

WORKING GROUP ON THE ORGANISATION OF THE IMC (FONCIM)

PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES TO THE INTERNAL RULES OF THE INTERMEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION

(last amendment to the Internal Rules: 17th Oct. 2007)

	Version in force (17/10/2007)	Proposals of the FONCIM WG (14/12/09) Propositions of the FONCIM WG adopted by the PB of Murcia (05/02/10) Observations introduced after the FONCIM meeting (6-7/05/10)
	ARTICLE 1: General nature and objectives	ARTICLE 1: General nature and objectives
1	The Intermediterranean Commission was created by a resolution of the General Assembly of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR) passed on 13 October 1989.	The Intermediterranean Commission was created by a resolution of the General Assembly of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe (CPMR) passed on 13 October 1989.
2	The Intermediterranean Commission is part of CPMR and works under the authority of the CPMR Bureau.	The Intermediterranean Commission is part of CPMR and works under the authority of the CPMR Political Bureau.

Comments:

Not modified.

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	ARTICLE 2 : Composition	ARTICLE 2 : Composition
1	The Intermediterranean Commission is composed of the presidents (or persons exercising an equivalent function) of member or associate member regions or authorities just below central government level.	The Intermediterranean Commission is composed of the Presidents (or persons exercising an equivalent function) of member or associate member regions or authorities just below central government level.

Comments:

Not modified.

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	ARTICLE 3: Participating regions	ARTICLE 3: Participating regions
1	All Mediterranean regions in the European Union that are members of the CPMR are members of the Intermediterranean Commission. Regions and sub-state authorities of countries involved in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership that are associate members of the CPMR are members of the Intermediterranean Commission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — All member regions of the CPMR who, because of their geographic, economic or political situation are considered part of the Mediterranean space, and — the sub-state regions and authorities of countries participating in the Euro-Mediterranean and/or the Union for the Mediterranean, associate members of the CPMR <p>can be members of the Intermediterranean Commission.</p>
2.		<p>The member regions and associate members of the CPMR who wish to join the Intermediterranean Commission are expected to follow the following procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Applications must be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Intermediterranean Commission, who will submit them to the approval of the Political Bureau. The Political Bureau will decide by unanimity. b. The decision of the Political Bureau must be ratified by the Plenary Assembly. <p>All member Regions, associate members and observers of the CPMR may participate as observers in the work of the Intermediterranean Commission, after prior invitation of the Political Bureau, and under the conditions it establishes.</p>
3.		<p>The Intermediterranean Commission Political Bureau may suspend the participation of a member of the Intermediterranean Commission unanimously. This suspension shall be ratified by the Intermediterranean Commission General Assembly with a majority of two thirds. The suspension must be justified. The non-payment of memberships dues may constitute grounds for suspension.</p>
4.		<p>This decision will then be submitted to the Political Bureau of the CPMR to rule on the continuity of the Region as a member of the CPMR and will return its decision to the CPMR Assembly.</p>

Comments:

Updated article to include the Union for the Mediterranean (in accordance with the change in the CPMR Organisational Charter of the CPMR).

Inclusion of the procedures for adhesion and suspension (in accordance with the CPMR Organisational Charter)

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	ARTICLE 4 : Objectives	ARTICLE 4 : Objectives
1	To examine common issues and develop concrete Mediterranean interregional cooperation schemes to promote economic, scientific and cultural development.	To examine common issues and develop concrete Mediterranean interregional cooperation schemes to promote economic, scientific and cultural development by adopting appropriate measures, including :
2	To devise specific joint programmes.	1. To promote Euro-Mediterranean policy and the key role of regional authorities;
3	To organise exchanges of experiences in the framework of measures supported by the Structural Funds.	2. To promote a territorial approach to development across the whole Mediterranean basin;
4	To bring the specific problems of the Mediterranean area to the attention of the European institutions.	3. To defend the specific interests of the Mediterranean regions in the principal European negotiations and EU policies
5		4. To identify and promote strategic cooperation projects on the main issues of concern to the Mediterranean area;
6		5. To pursue the development of closer links with Mediterranean networks and cooperation bodies.

