

13th CONGRESS

Rules of Procedure of Congresses – Proposal

19.12.91

CHINA, NEW ZEALAND

Create a new Article as follows.

Article 12 bis

Conditions of Approval of Proposals

1. To be adopted, proposals involving amendments to the Acts must:

1.1 in the case of the Constitution, be approved by at least two-thirds of the member countries of the Union, provided that at least two-thirds of the member countries of the Union are present and eligible to vote before the voting takes place;

1.2 in the case of the General Regulations, be approved by a majority of the member countries represented at Congress, provided that at least two-thirds of the member-countries of the Union are present and eligible to vote at the time of voting;

1.3 in the case of reservations to Chapter V of the General Regulations, be approved by the majority of those present and voting; and

1.4 in the case of the Rules of Procedure of Congresses, be approved by at least two-thirds of the member-countries represented at Congress, provided that the majority of member countries of the Union are present and eligible to vote at the time of voting.

2. Procedural matters which cannot be settled by common consent shall be decided by a majority of the member countries present and voting. The same shall apply to decisions not concerning changes in the Acts, unless Congress decides otherwise by a majority of the member countries present and voting.

3. Subject to paragraph 5, “member countries present and voting” shall mean member countries which have the right to vote voting “for” or “against”, abstentions being disregarded in counting the votes required to constitute a majority, and similarly blank or null and void ballot papers in the case of a secret ballot.

4. In the event of a tie, a proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

5. When the number of abstentions and blank or null and void ballot papers exceeds half the number of votes cast (for, against and abstentions), consideration of the matter shall be deferred until a subsequent meeting, at which abstentions and blank or null and void ballot papers shall be disregarded.

Reasons – see Congress Doc 24.4, paragraph 6.