

EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE

39/5 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

13 January 2023

(Online meeting)

MEETING MINUTES

1. Opening of the meeting

The Chairperson of ECA (Mr Marios GEORGIADIS) opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Executive Committee (the ExCom) to the fifth meeting after the 42nd Session of the ECA. He welcomed Ms Evelin LANTOS from Hungary as a new member of the ExCom. Ms LANTOS briefly introduced herself to the participants of the meeting.

Mr GANGI also welcomed the participants and underlined the importance of the year, referring to the Informal Consultation and the 43rd Session of the European Commission on Agriculture. Both events have high relevance for the 34th Regional Conference for Europe that will be organized in the spring of 2024. In relation to ECA, he mentioned the successful Regional Management Meeting that took place in Budapest last November and emphasized the most important lessons learnt during that meeting. Among these he stressed the significance and need for better flow of information on ECA-related matters to the national representations of FAO, which could help enhance the communication of these matters to relevant authorities in the countries.

2. Adoption of the agenda¹

The Secretary of the ECA (Mr Piotr WŁODARCZYK) proposed that under AOB the Secretariat presents information on the specific topics to be presented to the ExCom at its upcoming meetings under the task “Review and recommendations on the REU work programme 2022-2023 – Selected technical areas”. The proposal was supported by the ExCom. The meeting agenda was adopted with this additional item.

The adopted meeting agenda is presented in Annex 2.

3. Impact of the war in Ukraine on food security and related matters²

This item was presented by Mr Raimund JEHLE. In his presentation, Mr Jehle highlighted the circumstances affecting the agricultural sector and food security in Ukraine and in the region. He detailed the FAO Rapid Response Plan for Ukraine that has been created to meet critical, time sensitive agricultural deadlines and to address market functionality and access for vulnerable groups. Among the impacts of the war on rural populations and food systems he mentioned the reduction or stopping of agricultural production in many rural households; the difficulties in sowing due to the limited access to agricultural inputs; and the disturbed energy supplies that threaten the production. Under the programme activities planned for Ukraine for 2023 Mr JEHLE mentioned three pillars: restoring food security and self-sufficiency in frontline communities; restoring critical agricultural production and value chains; coordination and technical support to critical food system services. He emphasized three key priorities: provision of seeds, Energy for Food (E4F), and Grain Storage Support.

¹ The draft agenda is available at:

https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/reu/europe/documents/Events_2023/excom39_5/Provisional_Agenda.pdf

² Background information for this agenda item is available at <https://www.fao.org/emergencies/crises/UKR/en>

Mr GEORGIADES asked about the frequency of data collection in order to analyse the information at disposal and make the best programming and policy responses. He also requested that Mr. JEHLE's presentation be shared with the ExCom.

Mr JEHLE reacted that the collection of data and information is now without a regular schedule, but rather it depends on how the situation is evolving.

Mr JILEK was interested in finding donors for the programs carried out in Ukraine and in the scope of cooperation between different international organizations operating in the country. Mr JEHLE mentioned some of the bilateral partnerships that are contributing financially, and also emphasized that in this case and in the case of working together with other organizations, coordination was of utmost importance, and he underlined the role of the UN resident coordinator.

ACTION: The Secretariat to circulate Mr JEHLE's presentation among the ExCom members.

4. Identification of the main technical theme and technical sub-topics for the Forty-third Session of the ECA (September 2023)

Mr JEHLE presented three proposals for the main theme developed with REU's technical officers, based on the 11 proposals submitted by the Members of the ECA. When developing the three proposals, besides taking into consideration the proposals from the Members, an important aspect was to be align them with the FAO regional work programme and the global agenda.

