

Algeria's inputs on draft Terms of Reference of the Bureaus of UNEA and CPR

Following the 5th consultation meeting on the process for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) and the discussion of the documents addressing Terms of Reference of the Bureaus of the United Nations Assembly (UNEA) and the CPR (Annex I to the document "Converging elements of consensus – process for review by the CPR (Version III), Algeria would like to submit, in writing, inputs it delivered on the matter on the 21st May sub-committee meeting.

Given that the whole process of the review is to improve the performance of both Bureaus and to clarify, where needed, the Rules of Procedure without amending them, Algeria's comments concern mainly the following:

- **UNEA Bureau draft TOR**

- ✓ Point 3:

- Regarding the election of an alternate of a Bureau member, in case of inability to carry his/her functions, for precision sake and with view to clarify rule 19 of the Rules of Procedure, **priority for appointment should be granted to the Member State whose national is to be replaced in the Bureau first, and, in the absence of such nomination, the appointment should be made by the regional group i.e. not as a variable procedure.**

- ✓ Point 5:

- Concerning the possibility for the President of the Bureau to invite observers to attend Bureau meetings, it should be undertaken in consultation with Bureau members, bearing in mind, and unless otherwise intended by the drafters, the reference to observers relates to Member States that are not members of the Bureau.
- As for the participation of organizations and individuals, as observers, and provided that regional balance is preserved, there is a need to clarify the notion or type of "observers" referred to in this paragraph, as well as undertake consultation with Bureau members on this matter to avoid seeing the same participants at the Bureau meetings which could be detrimental to the purpose of such an initiative.

- ✓ Point 8:

- There is a need to insert a language about at whose initiative the joint meeting is convened i.e the fact that it can be at the initiative of either the President of UNEA or the Chair of the CPR.
- Would an invitation by the President of UNEA and the Chair of CPR for a joint meeting of the Bureaus be required only for those meetings taking place outside Nairobi or include those convened in Nairobi? There might be a need to clarify the matter in the text.

✓ Point 11- Chapeau: “The Bureau shall in consultation with ~~members~~ of regional groups”

- In the absence of specific criteria as regards selection of a distinct member, and in order to avoid selectivity, proposal to stick to the wording of “**regional groups**” rather than “**members of regional groups**” to be consulted by the Bureau.

The purpose of which is to avoid any confusion as TOR is meant to clearly define the Bureau’s working methods where the Rules of Procedure do not provide for.

- Concerning sub paragraphs (e), **preference for its deletion** because, in granting the Bureau the task of evaluating resolutions and decisions, it gives it a steering role that goes beyond its scope.
- As for granting the Bureau a right to oversee the relevance of the decisions and resolutions to the theme of the session, length, timeliness, broad applicability, it is worth reminding that **Member States have the right to table draft resolutions on any subject** in accordance with the UNEA Rules of Procedure. TORs cannot depart from the spirit of the ROPs but clarify them.
- For sub-para (h), it is advisable to substitute **coherence** for **collaboration and consistency** between the two Bureaus because each entity has a distinct mandate, but, most of all, because CPR Bureau takes actions upstream while UNEA intervenes downstream.

Hence, sub-para (h) could be redrafted as follows: “**Ensure, together with the Bureau of the CPR, that the work of UNEA and CPR is conducted in a spirit of collaboration, consistency and complementarily**”.

✓ Point 13:

- While recognizing the already feasibility of conducting the business of CPR Bureau in English, high recommendation **to adopt, at least, another working language for UNEA.**
- The recommendation is based on the need to facilitate the work of members of the UNEA Bureau who are of a ministerial ranking and do not necessarily speak English.
- The aim of this suggested amendment is to avoid exclusion and ensure inclusivity and effectiveness for upcoming UNEAs.

- **CPR Bureau draft TOR**

- Proposal to adopt the same modifications where applicable.

