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Background on the governing bodies of CMS

CMS COP12 Regional Preparatory Workshop for Asia



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Conference Of The Parties or COP

- The Conference of the Parties is the decision-making body of the Convention
- Meets every three years
- Consisting of governmental representatives, observers and relevant organizations of Parties and non-Parties
- Obligations
 - Establishes and maintains under review the financial regulations of the Convention!
 - Adopts the budget for each triennium and reviews the implementation!
 - Reviews and assesses the conservation status of migratory species and the progress made towards their conservation
 - Provides guidance, receives reports and makes recommendations to Parties.

The success of the COP is based on thorough preparation by all actors such as the Secretariat and Convention bodies as well as Parties



Plenary & Decision-making

- The COP generally makes its decisions by consensus
- As a result, voting is rare, however, when it occurs, all countries that have submitted valid credentials have the right to vote
- Voting is normally done by a show of hands
- Representatives may also request a nominal or secret ballot.
- Parties that have three or more years of delay in paying their subscription fees are not eligible to vote, unless the delay in payment is due to justified causes
- The President is responsible for counting the votes and announcing the result



The Committee of the Whole

- An organ of the conference for the operation of the COP
- Where appropriate, it adjusts the timetable and structure of the meeting and specifies the time limits for the discussions
- It includes:
 - The Chairman of the COP
 - The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee
 - The Secretariat



Standing Committee (StC)

- Responsible for carrying out activities temporarily, on behalf of the COP
 - Ensures that decisions are implemented
 - Oversees the budget
- Proposes recommendations for consideration at the next COP
 - Advises and provides guidance to the Secretariat
 - Represents the COP in negotiations with the host Government and UNEP in relation to the Secretariat
 - Acts as a Bureau at the COP and carry out any other specific tasks entrusted to it by the COP.
- Meets immediately before and after COP
- In between sessions, it normally meets once a year to fulfill its role of monitoring progress in implementing the work program of the Convention.



The composition of the Standing Committee will be decided at each COP

A Finance subcommittee will be established among the members of the Standing Committee

The Philippines will automatically serve on the Standing Committee for the next three years as host of COP12.

The COP is recommended to: a) consult within the regional groups and determine which Parties will be nominated as regional or alternate members of the Standing Committee. (B) communicate this information to all Parties under item 17.1 of the COP agenda.

1. **Three** CMS Parties for the geographical regions of
(a) Africa and (b) Europe;
2. **Two** CMS Parties for the geographical regions of
(a) Asia and (b) South and Central America and the Caribbean;
3. **One** CMS Party for the geographical regions of
(a) North America and b) Oceania;
4. Depository and Host government of the Secretariat (Germany); and
5. The Host governments of the previous and following Meetings of the COP



Members of the Standing Committee for the Triennium 2015-2017

<i>Region</i>	<i>Members</i>	<i>Alternate Members</i>
Africa	Congo (Brazzaville) South Africa Uganda	Algeria Mali United Republic of Tanzania
Asia	Mongolia (Vice-president) Kirgizstan	Tajikistan Pakistan
Latin America and the Caribbean	Bolivia Costa Rica	Argentina Panama
Europa	Norway (President) France Ukraine	Georgia Latvia Suiza
North America	Vacant	Vacant
Oceania	Australia	Philippines
Depository	Germany	
Host of COP11	Ecuador	
Host of COP12	Philippines	



Current Members of the Standing Committee			
Region	Country	First Elected to Standing Committee	Eligible for further term
Africa	Congo (Brazzaville)	2014	Yes
	South Africa	2014	Yes
	Uganda	2011	No
Asia	Mongolia - Vice-Chair	2014	Yes
	Kyrgyzstan	2014	Yes
South & Central America & the Caribbean	Bolivia	2014	Yes
	Costa Rica	2014	Yes
Europe	Norway - Chair	2011 ¹	Yes
	France	2014	Yes
	Ukraine	2011	No
Oceania	Australia	2014	Yes
Host Previous COP	Ecuador	n/a	n/a
Host Next COP	Philippines	n/a	n/a
Host Government/ Depository	Germany	n/a	n/a

¹ In 2011 Norway was included as the previous COP Host, and in 2014 it became a regional member.



Scientific Council and its Sessional Committee



- Provides scientific and technical advice to the Secretariat and COP
- Ensures that all scientific and technical information submitted to the COP, through proposals, recommendations, etc., is produced on the basis of reliable scientific data
- The Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council met in Bonn in July to discuss COP documents and make recommendations



The Sessional Committee of the of the Scientific Council

- Resolution 11.4 established the **Sessional Committee** of the Scientific Council as a representative selection of the membership of the Scientific Council appointed for each intersessional period between two consecutive ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties.
- The Sessional Committee is composed of:
 - nine COP-appointed Councillors with expertise in taxonomic and thematic issues;
 - fifteen Party-appointed Councillors selected from within the Standing Committee's geographic regions, as follows: three from Africa; three from Asia; three from Europe; three from Oceania; three from South and Central America and the Caribbean.
- Sessional Committee members should normally be appointed for a minimum term of two triennia. Each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, starting from the 12th meeting (COP12), should decide upon the renewal of half of the membership of the Sessional Committee. As a transitional measure, half of the first appointees were to serve for a single triennium.



Appointment of the Sessional Committee of the of the Scientific Council

- Resolution 11.4 requests the Secretariat to provide for a consultative process in order to elaborate, in consultation with the Standing Committee, recommendations to the Conference of the Parties on the composition of the Sessional Committee.
- StC44: identification of candidate Party-appointed members by the regions through a consultation process among the Parties in the regions, coordinated by the relevant members of the Standing Committee.
- StC45:
 - agreed that two regions (**Asia** and South & Central America & the Caribbean) should be required to choose **two members** each for rotation at COP12, while the remaining regions (Europe, Africa and Oceania) should replace only one member each.
 - supported the possibility of identifying alternate members for the regions (to be confirmed by COP12)
- Current Sessional Committee members for Asia:
 - Hamid Amini (Iran)
 - Lkhagvasuren Badamjav (Mongolia)
 - (vacant)



Thank you for your attention!

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