



**INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
(of UNESCO)**

**TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS
OF THE COMMISSION AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

This document contains, in a consolidated form, rules and practical arrangements for the elections of Officers of the Commission and other Members of the Executive Council. It is worthwhile stressing that, for these elections to be effective and efficiently handled, the procedures and arrangements specified in this document should be strictly adhered to and their implementation carefully monitored by the Nominations Committee.

1. INTRODUCTION

1 During the course of each ordinary session, the Assembly, taking into account the principles of geographical distribution, shall elect:

- (i) a Chairman and four Vice-Chairmen who shall be the Officers of the Commission, its Assembly, and its Executive Council, in accordance with Article 5, para. 4 (a) of the Statutes of the Commission;
- (ii) the Member States of the Executive Council, each of which shall designate its Representative on the Council, in accordance with Article 5, para. 4 (b) of the Statutes of the Commission.

2 The term of office of the members of the Executive Council shall commence at the end of the session of the Assembly during which they have been elected and expire at the end of the next ordinary session of the Assembly (Article 5, para. 6 of the Statutes of the Commission).

2. ELECTIONS OF THE OFFICERS

3 The elections for new officers - the Chairman and four Vice-Chairmen - shall be held successively in the order: the Chairman, followed by the First, Second, Third and Fourth Vice-Chairmen (Rule of Procedure No. 13). The five officers elected shall be nationals of different Member States (Article 5, para. 5 (d) of the Statutes of the Commission).

4 Each candidate for election to the posts of Chairman or of the four Vice-Chairmen shall be correctly proposed and seconded (see para. 16 below). In signing the nomination form, the Candidate is declaring the willingness of his Government to allow him to take on the obligations that would devolve upon him should he be elected.

5 The Chairman and each Vice-Chairman shall be eligible for re-election in their capacity as Chairman or Vice-Chairman, but only once for successive terms (Rule of Procedure No. 17)

6 Officers seeking re-election require nomination as for new candidates (see para. 16 below).

3. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

7 Elections for membership of the Executive Council shall be held on completion of the elections for the Officers of the Commission. All Member States are eligible with the exception of those five of which the Chairman and four Vice-Chairmen just elected are nationals (Article 5, para. 5 (d) of the Statutes of the Commission).

8 The number of Member States to be elected is fixed by Article 5, para. 4 (b) of the Statutes of the Commission. (See also, Rule of Procedure No. 18 para.1)

9 Member States wishing to be considered for election to the Executive Council shall inform the Secretary in writing, using the form attached hereto as Annex I.

10 States members of the Executive Council are eligible for re-election (Rule of Procedure N°. 18, para.1).

4. VOTING

11 Voting shall be carried out by secret ballot using the procedures laid down in Rule of Procedure No. 47.

5. NOMINATIONS

12 A Nominations Committee shall be appointed by the Steering Committee of the Assembly (Rule of Procedure No. 12, para. 2).

13 Under the terms of Resolution EC-I.11, the Nominations Committee's function shall be to accept nominations for:

- (i) the posts of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of the Commission;
- (ii) seats on the Executive Council;

and to forward all such nominations to the Assembly, having ensured that the procedures laid down under paras. 14 through 18 below are strictly adhered to.

14 In order to carry out its mandate, the Nominations Committee must therefore receive the Member States' nominations which, in accordance with Article 5, para. 4 of the Statutes of the Commission, may include:

- (i) nominations of individuals for the posts of Chairman and the four Vice-Chairmen, with a precise indication of the post(s) for which each person is nominated (the form attached hereto as Annex II shall be used);
- (ii) nominations of Member States for the remaining seats on the Executive Council (the form attached hereto as Annex I shall be used).

15 The use of the forms attached hereto as Annexes I and II for nominations of candidates for the posts of Officers of the Commission and for seats on the Executive Council, respectively, is mandatory for any nomination to be considered by the Nominations Committee.

