

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE
HARMONIZED SYSTEM REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

RULE 1 - FUNCTIONS

The Harmonized System Review Sub-Committee (hereinafter called "the Sub-Committee") shall have the following functions :

- (a) To pursue a review of the Harmonized System under the general guidance of the Harmonized System Committee (hereinafter called "the Committee");
- (b) To propose to the Committee such amendments to the Harmonized System as may be considered desirable having regard, in particular, to the needs of users and to changes in technology or in patterns of international trade;
- (c) To prepare, to the extent appropriate, any consequential amendments to the Explanatory Notes for consideration by the Committee.

RULE 2 - COMPOSITION

The Sub-Committee shall consist of :

- (a) Representatives of the Contracting Parties to the Harmonized System Convention.
- (b) Representatives of any Member of the Council which is not a Contracting Party to the Harmonized System Convention.
- (c) (c) Subject to invitation by the Secretary General, the following :
 - (i) representatives of States which are not Members of the Council;
 - (ii) representatives of intergovernmental or other international organizations;
 - (iii) in consultation with the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, any experts whose participation is considered desirable on the basis of the contribution they might be expected to make to the work of the Sub-Committee.

RULE 3 - SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Sub-Committee shall hold its sessions as and when required and subject to approval by the Committee and the Council.

RULE 4 - AGENDA

A provisional Agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Secretary General in consultation with the Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

The Agenda and, in principle, all basic working documents on new proposals placed on the Agenda shall be dispatched or made available to Members for examination at least thirty days in advance of the opening date of the session. To this end, any new proposal shall reach the Secretariat at least eight weeks before that session opens.

Items concerning new proposals received by the Secretariat less than eight weeks before the opening date of the session shall not be entered on the Agenda for that session but shall be entered on an additional list appended to the Agenda. The Sub-Committee may consider any item on the additional list unless a member requests that consideration of the item be deferred.

RULE 5 - OFFICERS

The Chairman and one or more Vice-Chairmen of the Sub-Committee shall be elected by the Committee from among the members of the Committee. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall each hold office for a period of one year. The retiring Chairman and Vice-Chairmen are eligible for re-election. A Chairman or Vice-Chairman whose nomination to the Sub-Committee is terminated by the Member concerned automatically ceases to be Chairman or Vice-Chairman

The Chairman shall participate in the proceedings as such and not as a representative.

RULE 6 - CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

The Sub-Committee shall seek to reach a consensus on any matter examined and shall report it to the Committee. If agreement cannot be reached on a question, the differing views together with their supporting rationales shall be reported.

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