

INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION

Standing Orders

(As amended by the Executive Council on 19 May 2012)

1. The Working Programme for each Conference shall be approved by the Executive Council or the Full Council and no subject that is not in the Working Programme shall be added to the Working Programme or discussed at the Conference except by leave of the Executive Council or the Full Council.
2. For each Conference there shall be a Steering Committee appointed by the Executive Council or the Full Council. The Steering Committee shall consist of the Chair of the Executive Council and not more than six other members, chosen with due regard to the membership of the Association. The Director of Studies and the Secretary-General shall, in addition, be *ex officio* members of the Steering Committee.
3. Draft Resolutions shall be substantive (not procedural) and shall only be permitted at the termination of the relevant International Committee's mandate. Exceptions will only be made with the permission of the Director of Studies.
4. Draft Resolutions shall be submitted well before the Conference. Draft Resolutions submitted less than two months before the Conference may not be accepted for consideration. Exceptions will only be made with the permission of the Director of Studies.
5. Draft Resolutions should not seek to adopt the full Committee Report (but rather 'note' it), unless there are exceptional circumstances.
6. Draft Resolutions shall be forwarded to members of the Steering Committee prior to the Conference. Associated Committee Reports shall also be forwarded to the Steering Committee.
7. Members of the Steering Committee will each take primary responsibility for particular Draft Resolutions, which shall be distributed between them. Members of the Steering Committee will undertake to liaise with the officers of the relevant International Committee about the Draft Resolution until the time it is put to the final Conference session.
8. The first meeting of the Steering Committee shall be held as early as possible in the Conference. Except in exceptional circumstances to be determined by the Steering Committee only members of the Steering Committee shall attend its first meeting. The focus of such meeting should be on general issues of policy that have arisen out of the Draft Resolutions.
9. The Steering Committee may determine the matters which may be discussed at any working session and shall *inter alia* give consideration to:
 - (a) the documents to be considered at any working session;
 - (b) the Draft Resolution(s) (if any) to be considered at any working session;

(c) the procedure and time-table of any working session;

and shall give such directives for the conduct of any working session as it deems necessary including, if required, limitations on the lengths of speeches.

10. The Chairs of working sessions shall be appointed by the Director of Studies. The Chair or Rapporteur of an International Committee shall not be appointed as Chair of the working session. The Chair of the working session shall not be a member of that International Committee.

11. Subject to any decision or directive by the Steering Committee a working session may consider:

(a) the work of a Committee;

(b) any Draft Resolution proposed by an International Committee which has been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 4 as above;

(c) any amendments proposed to any such Draft Resolution. No amendment may be discussed or considered unless and until it has been submitted in writing to the Chair of the working session. The Chair shall rule as to its admissibility, and his or her ruling shall be final, subject to appeal to the Steering Committee;

(d) such other matters as may be decided by the Chair of the working session.

12. Chairs of working sessions, when putting a Draft Resolution to the vote shall emphasise that the wording of the Draft resolution is subject to the approval of the Steering Committee. Only members of the International Law Association may vote on the Draft Resolution.

13. The Chair of the Working Session shall report any amendments to the Resolution to the Steering Committee and submit in writing the Draft Resolution as adopted at the Working Session.

14. An Officer of the relevant International Committee will be expected to attend meetings of the Steering Committee where the relevant Draft Resolution will be discussed. If no Officer is able to attend the relevant meetings they must ensure another Member of the International Committee is able to do so.

15. The Steering Committee shall have power, in consultation with the Chair of the session, to settle the form of any Draft Resolution prior to submission to the final session. The Steering Committee may, if it thinks fit, refer any Draft Resolution or any part of a Draft Resolution not to the final session but to the Executive Council or the Full Council.

16. When the terms of a Draft Resolution which has been approved by the Steering Committee following a working session are put to the final session, the Chair of the working session or his or her delegate may be invited to summarise any discussion that has taken place relating to the terms of the Draft Resolution. The Draft Resolution may be adopted by consensus, or, at the discretion of the Chair of the final session, by a majority vote, or rejected. Under no circumstances will

any substantive discussion on the terms of the Draft Resolution be permitted at the final session nor will any amendments be considered.

17. Subject to any decision made by the Executive Council, the Full Council or the Steering Committee, discussions at the Conferences shall be conducted in English or French. The Chair at any meeting may, in his or her discretion, permit a summary verbal translation to be made of any speech and may direct translation of any proposed resolution or motion into the other language.
18. No person, other than a member of the Association, may address the Conference except upon the invitation of the Executive Council or the Full Council. The Executive Council or the Full Council may delegate its power under this Standing Order to an officer or officers of the Association.
19. Discussion of political issues as such at plenary meetings of the Conference or at working sessions is strictly out of order.