



Brussels, 20 May 2025

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COPEN
CYBER

COMMUNICATION

REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION

From:	Commission
To:	Delegations
Contact:	jai.criminal.justice@consilium.europa.eu
Tel./Fax:	+32 2 281 7453
Subject:	UN Convention against Cybercrime – Rule of Procedure – Request for written comments

Following the AOB presented by the Commission during the COPEN meeting of 19 May 2025 regarding the file in subject, Delegations may find below a request for written contributions from the Commission to be sent by Friday 23 May 2025 at the latest to:

HOME-NOTIFICATIONS-D4@ec.europa.eu

Please, include also in copy:

jai.criminal.justice@consilium.europa.eu

Dear Delegates,

As you have been informed in COPEN today, the secretariat of the Ad Hoc Committee to the UN Convention against Cybercrime circulated the following:

- A comparison of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).
- A tentative structure for the draft text of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime.

In line with the process for the preparation of the draft text of the rule of procedure approved by the Bureau, the secretariat invites **delegations to provide comments on the comparison and tentative structure at the latest by Friday, 6 June 2025.**¹

In line with operative paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution [79/243](#) and the decision of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee of 24 March 2025, **the next session of the Ad Hoc Committee to prepare the draft text of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the States Parties of the UN Convention against Cybercrime will be held from 26 to 30 January 2026 in Vienna.** This exercise is meant to prepare the ground for this meeting.

To provide a consolidated EU input, you are kindly invited to send your possible proposals / comments on these two documents **by 23 May (Friday) COB** at the latest to:

- HOME-NOTIFICATIONS-D4@ec.europa.eu;

The Commission will then prepare a consolidated version of the comments, which will be submitted to the Presidency before it is sent to the secretariat of the Ad Hoc Committee.

¹ Delegations are reminded that Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents applies to all written comments, in whatever form provided.

**Comparison:
Rules of procedure (ROP) of the UNTOC COP and UNCAC COSP**

(Available [here](#) and [here](#), respectively)
6 March 2025

UNTOC Rules of procedure	UNCAC Rules of Procedure	Comparison
I. General	I. General	
Rule 1: Use of terms	Rule 1: Use of terms	
(a) "Convention" shall mean the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000 (annex I);	(a) "Convention" shall mean the United Nations Convention against Corruption, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003;	Substantively identical (different names and resolutions).
(b) "Protocols" shall mean the Protocols supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, namely, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/25 (annex II); the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Air and Sea, adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/25 (annex III); and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001 (annex);	No equivalent.	UNTOC specific, as UNCAC has no supplementary protocols.
(c) "States Parties" shall mean States Parties to the Convention in accordance with its articles 36, paragraphs 3 and 4, and 38; "States Parties" shall also mean, where applicable, States Parties to one or more of	(b) "States parties" shall mean States parties to the Convention in accordance with its articles 67, paragraphs 3 and 4, and 68;	Different scope reflecting UNTOC's additional protocols, different capitalization of "State

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the Protocols to the Convention in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Protocol or Protocols in question;		Party/States Parties” (UNTOC ROP) and “State party/States parties” (UNCAC ROP).
(d) “Conference” shall mean the Conference of the Parties to the Convention established in accordance with article 32 of the Convention;	(c) “Conference” shall mean the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention established in accordance with article 63 of the Convention;	Substantively identical (except article references).
(e) “Session” shall mean any session of the Conference convened in accordance with article 32 of the Convention and with the present rules;	(d) “Session” shall mean any session of the Conference convened in accordance with article 63 of the Convention and with the present rules;	Substantively identical (except article references).
(f) “Secretary-General” shall mean the Secretary-General of the United Nations;	(e) “Secretary-General” shall mean the Secretary-General of the United Nations;	Identical.
(g) “Secretariat” shall mean the secretariat of the Conference in accordance with article 33 of the Convention; the functions of the Secretariat shall be performed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/25;	(f) “Secretariat” shall mean the secretariat of the Conference in accordance with article 64 of the Convention; the functions of the Secretariat shall be performed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/4;	Substantively identical (except references to articles and resolutions).
(h) “Rules” shall mean the rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;	(g) “Rules” shall mean the rules of procedure for the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;	Identical.
(i) “Regional economic integration organization” shall mean an organization constituted by sovereign States of a given region, to which its member States have transferred competence in respect of matters governed by the Convention and the Protocols and which has been duly authorized, in accordance with its internal procedures, to sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to it; references to “States Parties” and “signatory States” under these rules shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to such organizations within the limits of their respective competence;	(h) “Regional economic integration organization” shall mean an organization constituted by sovereign States of a given region, to which its member States have transferred competence in respect of matters governed by the Convention and which has been duly authorized, in accordance with its internal procedures, to sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to it; references to “States parties” and “signatory States” under these rules shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to such organizations within the limits of their respective competence;	UNTOC ROP includes reference to Protocols.

(j) "Entities and organizations" shall mean the entities and organizations a list of which is established by the General Assembly and which have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate as observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices.	(i) "Entities and organizations" shall mean the entities and organizations a list of which is established by the General Assembly and which have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate as observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices.	Identical.
Rule 2: Scope of application 1. These rules of procedure shall apply to any session of the Conference convened in accordance with article 32 of the Convention.	Rule 2: Scope of application 1. These rules of procedure shall apply to any session of the Conference convened in accordance with article 63 of the Convention.	Substantively identical (except article references).
2. These rules shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to any mechanism that the Conference may establish in accordance with article 32 of the Convention, unless it decides otherwise.	2. These rules shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to any mechanism or body that the Conference may establish in accordance with article 63 of the Convention, unless it decides otherwise.	UNCAC ROP adds "or body"
II. Sessions	II. Sessions	
Rule 3: Regular sessions 1. The Conference shall meet in regular sessions, which shall be held at least biennially unless it decides otherwise.	Rule 3: Regular sessions 1. The Conference shall meet in regular sessions, which shall be held at least biennially unless it decides otherwise.	Identical.
2. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference, its second and third regular sessions shall be held annually.	2. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference, its second regular session shall be held within one year after the first session.	Different session schedule.
3. The date of commencement and duration of each regular session shall be decided by the Conference at the previous session, on the recommendation of the bureau of the Conference made in consultation with the secretariat.	3. The date of commencement and duration of each regular session shall be decided by the Conference at the previous session, on the recommendation of the bureau of the Conference made in consultation with the secretariat.	Identical.