REU's proposals for the technical theme of the Forty-third Session of the ECA were the following:

	Main theme	Subtopics
Proposal 1	Trade diversification for inclusive and sustainable agrifood systems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food self-sufficiency and protectionism in times of crises 2. Import diversification 3. Export diversification
Proposal 2	Land-water governance nexus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrated water resources management 2. Land tenure and natural resources degradation 3. Land Degradation Neutrality in Europe and Central Asia 4. Climate change, gender and biodiversity - the cross-cutting dimensions of land-water governance nexus
Proposal 3	One Health, a multisectoral approach to improve health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Livestock development and ecosystem destruction and fragmentation and its link with emerging infectious diseases (EIDs) 2. Livestock development and tackling the threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) 3. Neglected zoonoses – the constant threat

The members expressed their concern regarding the limited time they had to review the proposals due to the late dissemination of the background papers for the meeting and also would have liked to see some more details for each proposal. However, several members expressed their initial preference for Proposal 2. Upon suggestion from the Secretariat, it was agreed upon that the members would send their comments and views on the submitted proposal and their preference for the main theme to the Secretariat via email by Friday, 20 January. On the basis of the comments the secretariat would then

elaborate on the selected theme and prepare a draft annotated agenda for the ECA Session and would share it then with the members ahead of the next Ex Com meeting timely.

ACTION: The Secretariat to collect and ExCom members submit by Friday 20 January their positions of on the recommended theme for the 43rd Session of the ECA, through a written correspondence.

5. Proposed amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the ECA

Mr WŁODARCZYK presented the background papers³ for this agenda item that is based on the proposal of the Chairperson of the ECA. At the ExCom meeting in September 2022, the Chairperson of ECA made a proposal that the RoP be amended, aiming to:

- clarify whether the ECA should elect the first and the second of two equal Vice-Chairpersons (Rule II.1)
- avoid challenges related to organizing a formal ExCom meeting immediately after the ECA elections, through replacing the provision requiring that a meeting of the ExCom be held “whenever the Commission holds a session” (Rule III.3) with one stipulating that the first meeting of the ExCom be held within 30 days after the Session
- guarantee that in case a member of the ExCom is prevented from exercising her/his functions for the remainder of the term, the ExCom will continue its work uninterrupted, by replacing “may” with “shall” (Rule III.1)
- make sure that the provisions of the RoP fully respect the FAO gender equality policies through the replacement of the word “his” with “his/her”, wherever appropriate
- provide clearly for quorum for taking decisions by the ExCom, as currently the RoP has a provision on quorum for ECA sessions only (Rule IV.7), and it is not clear whether it applies to the ExCom.

Immediately after the September meeting, the Chairperson shared the proposal with the Secretariat. The Secretariat shared the proposal for review with relevant REU officers and with the ExCom members.

After discussing the proposal, the ExCom decided to retain current provisions on the first and the second Vice-Chairperson of the ECA, and at the same time requested the Secretariat to make sure that these provisions are strictly followed during the submission of candidates and at the ECA elections. The ExCom also decided to retain the provisions relating to holding an ExCom meeting when the Commission holds a session, with the agreement that after each ECA election the Secretariat *will* convene a meeting of the newly elected membership of the Committee. The ExCom decided to proceed with the remaining proposed amendments. The text of the RoP presenting the amendments is presented in Annex 3.

ACTION: The Secretariat to start the official process of the amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the ECA.

6. Review and recommendations on the REU work programme 2022-2023 in a selected technical area: The Virtual Learning Center – focus on One Health trainings

The ExCom decided to postpone this agenda item to the next meeting, in order to be able to dedicate enough time for the presentation and for discussion.

³Documents for this agenda item are: [Background Document](#), [Original Proposal](#) and [Amendments in T-C](#)

7. Submission form for the call for the main theme of the Forty-fourth Session of the ECA

Mr WŁODARCZYK presented the background document for this agenda item, as requested by the ExCom at the previous meeting. The ExCom agreed to rediscuss the submission form together with the draft invitation to the call in 2024 at an Ex Com meeting in the second semester 2023 to consider any new developments resulting from decisions at the 43th Session of the FAO Conference in July 2023.

8. AOB

Under this agenda item, Mr WŁODARCZYK introduced a paper⁴ on topics that are planned to be presented at the upcoming ExCom meetings under the task “Review and recommendations on the REU work programme 2022-2023 – Selected technical areas”. The information was noted by the ExCom.

7. Closing of the meeting

The Chairperson thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting.

