



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.16

10 September 2019

Original: English

13th MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Gandhinagar, India, 17 - 22 February 2020
Agenda Item 16

ELECTION OF PARTIES TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

In accordance with Resolution 9.15 the Secretariat has prepared guidance for Parties regarding the election of regional and alternate members to the Standing Committee.

ELECTION OF PARTIES TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE

1. The Secretariat has prepared this note to assist Parties in their deliberations for the election of members to the Standing Committee to serve during the period from the close of the 13th Meeting to the close of the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
2. Resolution 9.15 outlines the composition and organization of the Standing Committee. Regarding composition, it states the following:
 - 2.(a) *The Membership of the Standing Committee shall be agreed at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties in accordance with the Conference's Rules of Procedure (but also see 2 (l) below)¹ and shall comprise:*
 - (i) *three Parties elected from each of the geographic regions*
 - (a) *Africa and*
 - (b) *Europe;*
 - (ii) *two Parties elected from each of the geographic regions*
 - (a) *Asia and*
 - (b) *South and Central America and the Caribbean;*
 - (iii) *one Party from each of the geographic regions*
 - (a) *North America and*
 - (b) *Oceania;*
 - (iv) *the Depositary and Host Government of the host of the Secretariat; and*
 - (v) *where appropriate, the Host Government of the next and previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties.*
 - (b) *Each meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) also shall elect twelve regional representatives to serve as alternate members and, in particular, to attend the meetings of the Standing Committee in the absence of the member of the region for which they are alternate member.*
 - (c) *The term of office of regional members and alternates shall expire at the close of the next ordinary meeting of the COP following the meeting at which they were originally elected. Regional members may not serve more than two consecutive terms of office.*

¹ Para 2(l) *If a regional representative or alternate resigns from the Standing Committee, the Secretariat shall organise a ballot among all Parties from that region to elect a successor, the voting system described in the COP ROPs being adopted mutatis mutandis.*

3. The table below indicates the Parties currently serving as members of the Standing Committee.

Current Members of the Standing Committee			
Region	Country	First Elected to Standing Committee	Eligible for further term
Africa	Congo (Brazzaville)	2014	No
	South Africa	2014	No
	United Republic of Tanzania	2017	Yes
Asia	Mongolia - Vice-Chair	2014	No
	Kyrgyzstan	2014	No
South & Central America & the Caribbean	Bolivia	2014	No
	Costa Rica	2014	No
Europe	Norway - Chair	2011 ²	No
	France	2014	No
	Georgia	2017	Yes
Oceania	Fiji	2017	Yes
Host Previous COP (ie COP12)	Philippines host of COP12)	n/a	India will fill this position until COP14.
Host Next COP (ie COP13)	India (host of COP13)	n/a	This position will be taken by COP14 host, once identified.
Host Government/ Depositary	Germany	n/a	n/a

4. From the above table, it is clear that at least eight members will have to be replaced. However, regions are free to replace other members if they wish.
5. Parties are also expected to elect 11 regional representatives to serve as alternate members. There is no time limit for service in this role. The current list of alternates is as follows:

Current Alternate Members of the Standing Committee	
Region	Country
Africa	Algeria
	Mali
	Kenya
Asia	Tajikistan
	Pakistan
South & Central America & the Caribbean	Argentina
	Panama
Europe	Latvia
	Switzerland
	Vacant
Oceania	Palau

²In 2011 Norway was included as the previous COP Host, and in 2014 it became a regional member.

6. Parties should also be aware that a Finance and Budget Subcommittee will be established from among the members of the Standing Committee at its first meeting immediately after COP, as per Resolution 9.15 para 1 (e) and the draft budget resolution contained in CMS/COP13/Doc.13.2.
7. India will automatically serve on the Standing Committee in the next triennium as the Host of COP13.

Recommended actions

8. The Conference of the Parties is recommended to:
 - a) Consult within regional groups and determine which Parties will be nominated as regional or alternate members of the Standing Committee.
 - b) Elect the regional and alternate members of the Standing Committee, in accordance with Resolution 9.15, under Agenda item 16 of COP.