Comments:

Amendment to clarify the role of the IMC and its objectives. Integration of the list of objectives.

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	ARTICLE 5 : Bodies	ARTICLE 5 : Bodies
1	The Commission is organised as follows:	The Commission is organised as follows:
2	- The President	- The President
3	- The Bureau	- The Bureau
4	- The Executive Secretary	- The Executive Secretary
5	- The Plenary Assembly	- The Plenary Assembly

Comments:

Not modified.

Version in force (17/10/2007)	<p style="color: red;">Propositions of the FONCIM WG (14/12/09)</p> <p style="color: green;">Propositions of the FONCIM WG adopted by the PB of Murcia (05/02/10)</p> <p style="color: purple;">Observations introduced after the FONCIM WG meeting (6-7/05/10)</p>
ARTICLE 6: The President	ARTICLE 6: The President
1 The President is elected by the members of the Political Bureau for a two-year term of office, renewable only once. If the President is unavailable, his/her functions shall be carried out by the deputy Vice-President. If the deputy Vice-President is also unavailable, the President's functions shall be carried out by the most senior in age of the Vice-Presidents.	The President is elected by the General Assembly of the IMC from among its members for a term of two years, renewable only once. When the President is appointed, the Assembly shall also appoint a First Vice-President and 3 Vice-Presidents indicated by the Political Bureau members.
2	The Presidents and Vice Presidents can be elected from among the members of the Assembly.
3	<u>4 months</u> before the end of the President's "term" the Executive Secretary will submit a call for candidacy to the representative regions. All candidatures must be sent to the Executive Secretary at least <u>two months</u> before the end of the President's term, together with a brief letter of intent concerning the policies to be pursued by the IMC. All candidatures received shall be sent to the regions, at the latest, <u>one month</u> before the deadline.
4 The President supervises and coordinates the work of the Commission. S/he acts as a link between the Commission and the Political Bureau of the CPMR. The President is assisted by a private secretary appointed by him/her.	The President supervises and coordinates the work of the Commission. He acts as a link between the Commission and the CPMR. In case of incapacity of the President, the First Vice-President performs his duties. If he is also unable, the office of President shall be exercised by the oldest Vice-President.

Comments:

The amendment for the election of President was made to give all Members of the IMC the possibility to put forward a candidate and one vote and also to make the system of electing the President of the IMC standard for most Geographical Commissions.

Point 2 was deleted because the details of item were already clear.

Explanations were introduced about the procedures for electing the President (they did not exist), directly in line with the Organisational Charter of the CPMR.

To elect the Vice-Presidents, given their more ceremonial role, should not consider the same application procedure as the President.

To avoid generating confusion between the role of the Executive Secretary (body of the IMC) and the Private Secretary to the President, the explicit reference to it was omitted. The President may naturally be organised with his own specific structure, however, can not assume the role of a body (unless there is a specific amendment to Art .5)

