



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

INTERIM COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Third Session

Rome, 2-6 April 2001

Election of the Bureau

Agenda Item 13 of the Provisional Agenda

1. This note provides information on the election of officers for the Interim Commission of Phytosanitary Measures.
2. Rule II of the Rules of Procedure provisionally adopted by the ICPM at its first session in November 1998, states:
 1. *The Interim Commission shall elect a Chairperson and not more than two Vice-Chairpersons (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Bureau"), and a rapporteur, from among the representatives, alternates, experts and advisers (hereinafter referred to as "delegates") of the Members of the Interim Commission; it being understood that no delegate shall be eligible without the concurrence of the head of the delegate's delegation.*
 2. *The Bureau shall be elected at the end of a regular session and shall hold office for a term of two years.*
 3. *The Chairperson, or in the absence of the Chairperson another member of the Bureau, shall preside at all meetings of the Interim Commission and shall exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate the work of the Interim Commission. A Vice-Chairperson acting as Chairperson shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairperson.*
3. For the first meeting of the ICPM, the election was held immediately following the provisional adoption of the Rules of Procedure rather than at the end of the regular session. It was understood and agreed by the ICPM that this was necessary for the business of the ICPM to be initiated under its new Bureau. Mr. Hedley (New Zealand) was elected as Chairperson and Messrs. Morales (Chile) and Shyam (India) as Vice-chairpersons. Mr. Holtzhausen (South Africa) was elected rapporteur.

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4. At its second session in October 1999, the ICPM decided that its annual meeting date would be adjusted so that the next meeting occurred in April 2001. This was done so that following meetings would correspond with the March-April period and thereby avoid overlap with key FAO functions that routinely occur in the October-November period. This change also extended the duration of the work programme to accommodate numerous initiatives recommended by the ICPM. It was understood and agreed by the ICPM that the present Bureau would remain in office until April 2001 when elections would be held.
5. The election of officers of the Bureau consists of two components -- nominating and voting. Voting is addressed in Rule VI of the ICPM Rules of Procedure as follows:
 1. *Subject to the provisions of Article II.10 of the Constitution of the Organization, each Member of the Interim Commission shall have one vote.*
 2. *The Interim Commission shall make every effort to reach agreement on all matters by consensus. If all efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted and no agreement has been reached, the decision shall, as the last resort be taken by a two-thirds majority of the Members of the Interim Commission present and voting.*
 3. *For the purpose of these Rules, the phrase "Members present and voting" means Members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members who abstain from voting or cast a defective ballot are considered as not voting.*
 4. *Upon the request of any Member of the Interim Commission, voting shall be by roll-call vote, in which case the vote of each member shall be recorded.*
 5. *When the Interim Commission so decides, voting shall be by secret ballot.*
 6. *The provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization shall apply mutatis mutandis to all matters not specifically dealt with under this Rule.*
6. Although offering some guidance on applicable procedures (e.g., setting a 2/3 required majority for decisions), this rule provides that "the provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization (FAO) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to all matters not specifically dealt with under this Rule." As such, the exact procedures regarding voting for officers, including the Chairperson, may be found in Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO). These procedures also apply to electing Vice-chairpersons. The ICPM Rules of Procedure and Rule XII of the GRO are silent on issues concerning re-election of officers and on geographical distribution of officers.
7. Regarding nomination procedures, paragraph 5 of Rule XII of the GRO provides that the nomination of any candidate shall be made by the government of a Member Nation or by its delegate or representative and that the appointing body shall determine the nomination procedures to be used. As the ICPM Rules of Procedure do not include nomination procedures, the ICPM is provided the opportunity to determine its own nomination procedures.
8. The ICPM is invited to:
 1. *Put forward* its nominations for Bureau officers.
 2. *Elect* its Bureau for 2001-2002.
 3. *Propose* nomination procedures for future elections.