16 Nominations for the posts of Chairman and the four Vice-Chairmen shall be submitted to the Secretary in writing using the standard form attached hereto as Annex II. Each candidate must be correctly proposed and seconded, and must be entitled to represent the government of the Member State of which he is a national (as shown on the standard form). Nominations shall be called for in advance of each Assembly session and the closing time for acceptance of nominations shall be two full working days before the date of the elections.

17 Each nomination shall contain a declaration from the candidate that he is prepared to stand for the post for which he has been nominated and is willing to take on the obligations that would devolve upon him should he be elected (Resolution EC-I.11).

18 Nominations for the posts of Chairman and First, Second or Third Vice-Chairman may be accompanied by a statement to the effect that, should the nominee not be elected to the post in question, he will be a candidate for a post in subsequent elections. This information will be kept confidential until after the previous election has been completed (see para. 37 below).

19 The countries of all failed candidates in the elections for Officers will be automatically included in the list of States' candidates for election to the Executive Council, unless the Head of any Delegation indicates that he does not wish his country to be considered for election.

6. ELECTION PROCEDURE

20 The Chairman will introduce the present Document and a short debate will be held for the sole purpose of clarifying any procedural arrangements.

21 The Chairman will announce the title of the post (or membership of the Executive Council) open to election.

- 22 Ballot Forms (blue for election of Officers, orange for election of other members of the Executive Council) will be distributed.
- 23 The Assistant Secretary responsible for the Nominations Committee will announce the names of the candidates whose nominations for the post open to election have been found to be in order by the Nominations Committee.
- 24 If the number of the candidates equals the number of elective places to be filled (i.e., one only in the case of the elections for Officers; but see para. 39 below in the case of elections for the Executive Council), the Chairman shall declare the candidate (or Member State) elected.
- 25 If there are more candidates than elective places, the Chairman will invite one speaker to introduce each candidate (for the posts of Chairman and Vice-Chairmen only). Selection of these speakers will be the responsibility of the Head of each nominating Delegation. In the interests of economy of time, no other statements will be permitted, either from other supporters or from the candidates themselves.
- 26 On completion of the introductory speeches, the Chairman will announce that the election is open and that votes should be cast.
- 27 A representative of each Member State "present and voting" should mark a cross(es) (X) against the candidate(s) of his choice on the ballot paper. No other markings should be made on the paper. The name of the Member State voting should NOT be recorded on the ballot paper.
- 28 For a ballot paper to be valid, it should contain a cross against *only one* of the names shown thereon in the case of elections for Officers and against no more than the maximum number of places open to election (see para. 39 below) in the case of elections for members of the Executive Council. The Chairman will decide the validity of any ballot paper.
- 29 The ballot box will be opened, held up to show clearly to the Assembly that it is empty; it will then be closed and locked and the key handed to the Chairman.
- 30 The Secretary will then read through the full list of Member States of the Commission and, as each name is read out, one member of the Delegation so called will come forward and place one ballot paper in the ballot box. The names of Member States that do not respond at the first call will be read out again at the end of the list.
- 31 The Secretary will announce the number of votes cast.
- 32 Following a decision of the Executive Council at its Seventeenth Session (Document IOC/EC-XVII/3, para. 419), the ballot box will be taken by the Secretary accompanied by the Assistant Secretary responsible for the Nominations Committee and by a small number of Scrutineers assigned by the Assembly from among the Delegates, to a separate room assigned to this purpose. The ballot box will be opened and the *number* of ballot papers counted. If this does not correspond to the number of votes cast, the Chairman will declare the vote void and the procedure will be repeated.
- 33 The Secretary will open each ballot paper and call out the name of the candidate for whom the vote has been cast, in the election of Officers, and the names of the Member States for which votes have been cast, in the election of the Members of the Executive Council.
- 34 The Secretary will announce the number of *valid* ballot papers received. The Chairman will then declare the majority needed by any candidate for election in the first ballot (Rule of Procedure No. 47, paras. 2 and 4).
- 35 The votes cast for each candidate will be recorded by each Scrutineer and by the Assistant Secretary, and will then be totalled. The Chairman will announce the result of the ballot; i.e., whether one of the candidates has been elected or whether a further ballot is needed.

