

Text proposals for the reports of the fifty-eighth session of the Working Group on Strategies and Review and the fortieth session of the Executive Body

Submitted by Norway

WGSR Text for Report

The Working Group recalled that, at its fifty sixth session (Geneva, 22–25 May 2018), the Working Group re-elected Mr. Till Spranger (Germany) for a second term and Mr. Ivan Angelov (Bulgaria) for a third term as Vice-Chairs, and elected Ms. Dominique Pritula (Canada) for a first term as Vice-Chair for the period 2019–2020 (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/120, para. 33). The Working Group noted that, in accordance with Rule 21 of the Rules of Procedure, it had been expected to elect Vice-Chairs for the period 2021-2022. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges it has caused for implementing the work of the WGSR including where no nominations were received for the Vice-Chair positions, the Working Group decides on an exceptional, one-time basis, to defer the elections for a period of one year, with the intention of securing stability and continuity of the work of the Working Group. This would mean the current Vice-Chair positions would remain status quo. The Working Group further asked the Executive Body to endorse this decision, taking into account that the Rules of Procedure, as applied mutatis mutandis to the Working Group, would normally provide for terms of two years. The elections are deferred with the understanding and expectation that elections for the next term of Vice-Chairs will be held at the 59th session of the Working Group.

EB text regarding the WGSR elections could be captured in the item on updates from the Chair

EB recognizes the challenging circumstances brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and endorses the decision by the Working Group on Strategies and Review to extend the terms of its Vice-Chairs and to defer these elections until its 59th session to ensure stability and continuity in its work.

EB text on EB elections

The EB recalled that at its 38th session, in accordance with Rule 17 of the Rules of Procedure, the EB re-elected its Chair and its three Vice-Chairs. In accordance with Rule 21, it also re-elected the Chair of the WGSR. At its 39th session the EB elected a replacement for a Vice-Chair of the EB for the remainder of the term. The EB noted that in accordance with Rule 17 and 21, it had been expected to elect a Chair and three Vice-Chairs to the EB and the Chair of the WGSR for the period 2021-2022. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges it has caused for the Convention, with the intention of securing stability and continuity of the work of the Executive Body, the Executive Body decided, on an exceptional

and one-time basis, and notwithstanding Rule 17 of the Rules of Procedure, to extend the terms of the current Chair and three Vice-Chairs to the Executive Body and the Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review for a period of one year, to the end of 2021. The Executive Body extends the terms with the understanding and expectation that elections will be held at the session of the Executive Body in December 2021. The Executive Body encouraged all parties to put forward nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair positions to the Executive Body and Chair of the Working Group on Strategies and Review to be considered at that session.