

Article 20 - Conference of the Parties

1. A Conference of the Parties is hereby established.
2. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall be convened by an interim secretariat, no later than one year after the date of entry into force of this Instrument. Thereafter, ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall be held every two years, unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties.
3. The Conference of the Parties shall decide, by consensus, at its first session to entrust the Secretariat functions to one or more other competent international body or bodies as it may be determined
4. Extraordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall be held at such other times as may be deemed necessary by the Conference, or at the written request of any Party, provided that, within six months of the request being communicated to the Parties by the Secretariat, it is supported by at least one third of the Parties.
5. The Conference of the Parties shall by consensus agree upon and adopt at its first meeting rules of procedure and financial rules for itself and any of its subsidiary bodies, as well as financial provisions governing the functioning of the Secretariat.
6. The Conference of the Parties shall keep under continuous review the implementation of this Instrument. It shall perform the functions assigned to it by this Instrument and, to that end, shall:
 - a. Establish such subsidiary bodies as it considers necessary for the implementation of the Instrument;
 - b. Cooperate, where appropriate, with competent international organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental bodies;
 - c. Take decisions on convening meetings;
 - d. Review and adopt within its mandate the decisions necessary to promote the implementation of the Instrument;
 - e. Consider and take any action necessary to promote the achievement of the objectives of the Instrument including adopting procedures;
 - f. Oversee the work of subsidiary bodies;
 - g. Consider amendments to the Instrument proposed by the Parties.
7. The United Nations, its specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as any State not a Party to this Instrument, may be represented at meetings of the Conference of the Parties as observers. Anybody or agency, whether national or international, governmental or nongovernmental, that is qualified in matters covered by this Instrument and has informed the Secretariat of its wish to be represented at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties as an observer may be admitted unless at least one third of the Parties present object. The admission and participation of observers shall be subject to the rules of procedure adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

Work in the interim period between the DipCON and COP-1 would include the development of draft Rules of Procedure of and Financial Rules for the Conference of the Parties for adoption by the COP at its first meeting.