

Canada's input (29 Jan. 2020) to the CPR Review process

Criteria, modalities and timing for presenting and negotiating draft resolutions and decisions

Canada has reiterated below some its earlier thinking merged with useful proposals made by some member states during the Summer 2019 round of submissions:

- The experience of negotiating and agreeing on resolutions at UNEA will be considerably easier and more efficient if member states are given plenty of time ahead of OECPR/UNEA to consider the draft resolutions and prepare.
- Decision 4/2 (paragraph 6) strongly encourages at least eight week notification for submitting draft resolutions ahead of the OECPR meeting, without prejudice to the rules of procedure.
- Another early deadline (possibly 6 weeks TBD) could be given to submit any updated version of these resolutions by the proponent and/or merging of similar resolutions by the proponents coordinating together.
- Past this 2nd deadline, the proponents would not be able to revise their draft before the negotiations actually start.
- The first couple of meetings of a negotiating cluster at the OECPR are usually spent with countries introducing their edits to the text (which can take considerable time). This could easily be done *ahead of the OECPR* through a call for written comments in "track change" mode. The Secretariat would then prepare ahead of the meeting a version with track changes showing everybody's edits and make it available online along with the original version by the proponent(s). We believe this proposed new working method would greatly improve the process by allowing extra preparation time for all and saving some precious negotiation time.
- Resolutions submitted at least eight weeks in advance (as per Decision 4/2) should be given priority for negotiation over resolutions that are submitted after the deadline.
- Encourage resolutions to be global in scope and limited in number
- Encourage resolutions proposed by a group of countries from different regions to build consensus ahead of time
- Develop common guidance for the co-facilitators of clusters/negotiating groups so that the process is more streamlined and efficient and more importantly, to enhance consistency of treatment among the various clusters and "best practice" working methods.
- Ideally all resolutions should be agreed by the end of the OECPR but at a minimum, all resolutions should have at least undergone a first reading before the end of the OECPR and the start of UNEA (this was not the case at UNEA 4).

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