<p>Rule 4: Special sessions</p> <p>1. Special sessions of the Conference may be held at such times, at such place and with such duration as agreed by the Conference.</p> <p>2. Any State Party may request the secretariat to convene a special session of the Conference. The secretariat shall immediately inform the other States Parties of the request and enquire whether they concur in it. If within thirty days of the date of the communication of the secretariat a majority of the States Parties concur in the request, a special session of the Conference shall be convened. Such special session shall be held at the earliest convenient date, subject to the availability of funding, including extrabudgetary funding.</p>	<p>Rule 4: Special sessions</p> <p>1. Special sessions of the Conference may be held at such times, at such place and with such duration as agreed by the Conference.</p> <p>2. Any State party may request the secretariat to convene a special session of the Conference. The secretariat shall immediately inform the other States parties of the request and enquire whether they concur in it. If within thirty days of the date of the communication of the secretariat a majority of the States parties concur in the request, a special session of the Conference shall be convened. Such special session shall be held at the earliest convenient date, subject to the availability of funding, including extrabudgetary funding.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 5: Notification of sessions</p> <p>The secretariat shall notify the States Parties, as well as the observers referred to in rules 14 to 17, at least sixty days in advance of a regular session and at least thirty days in advance of a special session, of the opening date, place and expected duration thereof.</p>	<p>Rule 5: Notification of sessions</p> <p>The secretariat shall notify the States parties, as well as the observers referred to in rules 14 to 17, at least sixty days in advance of a regular session and at least thirty days in advance of a special session, of the opening date, place and expected duration thereof.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 6: Place of sessions</p> <p>The sessions of the Conference shall take place at the seat of the secretariat, unless the Conference decides otherwise or other appropriate arrangements are made by the secretariat in consultation with the States Parties.</p>	<p>Rule 6: Place of sessions</p> <p>The sessions of the Conference shall take place at the seat of the secretariat, unless the Conference decides otherwise or other appropriate arrangements are made by the secretariat in consultation with the States parties.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 7: Temporary adjournment of sessions</p> <p>The Conference may decide at any session to adjourn temporarily and resume its meetings at a later date.</p>	<p>Rule 7: Temporary adjournment of sessions</p> <p>The Conference may decide at any session to adjourn temporarily and resume its meetings at a later date.</p>	Identical.

III. Agenda	III. Agenda	
<p>Rule 8: Drawing up of the provisional agenda</p> <p>1. The provisional agenda for a session shall be drawn up by the secretariat in consultation with the bureau.</p> <p>2. The provisional agenda for a session shall include:</p> <p>(a) Items arising from the provisions of the Convention and the Protocols;</p> <p>(b) Items the inclusion of which has been decided at a previous session of the Conference;</p> <p>(c) Items relating to the organization of the session;</p> <p>(d) Items relating to voluntary contributions as provided for in articles 30 and 32 of the Convention;</p> <p>(e) Any item proposed by any State Party, the bureau or the Secretary-General.</p>	<p>Rule 8: Drawing up of the provisional agenda</p> <p>1. The provisional agenda for a session shall be drawn up by the secretariat in consultation with the bureau.</p> <p>2. The provisional agenda for a session shall include:</p> <p>(a) Items arising from the provisions of the Convention;</p> <p>(b) Items the inclusion of which has been decided at a previous session of the Conference;</p> <p>(c) Items relating to the organization of the session;</p> <p>(d) Items relating to voluntary contributions as provided for in articles 60, 62 and 63 of the Convention;</p> <p>(e) Any item proposed by any State party, the bureau or the Secretary-General.</p>	<p>Substantively identical (except article references); Rule 8, paragraph 2 (a) UNTOC ROP includes “and the Protocols”.</p>
<p>Rule 9: Communication of the provisional agenda</p> <p>The provisional agenda for a session shall be communicated by the secretariat to the States Parties, as well as the observers referred to in rules 14 to 17, at least sixty days in advance of a regular session and at least thirty days in advance of a special session, together with any supplementary documentation, if necessary.</p>	<p>Rule 9: Communication of the provisional agenda</p> <p>The provisional agenda for a session shall be communicated by the secretariat to the States parties, as well as the observers referred to in rules 14 to 17, at least sixty days in advance of a regular session and at least thirty days in advance of a special session, together with any supplementary documentation, if necessary.</p>	<p>Identical.</p>
<p>Rule 10: Explanatory memorandum</p> <p>Any item proposed for inclusion in the agenda shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents or by a draft recommendation or decision.</p>	<p>Rule 10: Explanatory memorandum</p> <p>Any item proposed for inclusion in the agenda shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents or by a draft recommendation or decision.</p>	<p>Identical.</p>

Rule 11: Adoption of the agenda At each session, the provisional agenda shall be submitted to the Conference for consideration and approval as soon as possible after the opening of the session.	Rule 11: Adoption of the agenda At each session, the provisional agenda shall be submitted to the Conference for consideration and approval as soon as possible after the opening of the session.	Identical.
IV. Representation of States Parties	IV. Representation of States Parties	
Rule 12: Representation of States Parties Each State Party participating in a session shall be represented by one representative, who may be accompanied by alternate representatives and advisers as the State Party may require. The representative and all such alternate representatives and advisers shall constitute the State Party's delegation to the Conference.	Rule 12: Representation of States Parties Each State party participating in a session shall be represented by one representative, who may be accompanied by alternate representatives and advisers as the State party may require. The representative and all such alternate representatives and advisers shall constitute the State party's delegation to the Conference.	Identical.
Rule 13: Alternates Each representative may designate any alternate in his or her delegation to act in his or her place during the Conference.	Rule 13: Alternates Each representative may designate any alternate in his or her delegation to act in his or her place during the Conference.	Identical.
V. Observers	V. Observers	
Rule 14: Participation of signatories 1. Subject to prior written notification to the Secretary-General, any State or regional economic integration organization signatory to the Convention in accordance with its article 36, paragraphs 1 and 2, shall be entitled to participate as an observer in the Conference. 2. Participation of such signatories shall entitle them: (a) To attend meetings of the Conference;	Rule 14: Participation of signatories 1. Subject to prior written notification to the Secretary-General, any State or regional economic integration organization signatory to the Convention in accordance with its article 67, paragraphs 1 and 2, shall be entitled to participate as an observer in the Conference. 2. Participation of such signatories shall entitle them: (a) To attend meetings of the Conference;	Substantively identical (except article references).