⁴ The background document for this agenda item:

https://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/reu/europe/documents/Events_2023/excom39_5/Topics_for_the_reviews_of_the_work_programme_for_2022-2023.pdf

Annex 1

EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE**39/5 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

13 January 2023

11.00-13.00 hrs (Rome time)

Online meeting

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

	Role	Country/Organization	Name	Present/Absent
1.	ECA Chairperson	Cyprus	Mr Marios GEORGIADIS	Present
2.	ECA Vice-Chairperson	North Macedonia	Ms Lidija POPANDONOVA	Present
3.	ECA Vice-Chairperson	Russian Federation	Mr Kirill ANTYUKHIN	Present
4.	ExCom Member	Czechia	Mr Jiří JÍLEK	Present
5.	ExCom Member	Greece	Mr Serkos A. CHAROUTOUNIAN	Present
6.	ExCom Member	Hungary	Ms Evelin LANTOS	Present
7.	ExCom Member	Serbia	Ms Vedrana ILIĆ	Absent
8.	ExCom Member	Slovakia	Ms Terézia KRAMOLIŠOVÁ	Present
9.	ExCom Member	Uzbekistan	Mr Nuriddin KUSHNAZAROV	Present
10.	Deputy Regional Representative	FAO REU	Mr Nabil GANGI	Present
11.	Regional Programme Leader	FAO REU	Mr Raimund JEHLE	Present
12.	Acting Secretary of ECA	FAO REU	Mr Piotr WŁODARCZYK	Present
13.	National Professional Officer	FAO REU	Ms Erzsebet ILLES	Present
14.	Food Safety and Consumer Protection Officer	FAO REU	Ms Mary KENNY	Present
15.	Livestock Production and Health Junior Technical Officer	FAO REU	Ms Dora KOVACS	Present
16.	Executive Programme Management Specialist	FAO REU	Ms Zsafia HORVÁTH	Present
17.	ERC-ECA Secretariat	FAO REU	Ms Eniko KOTI	Present

Annex 2

EUROPEAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURE**39/5 MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

13 January 2023

11:00-13:00

Online (Zoom)

AGENDA

No.	Agenda Item Title	Document No./Link	Presenter
	Opening of the meeting	-	CHAIRPERSON
1.	Adoption of the agenda	ECA_ExCom/39/5-1	EXCOM
2.	Impact of the war in Ukraine on food security and related matters	ECA_ExCom/39/5-2	REGIONAL PROGRAMME LEADER
3.	Identification of the main technical theme and technical sub-topics for the 43rd Session of ECA (September 2023)	ECA_ExCom/39/5-3	REGIONAL PROGRAMME LEADER
4.	Proposed amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the ECA	ECA_ExCom/39/5-4 (2 additional documents)	ECA SECRETARY
5.	Review and recommendations on the REU work programme 2022-2023 in a selected technical area: - The Virtual Learning Center – focus on One Health trainings	ECA_ExCom/39/5-5	REU
6.	Submission form for the call for the main theme of the Forty-fourth Session of the ECA	ECA_ExCom/39/5-6	ECA SECRETARY
7.	Any other business - Topics for the reviews of the REU work programme for 2022-2023	ECA_ExCom/39/5-AOB1	PARTICIPANTS
	Close of the meeting	-	CHAIRPERSON

Annex 3

Rules of Procedure for the European Commission on Agriculture

(draft revision)

Rule I Membership

Membership in the European Commission on Agriculture is open to Member Nations of the European Region of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as "the Organization") in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, Paragraph 1 of the Constitution of the Organization. The Commission shall comprise such eligible Member Nations as have notified the Director-General of their desire to be considered as Members.

Each Member of the Commission shall communicate to the Director-General the name of its representative who should, as far as possible, participate in the sessions of the Commission in a continuing capacity and have responsibilities related to the formulation or implementation of national agricultural policy in his/her country.

