

United States of America
Submission on Article 13
Implementation and Compliance

Article 13 Implementation and Compliance Committee

1. A mechanism, including a Committee as a subsidiary body of the Conference of the Parties, is hereby established to promote the implementation of, and review compliance with, all provisions of this Convention.
2. The committee referred to in paragraph 1 shall be facilitative in nature and shall examine both individual and systemic implementation and compliance and make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.
3. The committee shall consist of 15 members nominated by Parties and elected by the Conference of the Parties with due consideration to equitable geographical representation based on the five regional groups of the United Nations and with due consideration of gender balance. The first members shall be elected at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Committee and its members shall function in a transparent manner and be free from conflicts of interest.
4. The committee may consider issues on the basis of:
 - a. Written submissions from any Party with respect to its own compliance;
 - b. Requests from the Conference of the Parties;
 - c. Information provided by the secretariat with respect to the status of submission of information under Article 15;
5. The committee shall elaborate its rules of procedure, which shall be subject to approval by the Conference of the Parties at its second session. The Conference of the Parties may adopt further terms of reference for the committee, as needed.
6. The committee shall make every effort to adopt its recommendations by consensus. If all efforts at consensus have been exhausted and no consensus is reached, such recommendations shall as a last resort be adopted by a three fourths majority vote of the members present and voting, based on a quorum of two thirds of the members.