<p>(b) To deliver statements at such meetings; (c) To receive the documents of the Conference; (d) To submit their views in writing to the Conference; and (e) To participate in the deliberative process of the Conference.</p>	<p>(b) To deliver statements at such meetings; (c) To receive the documents of the Conference; (d) To submit their views in writing to the Conference; and (e) To participate in the deliberative process of the Conference.</p>	
<p>Rule 15: Participation of non-signatories 1. Any other State or regional economic integration organization that has not signed the Convention in accordance with its article 36, paragraphs 1 and 2, may apply to the bureau for observer status, which shall be accorded unless otherwise decided by the Conference. 2. Without taking part in the adoption of decisions on substantive and procedural matters, whether by consensus or by vote, at the Conference, such non-signatory States and regional economic integration organizations may: (a) Attend plenary meetings of the Conference; (b) Deliver statements at such meetings at the invitation of the President in consultation with the bureau; (c) Receive the documents of the Conference; and (d) Submit their views in writing to the Conference.</p>	<p>Rule 15: Participation of non-signatories 1. Any other State or regional economic integration organization that has not signed the Convention in accordance with its article 67, paragraphs 1 and 2, may apply to the bureau for observer status, which shall be accorded unless otherwise decided by the Conference. 2. Without taking part in the adoption of decisions on substantive and procedural matters, whether by consensus or by vote, at the Conference, such non-signatory States and regional economic integration organizations may: (a) Attend plenary meetings of the Conference; (b) Deliver statements at such meetings at the invitation of the President in consultation with the bureau; (c) Receive the documents of the Conference; and (d) Submit their views in writing to the Conference.</p>	<p>Substantively identical (except article references).</p>
<p>Rule 16: Participation of entities and intergovernmental organizations 1. Subject to prior written notification to the Secretary-General, representatives of entities and organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate as observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices, representatives of United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and funds, as well as</p>	<p>Rule 16: Participation of entities and intergovernmental organizations 1. Subject to prior written notification to the Secretary-General, representatives of entities and organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate as observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices, representatives of United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and funds, as well as</p>	<p>Identical.</p>

<p>representatives of functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, shall be entitled to participate as observers in the deliberations of the Conference.</p> <p>2. Representatives of any other relevant intergovernmental organization may also apply to the bureau for observer status, which shall be accorded unless otherwise decided by the Conference.</p> <p>3. Without taking part in the adoption of decisions on substantive and procedural matters, whether by consensus or by vote, at the Conference, such entities and organizations may:</p> <p>(a) Attend plenary meetings of the Conference;</p> <p>(b) Deliver statements at such meetings at the invitation of the President in consultation with the bureau;</p> <p>(c) Receive the documents of the Conference; and</p> <p>(d) Submit their views in writing to the Conference.</p>	<p>representatives of functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, shall be entitled to participate as observers in the deliberations of the Conference.</p> <p>2. Representatives of any other relevant intergovernmental organization may also apply to the bureau for observer status, which shall be accorded unless otherwise decided by the Conference.</p> <p>3. Without taking part in the adoption of decisions on substantive and procedural matters, whether by consensus or by vote, at the Conference, such entities and organizations may:</p> <p>(a) Attend plenary meetings of the Conference;</p> <p>(b) Deliver statements at such meetings at the invitation of the President in consultation with the bureau;</p> <p>(c) Receive the documents of the Conference; and</p> <p>(d) Submit their views in writing to the Conference.</p>	
<p>Rule 17: Participation of non-governmental organizations</p> <p>1. Relevant non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may apply to the bureau for observer status, which should be accorded unless otherwise decided by the Conference.</p> <p>2. Other relevant non-governmental organizations may also apply to the bureau for observer status. The secretariat shall circulate as a document a list of such organizations with sufficient information at least thirty days prior to the Conference. If there is no objection to a non-governmental organization, observer status should be accorded unless otherwise decided by the</p>	<p>Rule 17: Participation of non-governmental organizations</p> <p>1. Relevant non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may apply to the bureau for observer status, which should be accorded unless otherwise decided by the Conference.</p> <p>2. Other relevant non-governmental organizations may also apply to the bureau for observer status. The secretariat shall circulate as a document a list of such organizations with sufficient information at least thirty days prior to the Conference. If there is no objection to a non-governmental organization, observer status should be accorded unless otherwise decided by the</p>	Identical.
		Identical.

Conference. If there is an objection, the matter will be referred to the Conference for a decision.	Conference. If there is an objection, the matter will be referred to the Conference for a decision.	
<p>3. Without taking part in the adoption of decisions on substantive and procedural matters, whether by consensus or by vote, at the Conference, such non-governmental organizations may:</p> <p>(a) Attend plenary meetings of the Conference;</p> <p>(b) Upon the invitation of the President and subject to the approval of the Conference, make oral statements at such meetings through a limited number of representatives on questions relating to their activities; and</p> <p>(c) Receive the documents of the Conference.</p>	<p>3. Without taking part in the adoption of decisions on substantive and procedural matters, whether by consensus or by vote, at the Conference, such non-governmental organizations may:</p> <p>(a) Attend plenary meetings of the Conference;</p> <p>(b) Upon the invitation of the President and subject to the approval of the Conference, make oral statements or provide written reports¹ at such meetings through a limited number of representatives on questions relating to their activities; and</p> <p>(c) Receive the documents of the Conference.</p> <p>¹ The Secretariat is under no obligation to translate reports submitted by non-governmental organizations into the official languages of the United Nations.</p>	Paragraph 3(b) UNCAC ROP adds option for written reports with footnote noting UN has no obligation to translate these reports.
VI. Credentials	VI. Credentials	
Rule 18: Submission of credentials	Rule 18: Submission of credentials	
1. The credentials of representatives of each State Party and the names of the persons constituting the State Party's delegation shall be submitted to the secretariat if possible not later than twenty-four hours in advance of the opening of the session.	1. The credentials of representatives of each State party and the names of the persons constituting the State party's delegation shall be submitted to the secretariat if possible not later than twenty-four hours in advance of the opening of the session.	Identical.
2. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the secretariat.	2. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the secretariat.	Identical.

3. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in exceptional cases, by a person authorized by either of them, or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.	3. The credentials shall be issued by the Head of State or Government, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations of the State party in accordance with its domestic law or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.	The option of “in exceptional cases, by a person authorized by either of them”, as provided in UNTOC ROP, is replaced by “Permanent Representatives” in the UNCAC ROP.
No equivalent.	4. When the Conference is to consider proposals for amendments to the Convention in accordance with article 69 of the Convention and rule 52 of the rules of procedure, the credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State party, or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.	UNCAC ROP adds special credentials requirement for considering amendments.
Rule 19: Examination of credentials The bureau of any session shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference	Rule 19: Examination of credentials The bureau of any session shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference.	Identical.
Rule 20: Provisional admission to a session Pending a decision of the bureau upon their credentials, representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the session. Any representative of a State Party to whose admission another State Party has made objection shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives of States Parties until the bureau has reported and the Conference has given its decision.	Rule 20: Provisional admission to a session Pending a decision of the bureau upon their credentials, representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the session. Any representative of a State party to whose admission another State party has made objection shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives of States parties until the bureau has reported and the Conference has taken its decision.	Identical.