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	ARTICLE 7: The Bureau	ARTICLE 7 : The Bureau
1	The members of the Political Bureau are elected by the Plenary Assembly for a period of two years, which may be renewed. The Bureau thus appointed elects one or more Vice-Presidents from among its members.	The members of the Political Bureau are elected by the Plenary Assembly for a period of two years, which may be renewed.
2	It is composed as follows: Cyprus is represented by one member, Spain by five members, France by three members, Greece by five members, Italy by five members, Lebanon by one member, Malta by one member, Morocco by three members, Portugal by two members and Tunisia by one member.	The composition of the Political Bureau, in line with the number of participating regions and Member States represented will be determined by applying the following calculation method:
3		- The PB is composed of up to half of the members Regions of the IMC rounded up;
4		- Each member state is represented by at least one Region;
5		- The number of member regions in the Political Bureau for each state is calculated according to criteria which takes into account the number of IMC member regions by country (75%) and the population (25%);
6		- To translate these parameters into seats according to a proportionality test, we apply the Hondt rule.
7	In the event of a tied vote, the President's vote will decide the matter.	In the event of a tied vote, the President's vote will decide the matter.
8	The Bureau meets at the invitation of the President or at the initiative of a majority of its members.	The Bureau meets at the invitation of the President or at the initiative of a majority of its members.
9	In the event of a major requirement or particular need, and if the reasons are explained, the President may propose, at his/her initiative or at the request of a member of the Bureau, the written adoption of a decision between two Bureau meetings. In such an event, s/he will fax or e-mail the draft decision to all Bureau members, asking for a reply within 15 days. If no reply is received by the deadline, the proposal is considered approved. In exceptional and justified emergencies, a five-day deadline may be given. In addition, if the President refuses to accept a request for a written procedure, s/he must give the reasons for doing so.	In the event of a major requirement or particular need, and if the reasons are explained, the President may propose, at his initiative or at the request of a member of the Bureau, the written adoption of a decision between two Bureau meetings. In such an event, he will fax or email the draft decision to all Bureau members, asking for a reply within 15 days. If no reply is received by the deadline, the proposal is considered approved. In exceptional and justified emergencies, a five-day deadline may be given. In addition, if the President refuses to accept a request for a written procedure, he must give the reasons for doing so.
10	<u>The tasks of the Bureau:</u>	<u>The tasks of the Bureau:</u>
11	to propose topics for the Commission to work on,	- To propose topics for the Commission to work on;
12	to determine working methods,	- To determine working methods;
13	to monitor the work undertaken by the Commission	- To monitor the work undertaken by the Commission;
14	to propose Commission meetings	- To propose Commission meetings;
15	to decide which resolutions to submit to the CPMR General Assembly.	- To propose which resolutions to submit to the CPMR General Assembly and to adopt political resolutions between general assemblies.

Comments:

See the Annex Internal Rules

		WG meeting (6-7/05/10)
	ARTICLE 8: The Executive Secretary	ARTICLE 8: The Executive Secretary
1	The Executive Secretary is appointed to or dismissed from his/her position by the Plenary Assembly, further to a proposal by the Bureau.	The Executive Secretary is appointed to or dismissed from his position by the Plenary Assembly, further to a proposal by the Bureau.
2	S/he reports to the Plenary Assembly and the Bureau. She organises the work of the Commission in accordance with its provisions, liaises with the Secretary General of the CPMR and represents the CPMR Secretary General within the Intermediterranean Commission.	He reports to the Plenary Assembly and the Bureau. He organises the work of the Commission in accordance with its provisions, liaises with the Secretary General of the CPMR and represents the CPMR Secretary General within the Intermediterranean Commission.
3	The Secretary acts as moderator during working meetings and is responsible for drafting the minutes of each meeting.	The Executive Secretary acts as moderator during working meetings and is responsible for drafting the minutes of each meeting.
4		The Secretary General must necessarily benefit from the confidence of the General Assembly and Political Bureau. This confidence must be expressed by a vote at least once every five years.

Comments:

Changing the term of office of Executive Secretary and its renewal. Introduction of the vote of confidence from the Assembly in accordance with the modification already made in Organisational Charter of the CPMR.

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<p>ARTICLE 9: The Plenary Assembly</p>	<p>ARTICLE 9: The Plenary Assembly</p>
<p>1 The Plenary Assembly is composed of the Presidents (or persons exercising an equivalent function) of member and associate member regions and sub-state authorities, and by persons who have been given a mandate to represent them.</p>	<p>The Plenary Assembly is composed of the Presidents (or persons exercising an equivalent function) of member and associate member Regions and sub-state authorities, or by political representatives or persons who have been given a mandate to represent them.</p>

Comments:

The article as written is meaningless. If the Presidents are present at the meetings, the participation of authorised representatives is neither necessary nor useful. On the contrary, it becomes necessary if the Presidents are absent, because they must exercise their functions and represent them in their full capacity.

The article therefore requires at least one modification.

In addition we must consider that all other Commissions accept the mandated representatives.

