



FACILITATIVE BRANCH

Thirteenth meeting

23 March 2013
Bonn, Germany

Provisional agenda and annotations

Provisional agenda

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4. Consistency of reviews under Article 8
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6. Provisions related to facilitation: Advice and facilitation
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Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

2. Adoption of the agenda

1. The branch may wish to review and consider the provisional agenda for adoption.

3. Organization of work

2. The branch may wish to consider the organization of its work for the meeting, including its schedule.

4. Consistency of reviews under Article 8

3. The plenary, at its eleventh meeting, considered how to enhance the continued cooperation with inventory lead reviewers.¹ In this regard, it noted the proposal by both branches and the bureau to organize a joint workshop with the participation of members and alternate members of the Compliance Committee and inventory lead reviewers, with the support of the secretariat, in order to provide a common platform for discussions on improving the consistency of reviews. The plenary requested the bureau of the Committee, with the assistance of the secretariat, and in consultation with lead reviewers, to explore possibilities for organizing such a workshop in early 2013, subject to the availability of financial resources.

4. The workshop is scheduled to be held on 21 March 2013. The workshop will be followed by the twelfth meeting of the plenary, in which the Committee will have an opportunity to discuss the outcomes of the workshop and its next steps. The facilitative branch may wish to consider any actions arising from that plenary discussion.

5. Consistency in the application of the rules of procedure across the two branches of the Compliance Committee

5. The tenth meeting of the plenary considered a draft working arrangement on electronic decision-making forwarded to it by the enforcement branch.² The draft working arrangement provided that decision-making by electronic means under rule 11, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure with respect to a Party may only take place by voting.

6. The plenary agreed that the branches would further consider this matter, with the facilitative branch considering the possible impact on its work of the adoption by the plenary of such a working arrangement at its next meeting. The plenary noted that, in the absence of a working arrangement on electronic decision-making, the enforcement branch would continue to follow its practice of requiring a vote for decisions taken by electronic means.

¹ CC/11/2012/4, paragraphs 12 and 13.

² CC/11/2012/4, paragraphs 9 and 10.



7. The facilitative branch may wish to consider the draft working arrangement and report to the thirteenth meeting of the plenary.

6. Provisions related to facilitation: Advice and facilitation

8. At its twelfth meeting, an issue was raised concerning whether, as part of its function to provide advice and facilitation, the branch could request expert advice. The branch agreed to consider this matter further in its future review of the indicative working arrangements.³

9. The facilitative branch may wish to consider whether to discuss the issue of expert advice at its thirteenth meeting outside the context of the review of its indicative working arrangements. If the branch decides to discuss the issue outside such a review, it may wish to consider whether and how the branch could seek expert advice in the carrying out its function to provide advice and facilitation, taking into account the information referred to in paragraph 10 below.

7. Relevant information from the enforcement branch's report to plenary

10. At its tenth meeting, the plenary heard a report from the chairperson of the enforcement branch, Mr. René Lefeber, on the branch's work since the tenth meeting of the plenary and the outcomes of its nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first meetings.⁴ This report included information on the stocktaking exercise undertaken by the enforcement branch and the development of decision templates to assist it in developing the structure of decisions for adoption by the branch. The plenary noted that decision templates of the enforcement branch and the outcomes of the branch's stocktaking exercise would be shared with members and alternate members of the facilitative branch.⁵ The plenary agreed that the results of the enforcement branch's stocktaking exercise and any stocktaking to be undertaken by the facilitative branch would be discussed by the plenary at its next meeting.

11. The facilitative branch may wish to consider the information provided by the enforcement branch on its stocktaking exercise and the development of decision templates and consider whether any lessons can be learnt in the context of its work, including whether to launch its own stocktaking process and/or develop templates to assist in its work in providing advice and facilitation.

8. Other matters

9. Closure of the meeting

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³ CC/FB/12/2012/3, paragraph 28.

⁴ CC/11/2012/4, paragraph 6.

⁵ The most recent version of the annotated list of issues for stocktaking will be annexed to the provisional agenda for the twenty-second meeting of the enforcement branch, which the secretariat will circulate to the facilitative branch. Draft templates for decisions taken by the enforcement branch will also be made available to the facilitative branch prior to its meeting.