Rule 21: Notification regarding participation of representatives of observers The names of designated representatives of observers and of alternates and advisers who accompany them shall be submitted to the secretariat.	Rule 21: Notification regarding participation of representatives of observers The names of designated representatives of observers and of alternates and advisers who accompany them shall be submitted to the secretariat.	Identical.
VII. Officers	VII. Officers	
Rule 22: Election 1. At the opening of each session, a President, eight Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur shall be elected from among the representatives of the States Parties that are present at the session.	Rule 22: Election 1. At the opening of each session, a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur shall be elected from among the representatives of the States parties that are present at the session.	UNTOC ROP provide for 8 Vice-Presidents; UNCAC ROP for 3.
2. The President, the Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur shall serve as the officers of the session.	2. The President, the Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur shall serve as the officers of the session.	Identical.
3. In electing the officers of the session, each of the five regional groups shall be represented by two officers, one of whom shall be from among the representatives of the States that are Parties to the Convention and one or more and if possible all the Protocols that have entered into force by the opening of the session. The bureau shall include at least two representatives of States that are Parties to all the instruments that have entered into force by the opening of the session. The offices of the President and Rapporteur of the Conference shall normally be subject to rotation among the five regional groups.	3. In electing the officers of the session, each of the five regional groups shall be represented by one officer. The offices of the President and Rapporteur of the Conference shall normally be subject to rotation among the five regional groups.	UNTOC ROP contains regional representation requirements related to Protocols.
Rule 23: Term of office The President, the Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur shall hold office until their successors are elected at the next session.	Rule 23: Term of office The President, the Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur shall hold office until their successors are elected at the next session.	Identical.

Rule 24: Acting President 1. If the President finds it necessary to be absent during a session or any part thereof, he or she shall designate one of the Vice-Presidents to take his or her place.	Rule 24: Acting President If the President finds it necessary to be absent during a session or any part thereof, he or she shall designate one of the Vice-Presidents to take his or her place.	Identical.
2. When the Conference considers matters pertaining solely to a Protocol to the Convention, the President, in the event that he or she is the representative of a State not party to the Protocol in question, shall designate one of the Vice-Presidents who is the representative of a State that is party to the Protocol in question to take his or her place.	No equivalent.	UNTOC ROP adds provisions for Protocol matters.
Rule 25: Powers and duties of the Acting President A Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President.	Rule 25: Powers and duties of the Acting President A Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President.	Identical.
Rule 26: Replacement of the President If the President is unable to perform his or her functions, the officers shall select a new President from among the Vice-Presidents.	Rule 26: Replacement of the President 1. If the President is unable to perform his or her functions, the Conference shall elect a new President from among the representatives of the States parties of the same region as the President.	Different. UNTOC ROP allows officers to choose a new President from the Vice-Presidents, while the UNCAC ROP requires the COSP to elect a new President from the same region's representatives.
No equivalent.	2. If such a replacement becomes necessary after the closure of the session, the officers shall select a new President from among the Vice- Presidents. The State party of the replaced President shall have the right to fill the vacancy in the bureau thus created.	Paragraph 2 is specific to UNCAC ROP.
Rule 27: General powers of the President In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each plenary meeting of the session, direct the discussions in plenary	Rule 27: General powers of the President In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him or her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall declare the opening and closing of each plenary meeting of the session, direct the discussions in plenary	Identical.

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meeting, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. He or she shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings at any meeting and over the maintenance of order thereat. The President may, in the course of the discussion of an item, propose to the Conference the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers, the limitation of the number of times each representative may speak, the closure of the list of speakers or the closure of the debate. He or she may also propose the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting or the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. He or she may also make statements on behalf of the Conference.	meeting, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. He or she shall rule on points of order and, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings at any meeting and over the maintenance of order thereat. The President may, in the course of the discussion of an item, propose to the Conference the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers, the limitation of the number of times each representative may speak, the closure of the list of speakers or the closure of the debate. He or she may also propose the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting or the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. He or she may also make statements on behalf of the Conference.	
Rule 28: The President shall remain under the authority of the Conference The President, in the exercise of his or her functions, shall remain under the authority of the Conference.	Rule 28: The President shall remain under the authority of the Conference The President, in the exercise of his or her functions, shall remain under the authority of the Conference.	Identical.
Rule 29: The President shall not vote The President, or a Vice-President acting as President, shall not vote but shall designate another member of his or her delegation to vote in his or her place.	Rule 29: The President shall not vote The President, or a Vice-President acting as President, shall not vote but shall designate another member of his or her delegation to vote in his or her place.	Identical.
VIII. Bureau	VIII. Bureau	
Rule 30: Composition and functions The President, the Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur shall constitute the bureau of the Conference, which shall meet as necessary during the session to review the progress of work and to make recommendations for furthering such progress. It shall also meet at such other	Rule 30: Composition and functions The President, the Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur shall constitute the bureau of the Conference, which shall meet as necessary during the session to review the progress of work and to make recommendations for furthering such progress. It shall also meet at such other	Identical.

times as the President deems necessary or upon the request of any other of its members. The bureau shall assist the President in the general conduct of work that falls within the competence of the President and perform such other functions as foreseen by these rules.	times as the President deems necessary or upon the request of any other of its members. The bureau shall assist the President in the general conduct of work that falls within the competence of the President and perform such other functions as foreseen by these rules.	
Rule 31: Replacement of officers of the bureau If an officer of the bureau other than the President resigns or is otherwise unable to complete the assigned term of office or to perform the functions of that office, a representative of the same State Party shall be named by the State Party concerned to replace the said officer for the remainder of that officer's mandate.	Rule 31: Replacement of officers of the bureau If an officer of the bureau other than the President resigns or is otherwise unable to complete the assigned term of office or to perform the functions of that office, a representative of the same State party shall be named by the State party concerned to replace the said officer for the remainder of that officer's mandate.	Identical.
IX. Secretariat	IX. Secretariat	
Rule 32: Duties of the Secretary-General The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference. He or she may designate a member of the secretariat to act in his or her place at those meetings.	Rule 32: Duties of the Secretary-General The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference. He or she may designate a member of the secretariat to act in his or her place at those meetings.	Identical.
Rule 33: Duties of the secretariat In addition to the functions specified in article 33 of the Convention, the secretariat shall receive, translate, reproduce and distribute documents, reports and decisions of the Conference; interpret speeches made at the meetings; prepare, print and circulate the records of the session; have the custody and proper preservation of the documents in the archives of the Conference; distribute all documents of the Conference; assist the President and bureau of the Conference in the performance of their functions; and, generally, perform	Rule 33: Duties of the secretariat In addition to the functions specified in article 64 of the Convention, the secretariat shall receive, translate, reproduce and distribute documents, reports and decisions of the Conference; interpret speeches made at the meetings; prepare, print and circulate the records of the session; have the custody and proper preservation of the documents in the archives of the Conference; distribute all documents of the Conference; assist the bureau of the Conference in the performance of their functions; and, generally, perform all other work and functions that the Conference may require.	Substantively identical (except article references); UNTOC ROP mandates the secretariat to assist the President of the bureau, while the UNCAC ROP mandates the secretariat to assist the bureau.

