



Treaty Series No. 96 (1972)

**Amendments**  
to the Constitution of the Food  
and Agriculture Organization of the  
United Nations, signed at Quebec,  
October 16 1945

adopted at Rome by the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth  
and Sixteenth Sessions of the Conference of the Organization  
on December 1 1965, November 15 and 21 1967,  
November 24 1969 and November 19 and 24 1971

[In continuation of Treaty Series No. 10 (1965), Cmnd. 2556]

*Presented to Parliament*  
*by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs*  
*by Command of Her Majesty*  
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## AMENDMENTS

### TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SIGNED AT QUEBEC, OCTOBER 16, 1945,<sup>(1)</sup> ADOPTED AT ROME BY THE THIRTEENTH, FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH SESSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The following amendments to the Preamble, Article V.1 and to Article V.6 of the Constitution, which are shown in italics, took effect on December 1, 1965 :

#### PREAMBLE

The Nations accepting this Constitution, being determined to promote the common welfare by furthering separate and collective action on their part for the purpose of:

raising levels of nutrition and standards of living of the peoples under their respective jurisdictions;

securing improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agricultural products;

bettering the condition of rural populations;

and thus contributing toward an expanding world economy *and ensuring humanity's freedom from hunger*;

hereby establish the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, hereinafter referred to as the "Organization", through which the Members will report to one another on the measures taken and the progress achieved in the field of action set forth above.

#### ARTICLE V.1

1. A Council of the Organization consisting of *thirty-one* Member Nations shall be elected by the Conference. Each Member Nation on the Council shall have one representative and shall have only one vote. Each Member of the Council may appoint an alternate, associates and advisers to its representative. The Council may determine the conditions for the participation of alternates, associates and advisers in its proceedings, but any such participation shall be without the right to vote, except in the case of an alternate, associate or adviser participating in the place of a representative. No representative may represent more than one Member of the Council. The tenure and other conditions of office of the Members of the Council shall be subject to rules made by the Conference.

#### ARTICLE V.6

6. To assist the Council in performing its functions, the Council shall appoint a Programme Committee, a Finance Committee, a Committee on Commodity Problems, a *Committee on Fisheries* and a Committee on

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(1) "Treaty Series No. 11 (1961)", Cmnd. 1299.

Constitutional and Legal Matters. These Committees shall report to the Council and their composition and terms of reference shall be governed by rules adopted by the Conference.

**Of the following two amendments to Article V.1 of the Constitution, the first took effect on November 15, 1967, and the second took effect on November 21, 1967 :**

#### ARTICLE V.1

1. A Council of the Organization consisting of *thirty-four* Member Nations shall be elected by the Conference. Each Member Nation on the Council shall have one representative and shall have only one vote. Each Member of the Council may appoint *alternates*, associates and advisers to its representative. The Council may determine the conditions for the participation of alternates, associates and advisers in its proceedings, but any such participation shall be without the right to vote, except in the case of an alternate, associate or adviser participating in the place of a representative. No representative may represent more than one Member of the Council. The tenure and other conditions of office of the Members of the Council shall be subject to rules made by the Conference.

**The following amendment to Article XXII of the Constitution took effect on November 24, 1969 :**

#### ARTICLE XXII

The *Arabic*, English, French and Spanish texts of this Constitution shall be equally authoritative.

**The following amendments to Article V.6 and Article VII of the Constitution took effect on November 19, 1971, and the amendment to Article XI on November 24, 1971 :**

#### ARTICLE V

6. To assist the Council in performing its functions, the Council shall appoint a Programme Committee, a Finance Committee, a Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters, a Committee on Commodity Problems, a Committee on Fisheries, a *Committee on Forestry* and a *Committee on Agriculture*. These Committees shall report to the Council and their composition and terms of reference shall be governed by rules adopted by the Conference.

(Paragraphs 1 to 5 remain unchanged).

## ARTICLE VII<sup>(1)</sup>

1. There shall be a Director-General of the Organization who shall be appointed by the Conference for a term of six years, after which he shall not be eligible for reappointment.

2. [Formerly 3] *The appointment of the Director-General under this Article shall be made by such procedures and on such terms as the Conference may determine.*

3. Should the office of Director-General become vacant during the above-mentioned term of office, the Conference shall, either at the next regular session or at a special session convened in accordance with Article III, paragraph 6 of this Constitution, appoint a Director-General in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article. However, the duration of the term of office of a Director-General appointed at a special session shall expire at the end of the year of the third regular session of the Conference following the date of his appointment.

(Paragraphs 5 and 6, now renumbered 4 and 5 remain unchanged).

## ARTICLE XI

1. All Member Nations and Associate Members shall communicate regularly to the Director-General, on publication, the texts of laws and regulations pertaining to matters within the competence of the Organization which the Director-General considers useful for the purposes of the Organization.

2. With respect to the same matters, all Member Nations and Associate Members shall also communicate regularly to the Director-General statistical, technical and other information published or otherwise issued by or readily available to, the government. The Director-General shall indicate from time to time the nature of the information which would be most useful to the Organization and the form in which this information might be supplied.

3. Member Nations and Associate Members may be requested to furnish, at such times and in such form as the Conference, the Council or the Director-General may indicate, other information, reports or documentation pertaining to matters within the competence of the Organization, including reports on the action taken on the basis of resolutions or recommendations of the Conference.

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<sup>(1)</sup> In accordance with Part II of Conference Resolution 12/71 adopted on 19 November 1971, the provisions of Article VII as amended above shall apply to the appointment of any Director-General other than the present incumbent of that office who has been re-appointed for a period of four years from 1 January 1972 to 31 December 1975.