

172nd Session of the FAO Council

Item 16: Code of Conduct for Voting

Following the 41st Session of the Conference in 2019, the 162nd Session of the Council considered matters arising from the Conference including, *inter alia*, voting procedures and requested these be reviewed by the appropriate Governing Bodies and through a process of informal consultations led by the Independent Chairperson of the Council (ICC).¹

As a result, the ICC held numerous informal consultations from February 2020 to February 2023, as mandated by the Conference and the Council,² with a view to developing a draft code of conduct which should address candidates, Members, and the Secretariat, be consistent with Rule XII at large and the General Rules of the Organization and be developed through a member-led and participatory process.

The *Draft Voluntary Code of Conduct for Voting Procedures under Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization as referred to in the Conference and Council Reports* presents the consensus text which was agreed at the last ICC informal Consultation on the Code of Conduct for Voting, held on 9 February 2023.

At its 118th Session, the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM) reviewed the draft text, made two small technical adjustments within the context of its mandate, and invited the Council to endorse and transmit it to the Conference.³

The draft Code of Conduct, as amended by the CCLM, is presented for the consideration of the Council.

Mr Hans Hoogeveen, Independent Chairperson of the Council

¹ CL 162/REP, para 7.

² C 2019/REP, para 28; CL 162/REP, para 7; CL 164/REP, para 20 (a); C 2021/REP, para 7; CL 170/INF/7; CL 170/REP, para 49; CL 171/REP, para 47.

³ CL 172/10 paragraphs 28, 29 and 31.