all other work and functions that the Conference may require.		
X. Languages	X. Languages	
Rule 34: Official and working languages Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be both the official and the working languages of the Conference.	Rule 34: Official and working languages Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be both the official and the working languages of the Conference.	Identical.
Rule 35: Interpretation of speeches made in the official languages Speeches made in any of the six official languages of the Conference shall be interpreted into the other five languages.	Rule 35: Interpretation of speeches made in the official languages Speeches made in any of the six official languages of the Conference shall be interpreted into the other five languages.	Identical.
Rule 36: Interpretation of speeches made in a language other than the official languages Any representatives may make a speech in a language other than the official languages of the Conference. In that case, he or she shall provide for interpretation into one of the languages of the Conference. Interpretation into the other languages of the Conference by the interpreters of the secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first such language.	Rule 36: Interpretation of speeches made in a language other than the official languages Any representatives may make a speech in a language other than the official languages of the Conference. In that case, he or she shall provide for interpretation into one of the languages of the Conference. Interpretation into the other languages of the Conference by the interpreters of the secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first such language.	Identical.
Rule 37: Languages of documents submitted by States Parties and observers All documents submitted by States Parties and observers to the secretariat shall be in one of the official languages of the Conference.	Rule 37: Languages of documents submitted by States Parties and observers All documents submitted by States parties and observers to the secretariat shall be in one of the official languages of the Conference.	Identical.

Rule 38: Languages of recommendations and decisions All recommendations, decisions and other documents shall be published in the official languages of the Conference.	Rule 38: Languages of recommendations and decisions All recommendations, decisions and other documents shall be published in the official languages of the Conference.	Identical.
XI. Records	XI. Records	
Rule 39: Sound recording of meetings Sound recordings of the meetings of the Conference shall be made by the secretariat.	Rule 39: Sound recording of meetings Sound recordings of the meetings of the Conference shall be made by the secretariat.	Identical.
XII. Public and Private Meetings	XII. Public and Private Meetings	
Rule 40: General principles 1. The plenary meetings of the Conference shall normally be held in public unless the Conference decides otherwise. 2. Meetings of the bureau shall be held in private unless the bureau decides otherwise. 3. Decisions of the Conference taken at a private meeting shall be announced at the following public meeting.	Rule 40: General principles 1. The plenary meetings of the Conference shall normally be held in public unless the Conference decides otherwise. 2. Meetings of the bureau shall be held in private unless the bureau decides otherwise. 3. Decisions of the Conference taken at a private meeting shall be announced at the following public meeting.	Identical.
XIII. Conduct of Business	XIII. Conduct of Business	
Rule 41: Quorum 1. The President may declare a meeting of the Conference open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the States Parties participating in the session are present.	Rule 41: Quorum 1. The President may declare a meeting of the Conference open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the States parties participating in the session are present.	Identical.

2. The presence of a majority of the States Parties shall be required for any decision to be taken.	2. The presence of a majority of the States parties shall be required for any decision to be taken.	
Rule 42: Speeches No representative may address the Conference without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The President may call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.	Rule 42: Speeches No representative may address the Conference without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The President may call a speaker to order if his or her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.	Identical.
Rule 43: Statements by the secretariat The Secretary-General, or a member of the secretariat designated by him or her as his or her representative, may at any time make either oral or written statements to the Conference concerning any question under consideration by it.	Rule 43: Statements by the secretariat The Secretary-General, or a member of the secretariat designated by him or her as his or her representative, may at any time make either oral or written statements to the Conference concerning any question under consideration by it.	Identical.
Rule 44: Points of order During the discussion of any matter, a representative of a State Party may rise to a point of order and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with the rules of procedure. A representative of a State Party may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the States Parties present and voting. A representative of a State Party rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.	Rule 44: Points of order During the discussion of any matter, a representative of a State party may rise to a point of order and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with the rules of procedure. A representative of a State party may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the States parties present and voting. A representative of a State party rising to a point of order may not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.	Identical.
Rule 45: Time limit on speeches The Conference may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker and the number of times each representative may speak on any question. Before a decision is taken,	Rule 45: Time limit on speeches The Conference may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker and the number of times each representative may speak on any question. Before a decision is taken,	Identical.

two representatives of States Parties may speak in favour of, and two against, a proposal to set such limits. When the debate is limited and a representative exceeds his or her allotted time, the President shall call him or her to order without delay.	two representatives of States parties may speak in favour of, and two against, a proposal to set such limits. When the debate is limited and a representative exceeds his or her allotted time, the President shall call him or her to order without delay.	
Rule 46: Closing of the list of speakers and right of reply During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Conference, declare the list closed. He or she may, however, accord the right of reply to any representative if a speech delivered after he or she has declared the list closed makes this desirable.	Rule 46: Closing of the list of speakers and right of reply During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Conference, declare the list closed. He or she may, however, accord the right of reply to any representative if a speech delivered after he or she has declared the list closed makes this desirable.	Identical.
Rule 47: Adjournment of debate During the discussion of any matter, a representative of a State Party may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, two representatives of States Parties may speak in favour of, and two against, the motion, after which the motion shall be immediately decided upon, if necessary by being put to the vote. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.	Rule 47: Adjournment of debate During the discussion of any matter, a representative of a State party may move the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, two representatives of States parties may speak in favour of, and two against, the motion, after which the motion shall be immediately decided upon, if necessary by being put to the vote. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.	Identical.
Rule 48: Closure of debate A representative of a State Party may at any time move orally the closure of the debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his or her wish to speak. Permission to speak on the closure of the debate shall be accorded only to two representatives of States Parties opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be immediately decided upon, if necessary by being put to the vote. If the Conference is in favour of the closure, the President	Rule 48: Closure of debate A representative of a State party may at any time move orally the closure of the debate on the item under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his or her wish to speak. Permission to speak on the closure of the debate shall be accorded only to two representatives of States parties opposing the closure, after which the motion shall be immediately decided upon, if necessary by being put to the vote. If the Conference is in favour of the closure, the President	Identical.