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	ARTICLE 10: Meeting of the Plenary Assembly	ARTICLE 10: Meeting of the Plenary Assembly
1	The Commission meets in Plenary Assembly at least twice a year at the invitation of President, at his/her initiative, at the initiative of a majority of its members or at the initiative of a majority of the members of the Bureau.	The Commission meets in Plenary Assembly at least twice a year at the invitation of President, at his/her initiative, at the initiative of a majority of its members or at the initiative of a majority of the members of the Bureau.
2	At each meeting a decision is taken on the date and place of the following meeting, at the prior invitation of one of the member regions. This region is responsible for organising the meeting and covering the costs.	At each meeting a decision is taken on the date and place of the following meeting, at the prior invitation of one of the member regions. This region is responsible for organising the meeting and covering the costs.
3	The minutes of the meeting are sent to all members of the Commission as soon as possible.	The minutes of the meeting are sent to all members of the Commission as soon as possible.
4	The meeting agenda is set by the President, further to a proposal by the Bureau. Any initiatives and suggestions made by the regions are then taken into account.	The meeting agenda is set by the President, further to a proposal by the Bureau. Any initiatives and suggestions made by the regions are then taken into account.

Comments:

Not modified.

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	ARTICLE 11: Agreements	ARTICLE 11: Agreements
1	Agreements and resolutions are adopted by an absolute majority of the members attending each meeting.	Agreements and resolutions are adopted by an absolute majority of the members attending each meeting.

Comments:

Not modified.

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		ARTICLE 12: Working Groups
1		The permanent working groups are designed to help provide input for the discussions and positions of the Commission with regard to priority issues for its member regions. (*)
2		The ad-hoc working groups fulfil the same objectives as permanent working groups but meet a specific need for a limited time in order to adhere as closely as possible to the priorities of the EU agenda. (*)
3		Each working group is chaired by one or more member Region that shall draw up terms of reference specifying the aims, operating rules and actions to be implemented by the group. The Bureau shall approve the creation of a group and the termination of its work when the members deem that the objectives have been reached or there is no longer any point in continuing. (*)

Comments:

Article taken from the Internal Regulations of the Atlantic Arc Commission.
 It regulates the composition, type, operation and dissolution of working groups, given the need for clear rules on the matter.

* From the Internal Rules of the Atlantic Arc Commission, Art. VI Working Groups

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		ARTICLE 13: Financial management
1		<p>The Commission shall have the following resources at its disposal for its running:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a contribution from the Regions, in the form of a single one-off payment, the amount of which shall be decided annually by the Commission; b) possible contributions by the CPMR; c) contributions via the Commission's active participation in EU initiatives such as projects, programmes, open tenders, etc. (#)
2		<p>The Political Bureau can take the decision to involve the Commission in European projects of interest to the Commission itself, on a proposal from one or more member Regions, presented to the Executive Secretary. In all cases, participation can be accepted provided they have informed all regions of the Commission and only financial coverage with the substantive provision of the Commission, verified by the Executive Secretary. Any participation in a project is decided and prepared in time to meet deadlines, informing the CPMR Secretary General who shall commit the IIMC-CPMR. The BP, if the event, may invoke the procedure written in terms of Art. 7.</p>
3		<p>The participation of the Regions and the European Union funding is paid into a special account managed by the Executive Secretary, under the responsibility of the Secretary General of the CPMR. (#)</p>
4		<p>The region which hosts the meetings of the Bureau and the Commission shall bear the costs of all organisation and simultaneous interpretation. (#)</p>
5		<p>The region which hosts the Executive Secretary shall bear the costs of its headquarters office and its functioning</p>
6		<p>The Executive Secretary shall propose to the officers a work program me or an annual plan of action, with a budget.</p>

Comments:

Article partially taken from the Rules of Procedure of the Atlantic Arc Commission.

The goal is a major strengthening of the Commission for everyday management (direct availability of funds, identification of collaborators in the Executive Secretary and participation in European projects.

A distinction is made between the decision level (specific to regions) and the operational level (SG and ES) which must find ways to fulfill the wishes of members (eg membership on projects)

Writing an action plan (to establish the annual budget and the type of proposed expenditures) and guidelines PROCEDURE (to determine in greater detail the tasks of different bodies) was recommended.

From the Internal Rules of the Atlantic Arc Commission, Art. IX Funding

From the Internal Rules of the Atlantic Arc Commission, Art. IX Funding