Rule II Officers

1. The Commission shall elect a Chairperson, a first Vice-Chairperson and a second Vice-Chairperson from among the representatives. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons shall be elected for a term of office of two years and shall be eligible for re-election for a second two year term. The Chairperson shall be not eligible for re-election thereafter, provided that the first Vice-Chairperson shall be eligible for election as Chairperson. Elections shall take place at the end of a regular session.
2. The Chairperson, or in his/her absence a Vice-Chairperson, shall preside at the sessions of the Commission and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate the work of the Commission.
3. The Commission may elect one or more rapporteurs from among the representatives.
4. The Director-General shall appoint from among the officers of the Organization a Secretary who shall be administratively responsible to him.

Rule III Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Chairperson, the two Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission as ex officio members and six other members elected by the Commission from among the representatives. The term of office of the elected members shall be for a period of two years and they shall be eligible for re-election for up to two additional two-year terms. Elections shall take place at the end of a regular session. In order to ensure both rotation of members and continuity of service, when electing members of the Executive

Committee, due consideration shall be given to the desirability of replacing no more than four members at the same time, and avoiding that the overall term of office of an individual, irrespective of the nature of his/her mandate, should exceed eight years. If due to incapacity, death or any other reason a member of the Executive Committee is prevented from exercising her/his functions for the remainder of the term, the Permanent Representation to the Organization of the member concerned shall inform the Secretary of the Commission as soon as possible, and ~~shall~~ may designate a substitute representative for the remainder of the term.

2. The Chairperson of the Commission shall preside over the Executive Committee. In her/his absence, or in the event that the Chairperson is unable to exercise her/his functions for the remainder of the term, a Vice-Chairperson shall preside at the meetings of the Executive Committee and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate the work of the Executive Committee.
3. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Commission between sessions of the Commission, of which it is the executive body. In particular, it shall submit to the Commission proposals concerning the general orientation of the Commission's activities and its programme of work; it shall investigate particular problems and help to ensure implementation of the programme approved by the Commission. It shall periodically inform all Members of the Commission, through the Director-General, of any decisions taken. Such decisions shall be subject to confirmation by the Commission at its next session. The Director-General may convene the Executive Committee as often as required, after consulting with the Chairperson. The Executive Committee shall meet whenever the Commission holds a session.
4. The Chairperson of the subsidiary bodies established by the Commission may be invited by the Chairperson of the Commission to participate in the meetings of the Executive Committee for consultation regarding the coordination of activities. The Members of the Executive Committee may attend in this capacity the meetings of the subsidiary bodies.
5. When the Executive Committee deals with special problems, its Chairperson may, in agreement with the Vice-Chairpersons, invite the representatives of not more than two Members of the Commission to attend in an advisory capacity the meetings of the Committee at which such special problems are considered.
6. A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Rule IV Sessions

1. The Commission shall hold one regular session every two years. Special sessions may be convened at the request of a majority of the Members of the Commission or when considered necessary by the Director-General.
2. The sessions of the Commission and of the Executive Committee shall be convened, and the place where they are to be held shall be determined, by the Director-General, in agreement with the Chairperson of the Commission.
3. Notice of the date and place of each session shall be communicated to the Members of the Commission at least 60 days before the session.

4. Subject to the provisions of Rule VII, Paragraph 3, of these Rules, the Director-General may invite international organizations to attend sessions of the Commission in an observer capacity.
5. Each Member of the Commission shall have one representative who may be accompanied by an alternate and advisers. The alternate and advisers shall not have the right to vote except when substituting the representative.
6. Meetings of the Commission shall be held in public unless the Commission decides otherwise.
7. A majority of the representatives shall constitute a quorum.

