the General Conference, held on November 10, 2016.

Rules Governing the Council

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Rules Governing the Council

I. Meetings

Article 1. The Council shall meet at the request of the President, or of the Secretary-General or of any of its Member States. However, the interval between Council meetings should not exceed sixty days.

Article 2. The meetings of the Council shall, as a rule, be held at the Agency headquarters, but they may also be held outside of headquarters by majority decision of the Council itself.

II. Agenda

Article 3. The Secretary General of the Agency shall immediately make known to the States Members of the Council all communications of the States, or bodies of the Agency, or of the Secretary General himself, with reference to any matter which should be considered by the Council.

Article 4. The Agenda of each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General and subject to the approval of the Council.

Article 5. The Agenda of each meeting shall be transmitted to the States Members of the Council by the Secretary-General accompanied by the letter of notification.

Article 6. The States Members of the Council and the Secretary-General may suggest changes to the Agenda prior to its adoption.

III. Participation in meetings

Article 7. Each Member State of the Council shall be represented at these meetings by an accredited Representative, who may be substituted by an alternate Representative or, in the absence of same, by an adviser.

Article 8. The Member States of the Agency that are not Members of the Council may participate in the meetings of the Council. Any State that is not a member of the Agency may participate therein upon invitation, as decided by the Council, following the recommendations of the President of the Council or the Secretary-General.

IV. Presidency of the Council

Article 9. The Presidency of the Council shall be held in turn by the Member States of the Council in the Spanish alphabetical order of their names. Each President shall hold office for two calendar months.

Article 10. The President, besides conducting debates and exercising the powers conferred upon him by the provisions of these Regulations, shall decide upon points of order in keeping with these Regulations and may propose any measure related to the organization of the work. In the exercise of office, he shall be subject to the authority of the Council. When the President is unable to exercise his functions, the Presidency will be held by the next State Member of the Council following the alphabetical order in Spanish, subject to acceptance by said Member State.

Article 11. In the event that the President of the Council, in order to fully comply with his obligations, deems it necessary to abstain from presiding over Council debates during the consideration or conclusion of a certain matter of direct interest to the Member State he represents, he shall inform the Council of same. In this case, the Presidency will be held by the next State Member of the Council following the alphabetical order in Spanish.

Article 12. Should the President abstain from the aforementioned consideration and the ensuing voting process, the matter under discussion shall be immediately submitted to the Member States of the Council by the Secretary-General.

Article 13. If a Member State ceases to belong to the Council before the expiration of its mandate, the provision in Article 64 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference shall apply.

V. Secretariat

Article 14. The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Council. When unable to attend Council meetings, the Secretary-General may authorize another official of the Secretariat to represent him at said meetings.

Article 15. The Secretary General or his representative may make verbal or written statements to the Council on any matter that he believes the Council should study.

Article 16. The Secretary General shall inform the States Members of the Council as soon as possible of the date, hour, and place of its meetings.

Article 17. The Secretary General shall be responsible for the proper preparation and distribution of the documents pertaining to the work of the Council.

VI. Decisions involving expenditures

Article 18. The measures presented to the Council involving expenditure not projected in the Budget shall be adopted in accordance with the provisions of Article 3.05¹ of the Financial Regulations of the Agency.

¹ “**Art. 3.05** Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. When the General Conference is not in session, the Secretary-General shall request from the Council the necessary resources to respond to unforeseen situations that are not provided for in the budget and that he deems indispensable; and he shall also propose their sources of financing. In the event of these expenditures being approved, the Council shall determine their financing source. The Secretary-General shall present an estimate of expenditure and a report on the availability of the necessary funds and their sources.”

VII. Organization of the sessions

Article 19.

- a) A majority of the Member States of the Council will constitute a *quorum*;
- b) The decisions of the Council shall be adopted by a simple majority vote of its present and voting Member States;
- c) Unless otherwise agreed by the Council, debates shall be conducted according to sections XII, and XIII of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference of the Agency;
- d) Summary records shall be prepared for all meetings of the Council under the supervision of the Secretary-General, who shall distribute them to the Member States that participated in said meetings. The Member States shall inform the Secretariat of any desired corrections to said document until the next meeting of the Council; provided that it does not take place within the following ten days, otherwise, they may have ten days to do so. Once adopted by the Council, the summary records will be forwarded to all Member States and will be available on the website of the Agency.

VIII. Languages

Article 20. English, French, Portuguese and Spanish shall be the official languages of the Council.

IX. Amendments to the Regulations Governing the Council

Article 21. These Regulations may be amended by the General Conference by the vote of at least a simple majority of the Member States.