



ALLIANCE OF SMALL ISLAND STATES

16TH APRIL 2025

CONFERENCE ROOM 3

AOSIS INTERVENTION ON RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. Bureau, role, size and length of terms of members.

AOSIS is willing to work with delegations that may have specific issues that they wish to see addressed. For us, what would be of critical importance would be language to ensure SIDS representation on the Bureau.

2. Regional representation and the special role of SIDS on the Bureau (Rule 22) and subsidiary bodies (Rule 29 and elsewhere).

With respect to the Bureau and for officers of subsidiary bodies, AOSIS proposes that language be drawn from the UNFCCC and plastics INC be added. This would involve including the line: “one Bureau member shall represent the small island developing States” for Rule 22 on the COP Bureau.

For Rule 29, as it relates to elections of officers of subsidiary bodies, if we are to have officers of subsidiary bodies, we would support having SIDS representation among all of the officers of those SBs.

3. Subsidiary bodies, autonomy and independence from the COP, Interaction between bodies, and collaboration and communication intersessionally and with IFBs.

AOSIS firmly believes that subsidiary bodies should determine their own work programs, subject to the Agreement, rather than having these prescribed by the COP.

4. Chair of subsidiary bodies – to be a member or not of the subsidiary body for voting purposes.

AOSIS is of the view that this is a matter that we can revisit after there is clarity on whether members of the subsidiary bodies are being elected in their individual capacity or national capacity.

5. Consensus decision-making, to better emphasize this in Rule 45 and to connect more closely to the Agreement text.

AOSIS previously expressed interest in seeing language proposals. We stand ready to work with other delegations on this.

6. Proxy voting and voting of regional economic integration organizations in Rule 44(2).

AOSIS is open to considering elaboration on procedures for proxy voting and the voting rights of REIOs.

7. Threshold for quorum and threshold for amendments, including interplay with Rule 30 and the double requirement.

The double threshold is confusing. AOSIS prefers a simpler formulation that aligns with the GA rules which prescribes a simple majority, after a Committee has reported. Thus, the sentence would read: "These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Conference of the Parties taken by a majority of the Parties present and voting after the Bureau has reported on the proposed amendment." That said, having regard to the fact that the COP is to adopt the rules of procedure by consensus at its first meeting, a matter that was flagged by some delegations, we can support on including language on the need to seek consensus.

8. Rules of procedure for the COP applying mutatis mutandis to subsidiary bodies generally, and further examination of whether each body requires additional and specific rules.

AOSIS sees the application of the COP rules as mutatis mutandis for the subsidiary bodies as a fail-safe if that is necessary. However, we must first examine each subsidiary body identified by the Agreement and determine whether each body needs its own rule set. Once we complete that examination, we can return to rule 26 and adjust it if necessary. AOSIS envisions the subsidiary bodies under the Agreement to be limited-membership. There are precedents in other processes where limited-membership subsidiary or constituted bodies of COPs or other governing bodies have rules of procedure that are separate from those of their governing bodies. We need to see if that should also be the case for the subsidiary bodies under the Agreement.

9. Closer reflection of Articles 6 and 8 of the Agreement in the rules of procedure.

AOSIS is open to further discussing this.

10. Additional issue: arrears

On the issue of a rule on loss of voting rights where a country is in arrears for payment of assessed contributions, AOSIS is open to discussing such a rule with flexibility for waiver for extenuating circumstances. We will also revisit this issue in the financial rules.