Rule V Agenda

1. The Director-General, in agreement with the Chairperson of the Commission, after having examined all proposals of the Executive Committee, shall prepare a provisional agenda for each session.
2. The first item of the provisional agenda shall be the adoption of the agenda.
3. Any Member of the Commission may request the Director-General, at least three months before the opening of the session, to include specific items in the provisional agenda.
4. The provisional agenda shall be circulated by the Director-General to all Members of the Commission at least 60 days before the opening of the session.
5. Any Members of the Commission, and the Director-General, may, after the dispatch of the provisional agenda, propose the inclusion of specific items in the agenda with respect to matters of an urgent nature. These items shall be placed on a supplementary list which, if time permits before the opening of the session, shall be dispatched by the Director-General to all Members of the Commission, failing which the items shall be communicated to the Chairperson for submission to the Commission.
6. By a two-thirds majority of the votes cast, the Commission may amend the agenda it has adopted by deleting or modifying certain items or by adding new items; but it may not withdraw from the agenda matters referred to it by the Conference or the Council of the Organization.
7. Documents for the session of the Commission shall be sent by the Director-General to the Members of the Commission and the other Member Nations of the Organization attending the session, as well as to the non-Member States and international organizations invited to the session, at the time the agenda is dispatched or at the latest 30 days before the opening of the session, failing which the item of the agenda to which such documents refer shall not be considered at that session of the Commission except in cases of urgency in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 5 and 6 of this Rule.

Rule VI Voting and procedure

1. Each Member of the Commission shall have one vote.

2. Decisions of the Commission shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast.
3. Any Member of the Commission may request a roll-call vote, in which case the vote of each Member shall be recorded.
4. The Commission may decide to vote by secret ballot.
5. Election shall be decided by secret ballot, except that in the case of an election in which there are not more candidates than vacancies, the Chairperson may submit to the Commission that the appointment be decided by clear general consent.
6. Formal proposals concerning items of the agenda and amendments to such proposals shall be submitted in writing to the Chairperson who shall provide for circulation of these texts to the representatives.
7. In addition, the provisions of Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Rule VII Observers

1. Any Member Nation or Associate Member of the Organization that is not a Member of the Commission but has a special interest in the work of the Commission may, upon request submitted to the Director-General, attend as an observer the sessions of the Commission and of its subsidiary bodies, as well as *ad hoc* meetings. It may submit memoranda to the Commission and participate without vote in the discussions.
2. States which are not Member Nations or Associate Members of the Organization but are Members of the United Nations, of one of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, may, upon their request and subject to the provisions adopted by the Conference of the Organization relating to the granting of observer status to nations, be invited to attend in an observer capacity sessions of the Commission, its subsidiary bodies and *ad hoc* meetings. The status of States invited to such sessions or meetings shall be governed by the relevant provisions adopted by the Conference of the Organization.
3. Participation of international organizations in the work of the Commission and the relations between the Commission and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization, as well as by the provisions adopted by the Conference on relations with international organizations. The Director-General shall deal with all such relations.

Rule VIII Records and Reports

1. At each session, the Commission shall approve a report embodying its views, recommendations and decisions, including, when requested, a statement of minority views or, as may be decided by the Commission, a summary of conclusions presented by one or more rapporteurs⁵. Such other records for its

⁵ The reference to one or more rapporteurs is intended to ensure consistency with Rule II, paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure

own use as the Commission may on occasion decide, in consultation with the Secretariat, shall also be maintained.

2. At the close of each session the conclusions and recommendations of the Commission shall be transmitted to the Director-General who shall circulate them to the Members of the Commission and to the non-Member States and international organizations that were represented at the sessions for their information and, upon request, to other Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization.
3. Recommendations having policy, programme or financial implications for the Organization shall be brought by the Director-General to the attention of the Conference or the Council of the Organization for action. At the request of the Commission, or on his own initiative, the Director-General shall communicate to the Committee on Agriculture information concerning the activities of the Commission undertaken in collaboration with countries outside the European Region.
4. The Director-General, on the advice of the Executive Committee, may request Members of the Commission to supply information in order to keep the Commission informed on action taken on the basis of the recommendations made by the Commission.

