

## UK Drafting suggestion to Rule 14 draft Rules of Procedure

### *Agenda of extraordinary meetings*

The agenda of an extraordinary meeting shall consist only of those items proposed for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at ~~the an~~ ordinary meeting ~~at which the extraordinary meeting was decided upon~~ -or in the ~~written~~ request for the holding of the extraordinary meeting. It shall be distributed to the Parties and made available to observers referred to in rules 6 and 7 of the present rules at the same time as the notification of the extraordinary meeting.

Rationale: Technical amendment to clarify that the agenda items of the extraordinary meeting are limited to those items in respect of which the extraordinary meeting was decided upon to consider, rather than suggesting that additional items from any ordinary meeting may be added to the agenda. The addition of the word 'written' aligns with Rule 4(3) which requires the request to hold an extraordinary meeting to be provided in writing.

## UK Drafting suggestion to Rule 19 draft Rules of Procedure

### *Submission of credentials*

The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the secretariat, if possible not later than 24 hours after the opening of the meeting. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the secretariat. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs ~~or any person authorized by either of them~~, or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.

Rationale: To allow for the issuing of credentials to be delegated where necessary. This follows international practice, including as set out at Rule 13(2) of the Rules of Procedure for Meetings of States Parties to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

## UK Drafting suggestion to Rule 46 draft Rules of Procedure

### *Deferment of voting upon a request for an advisory opinion*

If the Conference of the Parties, pursuant to article 47, paragraph 7, of the Agreement, decides to request the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to give an advisory opinion ~~in accordance with that article, on a legal question on the conformity with the Agreement of a proposal before the Conference of the Parties on any matter within its~~

| ~~competence~~, the Conference of the Parties shall defer decision-making on that proposal pending receipt of the advisory opinion by the Tribunal. If the advisory opinion is not received before the closure of the meeting during which it is requested, the Conference of the Parties shall decide when it will meet to decide upon the deferred proposal.

Rationale: The current wording only sets out some of the criteria in Article 47(7) of the Agreement relating to a request for an advisory opinion. Article 47(7) also provides that an advisory opinion shall not be sought on a matter within the competences of other global, regional, subregional or sectoral bodies, or on a matter that necessarily involves the concurrent consideration of any dispute concerning sovereignty or other rights over continental or insular land territory or a claim thereto, or the legal status of an area as within national jurisdiction. This drafting avoids repeating any of the wording of article 47(7) but makes clear that an advisory opinion must be sought in accordance with that article.