shall declare the closure of the debate. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.	shall declare the closure of the debate. The President may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this rule.	
Rule 49: Suspension or adjournment of the meeting During the discussion of any matter, a representative of a State Party may move orally the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated, but shall be immediately put to the vote. The President may limit the time to be allowed to the speaker moving the suspension or adjournment of the meeting.	Rule 49: Suspension or adjournment of the meeting During the discussion of any matter, a representative of a State party may move orally the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. Such motions shall not be debated, but shall be immediately put to the vote. The President may limit the time to be allowed to the speaker moving the suspension or adjournment of the meeting.	Identical.
Rule 50: Order of procedural motions Subject to rule 44, the procedural motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the meeting: (a) To suspend the meeting; (b) To adjourn the meeting; (c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion; (d) To close the debate on the item under discussion.	Rule 50: Order of procedural motions Subject to rule 44, the procedural motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the meeting: (a) To suspend the meeting; (b) To adjourn the meeting; (c) To adjourn the debate on the item under discussion; (d) To close the debate on the item under discussion.	Identical.
Rule 51: Proposals and amendments Proposals and amendments shall be submitted by States Parties and signatory States, normally in writing, to the secretariat, which shall circulate copies to the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or considered for decision at any meeting of the Conference unless copies of it have been circulated to all participants in all the official languages of the Conference not later than one day in advance of the meeting. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments, or of motions as to procedure, even though such	Rule 51: Proposals and amendments Proposals and amendments shall be submitted by States parties and signatory States, normally in writing, to the secretariat, which shall circulate copies to the delegations. As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or considered for decision at any meeting of the Conference unless copies of it have been circulated to all participants in all the official languages of the Conference not later than one day in advance of the meeting. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments, or of motions as to procedure, even though such	Identical.

amendments and motions have not been circulated or have only been circulated the same day.	amendments and motions have not been circulated or have only been circulated the same day.	
Rule 52: Proposals of amendments to the Convention and the Protocols thereto Proposals of amendments to the Convention and the Protocols thereto shall be communicated to the States Parties by the Secretary-General at least six months in advance of the session at which they are proposed for consideration and subsequent adoption.	Rule 52: Proposals of amendments to the Convention Proposals of amendments to the Convention shall be communicated to the States parties by the Secretary-General at least six months in advance of the session at which they are proposed for consideration and subsequent adoption.	UNTOC includes reference to Protocols, UNCAC only to the Convention.
Rule 53: Decisions on competence Subject to rule 50, any motion by a State Party calling for a decision on the competence of the Conference to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.	Rule 53: Decisions on competence Subject to rule 50, any motion by a State party calling for a decision on the competence of the Conference to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.	Identical.
Rule 54: Withdrawal of proposals and motions Any proposal or motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided that it has not been amended by decision of the Conference. A proposal or a motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative of a State Party.	Rule 54: Withdrawal of proposals and motions Any proposal or motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided that it has not been amended by decision of the Conference. A proposal or a motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative of a State party.	Identical.
Rule 55: Reconsideration of proposals and amendments When a proposal or amendment has been adopted or rejected, it shall not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Conference, by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers of States Parties opposing reconsideration, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.	Rule 55: Reconsideration of proposals and amendments When a proposal or amendment has been adopted or rejected, it shall not be reconsidered at the same session unless the Conference, by a two-thirds majority of the States parties present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded only to two speakers of States parties opposing reconsideration, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.	Identical.

XIV. Decision-making	XIV. Decision-making	
Rule 56: Consensus States Parties shall make every effort to adopt decisions in the Conference by consensus.	Rule 56: Consensus States parties shall make every effort to adopt decisions in the Conference by consensus.	Identical.
Rule 57: Voting rights 1. If consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be taken by vote and each State Party shall have one vote. 2. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States that are Parties. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs and vice versa.	Rule 57: Voting rights 1. If consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be taken by vote and each State party shall have one vote. 2. Regional economic integration organizations, in matters within their competence, shall exercise their right to vote with a number of votes equal to the number of their member States that are parties. Such organizations shall not exercise their right to vote if their member States exercise theirs and vice versa.	Identical.
Rule 58: Decisions on matters of substance and budgetary issues States Parties shall make every effort to reach agreement on all matters of substance and budgetary issues by consensus. If all efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, decisions shall, as a last resort, be taken by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties present and voting, except: (a) As otherwise provided in the Convention and the Protocols; (b) In the case of the adoption of budgetary issues, which shall require unanimity.	Rule 58: Decisions on matters of substance and budgetary issues States parties shall make every effort to reach agreement on all matters of substance and budgetary issues by consensus. If all efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, decisions shall, as a last resort, be taken by a two-thirds majority of the States parties present and voting, except: (a) As otherwise provided in the Convention; (b) In the case of the adoption of budgetary issues, which shall require unanimity.	UNTOC includes reference to Protocols in paragraph (a), UNCAC only to the Convention.

<p>Rule 59: Decisions on amendments to proposals relating to matters of substance</p> <p>Decisions of the Conference on amendments to proposals relating to matters of substance shall be made by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties present and voting.</p>	<p>Rule 59: Decisions on amendments to proposals relating to matters of substance</p> <p>Decisions of the Conference on amendments to proposals relating to matters of substance shall be made by a two-thirds majority of the States parties present and voting.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 60: Decisions on matters of procedure</p> <p>Without prejudice to rule 56 and except as otherwise provided in these rules, decisions on matters of procedure shall be taken by a simple majority of the States Parties present and voting.</p>	<p>Rule 60: Decisions on matters of procedure</p> <p>Without prejudice to rule 56 and except as otherwise provided in these rules, decisions on matters of procedure shall be taken by a simple majority of the States parties present and voting.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 61: Decision whether the question is one of substance or not</p> <p>When the issue arises as to whether the question is one of substance or not, that question shall be treated as a matter of substance unless otherwise decided by the Conference by the majority required for a decision on matters of substance.</p>	<p>Rule 61: Decision whether the matter is one of substance or not</p> <p>When the issue arises as to whether the matter is one of substance or not, that matter shall be treated as one of substance unless otherwise decided by the Conference by the majority required for a decision on matters of substance.</p>	Substantively identical with minor language variations (“question” in UNTOC vs “matter” in UNCAC).
<p>Rule 62: Amendments to the Convention</p> <p>Amendments to the Convention proposed pursuant to article 39, paragraph 1, of the Convention on which consensus cannot be reached shall be adopted by the Conference by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties present and voting.</p>	<p>Rule 62: Amendments to the Convention</p> <p>Amendments to the Convention proposed pursuant to article 69, paragraph 1, of the Convention on which consensus cannot be reached shall be adopted by the Conference by a two-thirds majority of the States parties present and voting.</p>	Substantively identical (except article references).
<p>Rule 63: Meaning of the phrase “States Parties present and voting”</p> <p>For the purposes of these rules, the phrase “States Parties present and voting” means States Parties casting an affirmative or negative vote. States Parties that abstain from voting are considered as not voting.</p>	<p>Rule 63: Meaning of the phrase “States Parties present and voting”</p> <p>For the purposes of these rules, the phrase “States parties present and voting” means States parties casting an affirmative or negative vote. States parties that abstain from voting are considered as not voting.</p>	Identical.

