

BC-10/1: Amendment to rule 21 of the rules of procedure

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions I/1 and VII/37,

Recognizing the benefits of electing the officers of the Conference of the Parties so that it will be possible for the Secretariat, parties and other stakeholders to work during the period leading up to a meeting of the Conference of the Parties with the Bureau that will serve during that meeting,

1. *Decides*, without prejudice to its decision VI/36 on institutional arrangements, to amend rule 21 of the rules of procedure to read as follows:

“Rule 21

1. At each ordinary meeting, a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur are to be elected from among the representatives of the Parties present at the meeting. In conducting these elections, the Conference of the Parties shall have due regard to the principle of equitable geographical representation. The offices of President and Rapporteur shall normally be subject to rotation among the five United Nations regional groups.

2. The President, three Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur elected at an ordinary meeting shall commence their terms of office at the closure of the meeting at which they are elected and remain in office until the closure of the next ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, for which they will serve as the Bureau, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting. Exceptionally, one or more of these officers may be re-elected for one further consecutive term.

3. The President shall participate in meetings of the Conference of the Parties in that capacity and shall not at the same time exercise the rights of a representative of a Party. The Party concerned shall designate another representative who shall be entitled to represent the Party in the meeting and to exercise the right to vote.”;

2. *Requests* the Secretariat to issue a consolidated version of the rules of procedure indicating the above amendment.