6.1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN ONLY

- 36 In the event of a further ballot being needed, because no candidate has obtained the necessary majority, the second ballot will be restricted to the two candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the first ballot (Rule of Procedure No. 47, para. 2).

6.2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMEN ONLY

- 37 The list of candidates for each Vice-Chairman's post read out by the Assistant Secretary responsible for the Nominations Committee (see para. 23 above) will consist of the names of those candidates whose nominations for the post under election have been found to be in order by the Nominations Committee, plus the names of any candidates who have failed to get elected in earlier ballots but whose names are held by the Chairman of the Nominations Committee as wishing to be considered for election to another post in the event of non-election in earlier ballots.
- 38 Candidates standing in subsequent ballots for a "second choice" post are not entitled to a further introductory statement; i.e., each candidate may have only one introductory statement made on his behalf, irrespective of the number of ballots in which he stands as a candidate (see para. 25 above).

6.3 ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ONLY

- 39 Before each ballot, the Chairman will announce the number of places open to election (see para. 8 above); this number will be the maximum number of crosses that may be marked on a ballot paper to ensure its validity (see para. 28 above).
- 40 After each ballot, the Chairman will announce the majority (i.e., the minimum number of votes) required by each candidate (Member State) to qualify for election without further ballots (Rule of Procedure No. 47, paras. 3 and 4).
- 41 In the event of a further ballot being needed because insufficient candidates (Member States) have obtained the necessary majority, the second and subsequent ballots will be restricted to the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot, to a number not more than twice the places remaining to be filled (Rule of Procedure No. 47, para. 3).

7. OBJECTIONS

- 42 Objections may be made only on a "point of order" immediately after the result of a ballot has been announced.

8. STATE-MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 43 On completion of the elections, Heads of Delegations of Member States elected to the Executive Council (see para. 1 above) should inform the Secretary of the name of their State-Member Representative to serve on the Executive Council, in accordance with Article 5, para. 4 (b) of the Statutes of the Commission.

ANNEX I

NOMINATION FORM

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

BIENNIAL ELECTIONS FOR STATE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- Notes: (i) All Member States are eligible for election to the Executive Council, with the exception of those of which the Officers of the Commission are nationals;
- (ii) State Members of the Executive Council are eligible for re-election.

NAME OF MEMBER STATE

I declare that, if elected, a representative will be designated who will take an active part in the work of the Commission.

Signature of Proposer ¹

NAME IN CAPITALS (or typescript)

POSITION

Date sent to IOC Secretariat Date & time received by IOC Secretariat.....

¹ Person authorized to act on behalf of the Member State being proposed for election.

ANNEX II

NOMINATION FORM

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

BIENNIAL ELECTIONS FOR

1. Chairman ¹
2. First Vice-Chairman ¹
3. Second Vice-Chairman ¹
4. Third Vice-Chairman ¹
5. Fourth Vice-Chairman ¹

NAME OF MEMBER STATE

NAME OF NOMINEE ²

I declare that I am prepared to stand for election to the above-mentioned post(s) and, if elected, to take an active part in the work of the Commission.

Signature of Nominee ²

	<i>Proposer</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
MEMBER STATE OF IOC
NAME IN CAPITALS (or typescript) ³
POSITION
SIGNATURE
Date sent to IOC Secretariat	Date & time received by IOC Secretariat.....	

¹ Delete as necessary

² The Nominee shall be authorized to act on behalf of the Member State of which he is a national. In so signing, he is declaring the willingness of that Member State to allow him to take on the obligations that would devolve upon him should he be elected.

³ Person authorized to act on behalf of the Member State proposing or seconding the Nominee.