

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RICE COMMISSION

Note: The Amendment entered into force, November 23, 1961.

Reference: This Agreement is also published in 418 UNTS, p. 334.

PREAMBLE

The Fourth Session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as "the Organization"), having considered the recommendations of the Rice Meeting held in Baguio, Philippines, in March 1948, as approved in principle by the Council of the Organization at its meeting in April 1948, approved the establishment of an International Rice Commission (hereinafter referred to as "The Commission") in accordance with the provisions of the Draft Constitution drawn up at the Rice Meeting at Baguio.

ARTICLE I

OBJECT

The object of the Commission, which is established within the framework of FAO, shall be to promote national and international action with respect to production, conservation, distribution and consumption of rice, except matters relating to international trade.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Commission shall be such Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization, as may accept this Constitution in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII hereof. As regards Associate Members, the Constitution of the Commission shall in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV-5 of the Constitution of the Organization and Rule XXI-3 of the General Rule of the Organization be submitted by the Organization to the authority having responsibility for the International relations of such Associate Members.

ARTICLE III

SEAT

The seat of the Commission shall be the same place as the seat of the headquarters of the Organization's Regional Office for Asia and the Far East.

ARTICLE IV

FUNCTIONS

The Commission shall have the functions of:

- (a) keeping under review the scientific, technical and economic problems that bear upon the object of the Commission as stated in Article I;
- (b) encouraging and co-ordinating research on the above-mentioned problems and promoting its practical application;
- (c) undertaking, where necessary and appropriate, co-operative projects; directed to the solution of the above-mentioned problems;
- (d) recommending to [Member Nations] Members of the Commission, through the Director-General of the Organization, such national and international action as may appear to the Commission to be necessary or desirable for the solution of the above-mentioned problems;
- (e) recommending to the Director-General of the Organization the provision of technical assistance to [Member Nations] Members of the Commission in measures directed to that end;
- (f) assembling, collating and disseminating, through the publications of the Organization or otherwise, information relating to the problems and activities pertinent to the functions of the Commission; and
- (g) reporting at appropriate intervals on its activities, through the Director-General, to the Conference of the Organization, and making such other reports to the Director-General of the Organization on matters relating to the production, conservation, distribution and consumption of rice, as the Commission itself may consider expedient or the Director-General or the Conference of the Organization may request.
- (h) transmitting at appropriate intervals to the Director-General a report embodying its views, recommendations and decisions, and making such other reports to the Director-General of the Organization on matters relating to the production, conservation, distribution and consumption of rice, as the Commission itself may consider expedient or the Director-General or the Conference of the Organization may request. Reports of the committees and working parties of the Commission established under Article VI shall be formally transmitted to the Director-General through the Commission.

ARTICLE V

ORGANIZATION

1. Each [nation that becomes a] Member of the Commission as defined in Article II hereof shall have the right to be represented at sessions of the Commission by one delegate, who may be accompanied by an alternate and advisers. Alternates and advisers shall be entitled to take part in the proceedings of the Commission but not to vote, except in the case of an alternate who is duly authorized to act for a delegate.
2. Each Member [Nation] shall have one vote. [Decisions of the Commission shall be taken by a majority of votes cast except as otherwise provided by this Constitution.] The presence of delegates representing a majority of the Members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. Except as otherwise provided by the Constitution or Rules of Procedure of the Commission, all decisions in a plenary meeting shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast.

3. The Commission shall elect, at the beginning of each regular session, a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen from amongst the delegates who shall serve until the beginning of the next regular session, without prejudice to the right of re-election.
4. [Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 5 of this Article, the Commission shall, with the concurrence of the Director-General of the Organization, establish its own rules of procedure and determine the time and place of its sessions.] The Commission may, by a two-third majority of its membership, adopt and amend its own Rules of Procedure, which shall be consistent with the General Rules of the Organization. The Rules of the Commission and any amendments thereto shall come into force as from the date of approval by the Director-General of the Organization, subject to confirmation by the Council.
5. The Director-General of the Organization, after consultation with the Chairman, shall [call] convene a regular session of the Commission at least once every two years, unless otherwise directed by a majority of the [Member Nations] Members. The site and date of all sessions shall be determined by the Director-General of the Organization in consultation with the Chairman.
6. Any Member [Nation] of the Commission shall have the right, with the concurrence of the Director-General of the Organization, to call for a special session of the Commission, and such a session shall be [called] convened if atleast one-third of the [Member Nations] Members so request.
7. The Director-General of the Organization shall appoint and provide the secretariat of the Commission from the staff of the Organization, who shall be responsible to him.

ARTICLE VI

COMMITTEE AND WORKING PARTIES

1. The Commission may establish temporary, special or standing committees to study and report on matters pertaining to the purpose of the Commission.
2. The Commission may establish working parties to study and recommend on specific technical problems. These working parties shall be convened by the Director-General of the Organization at such times and places as are in accordance with the objectives for which they were established.
3. The establishment of committees and working parties referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall be subject to the availability of the necessary funds in the relevant chapter of the approved budget of the Organization; the determination of such availability shall be made by the Director-General. Before taking any decision involving expenditures in connection with the establishment of committees and working parties the Commission shall have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications thereof.
- [3.] 4. The members of committees and working parties shall be [Member Nations] Members of the Commission. The Commission shall determine the membership of such committees and working parties and the representatives of members on committees and working parties shall be designated by their respective governments.