



**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

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Agenda Item 16

ELECTION OF PARTIES TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

In accordance with Resolution 9.15 on the Composition and Organisation of the Standing Committee 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 14th Meeting to the close of the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
2. Resolution 9.15 outlines the composition and organization of the Standing Committee. In paragraph 2(k), it states that “[t]he membership of the Committee shall be renewed at every ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties.”. 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 Resolution 9.15, Paragraph 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 eleven regional representatives currently serving as members of the Standing Committee.

Current Regional Members of the Standing Committee			
Region	Country	First Elected to Standing Committee	Eligible for further term
Africa	Algeria – Vice-Chair	2020	Yes
	Kenya	2020	Yes
	Mali	2020	Yes
Asia	Saudi Arabia	2020	Yes
	Uzbekistan	2020	N/A²
South & Central America & the Caribbean	Panama	2020	Yes
	Uruguay	2020	Yes
Europe	Georgia	2017	No
	Italy	2020	Yes
	Monaco	2020	Yes
Oceania	New Zealand	2020	Yes

4. From the above table, it is clear that two new regional representatives will need to be elected as members of the Standing Committee, one for Europe, and one for Asia. Georgia will not be eligible for a third term and Uzbekistan will automatically serve on the Standing Committee in the next triennium as the Host of COP14. Upon proposal of the regions, Parties may agree at the COP to replace other members that have only served one term of office, if so they wish.
5. As per Resolution 9.15, Paragraph 2(b), the COP also shall elect 11 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. 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	Seychelles
	Uganda
	Zimbabwe
Asia	Bangladesh
	Pakistan
South & Central America & the Caribbean	Costa Rica
	Peru
Europe	Croatia
	France
	Switzerland
Oceania	Palau

6. Under Rule 1.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the StC, the Members of the Committee shall elect its Chair and Vice-Chair from among themselves at the first meeting of the StC following each regular meeting of the COP.

² Uzbekistan served one term as a member of the Standing Committee. It will automatically serve as a member for the upcoming triennium as the Host Government of the next COP (Paragraph 2(a)(v), Resolution 9.15), there will be a need for election of a new regional representative for Asia.

7. Parties should also be aware that, at the meeting of the StC immediately following COP14, a Finance and Budget Subcommittee will be established from among the members of the StC, with one country representative from each of the CMS regions nominated by the region, and that the Subcommittee shall elect a Chair from among its members.³

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.

³ As per Paragraph 1(e) of Resolution 9.15, and Paragraph 1(a) and (b) of Resolution 13.2 on Financial and Administrative Matters.