<p>Rule 64: Method of voting</p> <p>1. The Conference shall normally vote by show of hands or by standing, but a representative of any State Party may request a roll-call. The roll-call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States Parties, beginning with the State Party whose name is drawn by lot by the President. The name of each State Party shall be called in any rollcall and one of its representatives shall reply “yes”, “no” or “abstention”. The result of the voting shall be inserted in the record in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States Parties.</p> <p>2. When the Conference votes by mechanical or electronic means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands or by standing and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call vote. A representative of any State Party may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Conference shall, unless a representative of a State Party requests otherwise, dispense with the procedure of calling out the names of the States Parties; nevertheless, the result of the voting shall be inserted in the record in the same manner as that of a roll-call vote.</p>	<p>Rule 64: Method of voting</p> <p>1. The Conference shall normally vote by show of hands or by standing, but a representative of any State party may request a roll-call. The roll-call shall be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States parties, beginning with the State party whose name is drawn by lot by the President. The name of each State party shall be called in any roll-call and one of its representatives shall reply “yes”, “no” or “abstention”. The result of the voting shall be inserted in the record in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States parties.</p> <p>2. When the Conference votes by mechanical or electronic means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands or by standing and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call vote. A representative of any State party may request a recorded vote. In the case of a recorded vote, the Conference shall, unless a representative of a State party requests otherwise, dispense with the procedure of calling out the names of the States parties; nevertheless, the result of the voting shall be inserted in the record in the same manner as that of a roll-call vote.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 65: Conduct during voting</p> <p>After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representative shall interrupt the voting, except that representatives of States Parties may interrupt on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting.</p>	<p>Rule 65: Conduct during voting</p> <p>After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representative shall interrupt the voting, except that representatives of States parties may interrupt on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 66: Explanation of vote or position</p> <p>1. Representatives of States Parties may make brief statements consisting solely of explanations of their</p>	<p>Rule 66: Explanation of vote or position</p> <p>1. Representatives of States parties may make brief statements consisting solely of explanations of their</p>	Identical.

<p>votes before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed, except when the vote is taken by secret ballot. The representative of a State Party sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended. The President may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations.</p> <p>2. Similarly, explanatory statements of position may be made in connection with a decision taken without a vote.</p>	<p>votes before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed, except when the vote is taken by secret ballot. The representative of a State party sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended. The President may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations.</p> <p>2. Similarly, explanatory statements of position may be made in connection with a decision taken without a vote.</p>	
<p>Rule 67: Division of proposals and amendments</p> <p>A representative of a State Party may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment shall be voted on separately. If objection is made to the request for division, the motion for division shall be first voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given only to two representatives of States Parties in favour and two representatives against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are subsequently approved shall be put to the vote as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.</p>	<p>Rule 67: Division of proposals and amendments</p> <p>A representative of a State party may move that parts of a proposal or of an amendment shall be voted on separately. If objection is made to the request for division, the motion for division shall be first voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion for division shall be given only to two representatives of States parties in favour and two representatives against. If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are subsequently approved shall be put to the vote as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal or of the amendment have been rejected, the proposal or the amendment shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 68: Voting on amendments</p> <p>1. When an amendment to a proposal is moved, the amendment shall be voted first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Conference shall first vote on the amendment deemed by the President to be furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom, and so on, until all the</p>	<p>Rule 68: Voting on amendments</p> <p>1. When an amendment to a proposal is moved, the amendment shall be voted first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Conference shall first vote on the amendment deemed by the President to be furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom, and so on, until all the</p>	Identical.

<p>amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter amendment shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.</p> <p>2. A motion shall be considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal.</p>	<p>amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter amendment shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.</p> <p>2. A motion shall be considered an amendment to a proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal.</p>	
<p>Rule 69: Voting on proposals</p> <p>If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Conference shall, unless it decides otherwise, vote on the proposals in the order in which they have been submitted. The Conference may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.</p>	<p>Rule 69: Voting on proposals</p> <p>If two or more proposals relate to the same question, the Conference shall, unless it decides otherwise, vote on the proposals in the order in which they have been submitted. The Conference may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 70: Elections</p> <p>1. All elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot on an agreed candidate or slate of candidates. There shall be no nominations.</p> <p>2. When two or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates, in a number not exceeding the number of such places, obtaining in the first ballot a majority of the votes cast or the largest number of votes shall be elected.</p> <p>3. If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of places to be filled, additional ballots shall be held to fill the remaining places.</p>	<p>Rule 70: Elections</p> <p>1. All elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot on an agreed candidate or slate of candidates. There shall be no nominations.</p> <p>2. When two or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates, in a number not exceeding the number of such places, obtaining in the first ballot a majority of the votes cast or the largest number of votes shall be elected.</p> <p>3. If the number of candidates obtaining such majority is less than the number of places to be filled, additional ballots shall be held to fill the remaining places.</p>	Identical.
<p>Rule 71: Equally divided votes</p> <p>If a vote is equally divided, the President shall give additional time for reconsideration of the issue before the proposal is once again put to the vote. In case the</p>	<p>Rule 71: Equally divided votes</p> <p>If a vote is equally divided, the President shall give additional time for reconsideration of the issue before the proposal is once again put to the vote. In case the</p>	Identical.