Rule IX Subsidiary Bodies and *Ad Hoc* Meetings

1. The Commission may establish sub-commissions on problems of major importance or general interest, or working parties for the study of problems of a more specialized nature. Sub-commissions may request the Commission to establish working parties.
2. Membership in these subsidiary bodies shall be open to Members of the Commission which have notified the Director-General of their desire to belong to them or to Members of the Commission chosen by it, or to persons appointed in an individual capacity.
3. The representatives of Members in a subsidiary body shall, as far as possible, participate in the activities on a continuing basis and shall be specialists in the fields of activity of the respective bodies.
4. The Commission may recommend to the Director-General the convening of *ad hoc* meetings, either of Members of the Commission or of experts appointed in an individual capacity in order to prepare long-term plans which might call for the establishment of a subsidiary body or to study matters that are too specialized to be usefully discussed during the regular sessions of the Commission. The Commission shall designate those of its Members who will attend such *ad hoc* meetings; in the case of *ad hoc* meetings of experts appointed in an individual capacity, the Commission shall decide whether they shall be designated by the Commission or by the Director-General.
5. The Commission may propose to the Director-General the establishment of joint working parties with the Economic Commission for Europe. It may recommend the creation of cooperative research networks among national research institutes, and may promote the admittance to these networks of research institutes from countries outside the European Region, particularly from developing countries.

6. When the Commission establishes sub-commissions or working parties, or when it recommends the convening of *ad hoc* meetings, the Commission shall determine the terms of reference of such sub-commissions and working parties and may suggest the terms of reference of *ad hoc* meetings.
7. The establishment of subsidiary bodies and the convening of *ad hoc* meetings shall be subject to the availability of funds in the relevant chapter of the approved budget of the Organization. The availability of such necessary funds shall be determined by the Director-General. Before taking any decision involving expenditure in connection with the establishment of subsidiary bodies, the Commission shall have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications thereof.
8. Sub-commissions and working parties of the Commission and *ad hoc* meetings shall report to the Commission. The Commission also examines the reports of the working parties established by the Organization jointly with the Economic Commission for Europe concerning questions within the competence of the Commission.
9. Subsidiary bodies of the Commission shall normally hold one regular session every two years. Special sessions may be convened by the Director-General. In addition, the convening of special sessions of subsidiary bodies may, at the request of a majority of their Members, be recommended to the Director-General in agreement with the Commission, or the Executive Committee between sessions of the Commission.
10. At the end of each regular session, subsidiary bodies elect their Board composed of a Chairperson and two Vice-Chairpersons from among the representatives of their Members. A subsidiary body may also elect one or two additional members to serve on the Board if this is considered necessary to facilitate the work of the body concerned. The Board of a newly established subsidiary body is elected at the beginning of its first session. In all other cases, the Board shall take office at the end of the session at which it has been elected and shall remain in office until the election of a new Board. The Members of the Board may be re-elected, but they cannot serve in the same capacity more than two successive terms.
11. The Rules of Procedure of the Commission shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to its subsidiary bodies and *ad hoc* meetings.

Rule X

Expenses

1. Expenses incurred by representatives, their alternates and their advisers when attending sessions of the Commission, the Executive Committee, sub-commissions and working parties and *ad hoc* meetings, as well as expenses incurred by observers at sessions, shall be borne by the respective governments or organizations.
2. Expenses incurred by experts invited to attend meetings in a personal capacity shall be borne by the Organization.
3. Any financial matter relating to the Commission and its subsidiary bodies shall be governed by the provisions of the Financial Regulations of the Organization.

Rule XI Languages

1. The working languages of the Commission shall be English, French, Russian and Spanish.
2. The Commission may decide, in consultation with the Secretariat, which of these languages will be used by its subsidiary bodies or at the *ad hoc* meetings. Any representative using another language shall provide for interpretation in one of the working languages.

Rule XII Amendments to and Suspension of Rules of Procedure

1. The Commission may, by a two-thirds majority of its Members, adopt amendments or additions to these Rules of Procedure, provided that twenty-four hours' notice has been given of the draft amendment or addition. Amendments or additions to these Rules shall come into force upon approval by the Director-General.
2. By a two-thirds majority of the votes cast and provided that twenty-four hours' notice has been given regarding a proposal to this effect, the Commission may suspend any of the above Rules other than Rules I.1, II.4, IV.2 and 7, V.6, VI.2, VII, VIII.3 and 4, IX.7 and X. Such twenty-four hours' notice may be waived if no representative objects.