

No. 5902

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

Convention placing the International Poplar Commission within the framework of FAO. Approved by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its tenth session, Rome, 19 November 1959

Official texts : English, French and Spanish.

Registered by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on 9 October 1961.

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE**

Convention plaçant la Commission internationale du peuplier dans le cadre de la FAO. Approuvée par la Conférence de l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture à sa dixième session, Rome, 19 novembre 1959

Textes officiels anglais, français et espagnol.

Enregistrée par l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture le 9 octobre 1961.

No. 5902. CONVENTION¹ PLACING THE INTERNATIONAL POPLAR COMMISSION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF FAO. APPROVED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS AT ITS TENTH SESSION, ROME, 19 NOVEMBER 1959

The Contracting Nations,

Considering

The statutes of the International Poplar Commission established in 1947 in pursuance of a proposal by the French Government following an International Poplar Week held in Paris,

The intention of the founders of the International Poplar Commission to establish it under the aegis of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

The views expressed by the Ninth Session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Resolution 47/57 regarding the desirability of avoiding any ambiguity with respect to the legal status of bodies promoted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and of clarifying their legal relationship with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and

Reaffirming

The desirability of promoting international cooperation in the study of all scientific, technical, social and economic aspects of Poplar cultivation,

Have agreed as follows :

¹ In accordance with article XVIII (1), the Convention came into force on 26 September 1961, the date of deposit of the twelfth instrument of acceptance, in respect of the following States on behalf of which the instruments of acceptance were deposited with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the dates indicated :

Spain	21 April	1960	France	17 March	1961
Yugoslavia	11 January	1961	Tunisia	4 April	1961
Lebanon	23 January	1961	Federal Republic of Ger-		
Argentina	6 February	1961	many	15 May	1961
Austria	17 February	1961	Ireland	4 July	1961
Switzerland	23 February	1961	United Arab Republic .	26 September	1961
Iran	6 March	1961			

Article I

STATUS

The International Poplar Commission (hereinafter referred to as « the Commission ») shall be placed within the framework of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as « the Organization ») and the present Convention whose object is to achieve that purpose shall be governed by the provisions of Article XIV of the Constitution of the Organization.

Article II

MEMBERSHIP

1. Member Nations of the Commission shall be such Member Nations or Associate Members of the Organization as accept this Convention in accordance with the provisions of Article XIII of this Convention.
2. The Commission may, by a two-thirds majority of its membership, admit to membership such other Nations that are Members of the United Nations as have submitted an application for membership and a declaration made in a formal instrument that they accept this Convention as in force at the time of admission.

Article III

FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Commission shall be :

- (a) to study the scientific, technical, social and economic aspects of poplar and willow cultivation,
- (b) to promote the exchange of ideas and material between research workers, producers and users,
- (c) to arrange joint research programs,
- (d) to stimulate the organization of congresses combined with study tours,
- (e) to report and make recommendations to the Conference of the Organization, through the Director-General of the Organization, and
- (f) to make recommendations to National Poplar Commissions, through the Director-General of the Organization and the governments concerned.

Article IV

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL POPLAR COMMISSIONS

Each contracting Nation shall make provision as soon as possible and to the best of its ability, for the establishment of a National Poplar Commission and shall

transmit a description of the competence and scope of the National Commission and of any changes thereto to the Director-General of the Organization, who shall circulate this information to the other Member Nations of the Commission. Each contracting Nation shall communicate to the Director-General the publications of its National Commission.

Article V

SEAT OF THE COMMISSION

The seat of the Commission shall be in Rome at the Headquarters of the Organization.

Article VI

SESSIONS

1. Each Member Nation of the Commission shall be represented at sessions of the Commission by a single delegate who may be accompanied by an alternate and by experts and advisors. Alternates, experts and advisors may take part in the proceedings of the Commission but not vote, except in the case of an alternate who is duly authorized to substitute for the delegate. Each Member Nation of the Commission shall have one vote. Decisions of the Commission shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast except as otherwise provided in this Convention. A majority of the Member Nations of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.
2. The Director-General of the Organization in consultation with the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Commission shall convene a regular session of the Commission once every two years. Special sessions of the Commission may be convened by the Director-General in consultation with the Chairman of the Executive Committee, or if requested by the Commission, or by at least one-third of the Member Nations of the Commission.
3. The sessions of the Commission shall be held at the place determined by the Commission within the territories of its Member Nations or at the seat of the Commission.
4. The Commission shall elect, at the beginning of each session, from amongst the delegates, a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.
5. There shall be a General Committee of the session consisting of the Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen of the session and the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Article VII

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Commission consisting of 12 members and up to five co-opted members.
2. Twelve members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Commission from among individuals nominated by Member Nations of the Commission upon the suggestion of their respective National Poplar Commissions. Members of the Executive Committee shall be appointed in their personal capacity because of their special competence, and shall serve for a period of six years. Members of the Executive Committee shall be eligible for re-election.
3. The Executive Committee may, in order to ensure the cooperation of the necessary specialists, coopt one to five additional members under the same conditions as are provided for in paragraph 2 above. The term of office of the additional members shall expire with the term of the elected members.
4. The Executive Committee shall, between sessions of the Commission, act on behalf of the Commission as its executive organ. The Executive Committee shall in particular make proposals to the Commission regarding the general orientation and the program of work of the Commission, study technical questions and implement the program as approved by the Commission.
5. The Executive Committee shall elect from amongst its Members a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman.
6. Sessions of the Executive Committee may be convened as often as necessary by the Director-General of the Organization in consultation with its Chairman. The Committee shall meet in connection with each regular session of the Commission. It shall also meet at least once between two regular sessions of the Commission.
7. The Executive Committee shall report to the Commission.

Article VIII

SECRETARY

A Secretary of the Commission shall be appointed by the Director-General of the Organization from amongst the senior staff of the Organization and shall be responsible to the Director-General. The Secretary shall perform such duties as the work of the Commission may require.

Article IX

SUBSIDIARY BODIES

1. The Commission may, if necessary, establish sub-commissions, committees or working parties, subject to the availability of the necessary funds in the relevant