vote is still equally divided, the proposal voted upon shall be considered rejected.	vote is still equally divided, the proposal voted upon shall be considered rejected.	
XV. Budgetary and Financial Questions	XV. Budgetary and Financial Questions	
Rule 72: Preparation of a budget The secretariat shall prepare a budget for the financing of activities of the Conference related to technical cooperation undertaken in accordance with articles 29 to 32 of the Convention, article 10 of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, article 14 of the Migrants Protocol and article 14 of the Firearms Protocol, and communicate it to the States Parties at least sixty days in advance of the opening of the regular session at which the budget is to be adopted.	Rule 72: Preparation of a budget The secretariat shall prepare a budget for the financing of activities of the Conference related to technical cooperation undertaken in accordance with articles 60, 62 and 63 and chapters II to V of the Convention and communicate it to the States parties at least sixty days in advance of the opening of the regular session at which the budget is to be adopted.	Similar. UNTOC references specific articles of the Convention and articles from its three Protocols. UNCAC references its own relevant articles and chapters.
Rule 73: Adoption of the budget The Conference shall consider and decide on the budget prepared pursuant to rule 72.	Rule 73: Adoption of the budget The Conference shall consider and decide on the budget prepared pursuant to rule 72.	Identical.
Rule 74: Financial Regulations and Rules The Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations ¹ shall govern, mutatis mutandis, the financial administration of the budget approved by the Conference.	Rule 74: Financial Regulations and Rules The Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations ² shall govern, mutatis mutandis, the financial administration of the budget approved by the Conference.	Identical.
¹ ST/SGB/2003/7.	² ST/SGB/2003/7.	
Rule 75: Statements of financial implications Any proposal or amendment that may have financial implications shall be accompanied by a statement of financial implications prepared by the secretariat, which shall be made available to the Conference prior to its	Rule 75: Statements of financial implications Any proposal or amendment that may have financial implications shall be accompanied by a statement of financial implications prepared by the secretariat, which shall be made available to the Conference prior to its	Identical.

consideration of and action upon the proposal or amendment in question.	consideration of and action upon the proposal or amendment in question.	
XVI. Protocols	No equivalent	
Rule 76: Decision-making on the Protocols When the Conference undertakes deliberations concerning a Protocol, any recommendation or decision pertaining solely to the Protocol shall be taken only by the States Parties to that Protocol present and voting.	No equivalent.	UNTOC-specific; UNCAC has no protocols.
Rule 77: Amendments to the Protocols Amendments to the Protocols proposed pursuant to article 18, paragraph 1, of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, article 23, paragraph 1, of the Migrants Protocol and article 19, paragraph 1, of the Firearms Protocol on which consensus cannot be reached shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties to the respective Protocol present and voting.	No equivalent.	UNTOC-specific; UNCAC has no protocols.
XVII. Interpretation, Amendment and Suspension of the Rules of Procedure	XVI. Interpretation, amendment and suspension of the rules of procedure	
Rule 78: Italicized headings The italicized headings of these rules, which were inserted for reference purposes only, shall be disregarded in the interpretation of the rules.	Rule 76: Italicized headings The italicized headings of these rules, which were inserted for reference purposes only, shall be disregarded in the interpretation of the rules.	Identical (different rule number).
Rule 79: Method of amendment These rules may be amended by a decision of the Conference taken by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties present and voting.	Rule 77: Method of amendment These rules may be amended by a decision of the Conference taken by a two-thirds majority of the States parties present and voting.	Identical (different rule number).

Rule 80: Suspension of rules Any of these rules may be suspended, subject to the provisions of the Convention, by a decision of the Conference taken by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties present and voting.	Rule 78: Suspension of rules Any of these rules may be suspended, subject to the provisions of the Convention, by a decision of the Conference taken by a two-thirds majority of the States parties present and voting.	Identical (different rule number).
Rule 81: Overriding authority of the Convention In the event of any conflict between any provision of these rules and any provision of the Convention, the Convention shall prevail.	Rule 79: Overriding authority of the Convention In the event of any conflict between any provision of these rules and any provision of the Convention, the Convention shall prevail.	Identical (different rule number).
Rule 82: Entry into force These rules shall enter into force immediately after their adoption.	Rule 80: Entry into force These rules shall enter into force immediately after their adoption.	Identical (different rule number).

Timeline for the preparation of the draft text of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime¹ by the Ad Hoc Committee

23 April 2025

1. Introduction

In accordance with General Assembly resolution [79/243](#), and as approved by the Bureau on 24 March 2025, the next session of the *Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes* to prepare the draft text of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime will be held from 26 to 30 January 2026 in Vienna.

To support the work of Member States in the negotiations of the draft text of the rules of procedure, the present document was prepared by the secretariat of the Ad Hoc Committee at the request of the Bureau. It includes a timeline for the preparation of the draft text of the rules of procedure, as approved by the Bureau at its meeting on 15 April 2025, for the information of delegations.

2. Timeline for the preparation of the parliamentary documentation for the next session of the Ad Hoc Committee

The timeline for the preparation of the draft text of the rules of procedure is as follows:

- *As soon as feasible*: the secretariat to circulate to Member States the comparison of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), together with the tentative structure for the draft text of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime (the same documents that were circulated to the Bureau on 11 March 2025), with an invitation to provide comments. Comments would be made available as received on the website of the Ad Hoc Committee.
- *6 June 2025*: deadline for the submission of comments by Member States on the above-mentioned documents.
- *By 15 July 2025*: the secretariat to prepare and circulate to Member States a consolidated draft text of the rules of procedure in English only, including options for certain draft rules where necessary, on the basis of the comments received.
- *31 August 2025*: deadline for the submission of comments, or any additional proposal, by Member States on the consolidated draft text. Comments would be made available as received on the website of the Ad Hoc Committee.
- *By 30 September 2025*: the secretariat to prepare and circulate to Member States a zero-draft based on Member State comments to the consolidated draft text. The document, to be available in English only, will support the first round of informal consultations (*see next point*).
- *15-17 October 2025*: first round of informal consultations (held in English only and in a hybrid format, in person in the Vienna International Centre and online via MS Teams, in line with past practice of the AHC and the availability of resources).

¹ United Nations Convention against Cybercrime; Strengthening international cooperation for combating certain crimes committed by means of information and communications technology systems and for the sharing of evidence in electronic form of serious crimes, available [here](#).

Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes

- *Early-November 2025*: second round of informal consultations (same format as previous informal consultations based on the availability of resources).
- *Between mid-October and mid-November 2025*: the secretariat to introduce changes to the zero-draft in line with outcomes from the discussions held at informal consultations, and to submit it to Conference Management Services by mid-November for editing and translation into the six official languages of the United Nations, in line with rules for the processing of parliamentary documentation for formal sessions of United Nations bodies.
- *By 15 December 2025*: publication of the official parliamentary document of the next session of the AHC containing a proposal for the draft text of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime in the six official languages of the United Nations, for consideration by the AHC. The secretariat will circulate to all delegations and make the document available on the website of the session in line with past practice. An advanced edited English version will be circulated to delegations and made available on the website of the meeting as soon as ready (expected by early December).
- *Anywhere from one day to three weeks in January 2026*: informal consultations on the basis of the parliamentary document (same format as previous informal consultations). Duration to be confirmed based on the progress of negotiations. Outcomes of negotiations to be brought to the plenary of the AHC for consideration by all delegations.
- *26-30 January 2026*: next session of the Ad Hoc Committee in Vienna, Austria, in line with General Assembly resolution [79/243](#) and the dates approved by the Bureau at its twenty-second meeting on 24 March 2025.
