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| From: | General Secretariat of the Council |
| To: | Permanent Representatives Committee/Council |
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| Subject: | Draft Rules of Procedure for the selection of the Chairperson of the WTO Committee on Government Procurement (the "Committee") |

**Draft Rules of Procedure for the selection of the Chairperson of the WTO Committee on
Government Procurement (the "Committee")**

- (1) The Parties shall select a Chairperson from among their representatives to the Committee on Government Procurement on a yearly basis.
- (2) The Parties may decide to extend the term of the Chairperson, drawing on Chairperson's work plan for the following year.
- (3) A candidate shall be selected as Chairperson on the basis of the candidate's capacity, experience, availability and competencies to undertake the attendant responsibilities. The Chairperson will serve in a personal capacity.
- (4) The outgoing Chairperson shall hold consultations to facilitate the selection. If there is no Chairperson, the Parties may appoint, by consensus, an interim Chairperson or invite the Party that provided the previous Chairperson to hold such consultations.

- (5) Prior to or during the course of the consultations, the candidate(s) for the position of the Chairperson shall be given an opportunity to present proposed plans to the Parties for the period of chairing the Committee.
 - (6) The appointment shall take place at the first regular Committee meeting of the year. If the office of Chairperson becomes vacant in the middle of a year, the Parties shall aim to find a replacement within the shortest possible delay.
 - (7) The appointment shall take effect at the end of the meeting provided in the preceding paragraph. If there is no Chairperson at that time, it shall take effect immediately.
 - (8) The Chairperson shall hold office until the end of the first regular meeting of the following calendar year, unless the Chairperson is no longer able to serve or resigns at an earlier time.
 - (9) If the Parties are unable to reach consensus on the selection of a Chairperson, so that the Committee is prevented from fulfilling its obligation to meet at least once a year, the Committee may appoint, by consensus, an interim Chairperson from among the candidates, or alternatively invite the Party that provided the previous Chairperson, to temporarily facilitate the meetings of the Committee until such time as a Chairperson can be appointed.
 - (10) The Parties may decide to complement these rules of procedure further. The rules of procedure may be reviewed within five years of their adoption.
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