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To: The governmental authorities of CA
member countries

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Reference: 3100(DPRM.CA.SEC)1083

Subject: Results of the consultation on the possibility of remote representation at the exceptional session of the Council of Administration

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to International Bureau (IB) circular letter 3100(DPRM.CA.SEC)1079 of 30 July 2020, I am now able to inform you of the results of the consultation of members of the Council of Administration (CA) on the possibility of remote representation at the exceptional session of the CA.

The IB received valid responses from 37 CA members by the deadline of 14 August 2020; the results of the consultation may be summarized as follows:

- 12 CA members will be attending the exceptional session of the CA physically (with nine of these members also represented remotely), while 25 CA members will be attending remotely only;
- 32 CA members supported the proposed exceptional suspension and amendment of the relevant provisions of the CA Rules of Procedure (in order to permit remote representation at the exceptional session of the CA), while five CA members opposed any such suspension and amendment of the Rules of Procedure;
- With regard to decision-making processes in the absence of common consent, 20 CA members supported the possibility of holding a roll-call vote, while 12 CA members felt that decisions should be taken by consensus only.

/ A detailed summary of the responses received is presented in Annex 1.

On the basis of the results of that consultation, I can confirm that the exceptional CA session will take the form of a “hybrid” meeting, with CA members able to attend in person and/or remotely. In addition, subject to the statutory quorum requirement, questions that cannot be settled by common consent will be decided by a roll-call vote.

The IB will organize this exceptional session of the CA physically at the headquarters of the Union in Berne, Switzerland, and provide for the possibility of remote representation of CA members and observers.

Accordingly, the IB will soon be issuing the invitation to CA members and observers to participate in the exceptional CA session, with details of how to register and practical information on physical attendance and remote participation.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Hussein', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Bishar A. Hussein
Director General



Summary of CA member responses to the consultation

<i>CA member</i>	<i>Physical attendance (Annex 2)</i>	<i>Remote attendance (Annex 2)</i>	<i>In favour of permitting remote representation (Annex 3)</i>	<i>Decision-making modality (Annex 3.Attachment 1)</i> <i>Option 1 – Decisions only by consensus</i> <i>Option 2 – Roll-call ballot in the absence of consensus</i>	<i>Notes</i>
1 Algeria	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
2 Australia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
3 Barbados	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
4 Belgium	Yes	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
5 Brazil	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
6 Bulgaria (Rep.)	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
7 Burkina Faso	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
8 China (People's Rep.)	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
9 Costa Rica	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
10 Côte d'Ivoire (Rep.)	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
11 Cuba	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	Response after dead- line (vote not counted)
12 Dominican Republic	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	Yes	Option 2	Member country under sanctions (vote not counted)
13 Ethiopia	No	No	No	No	
14 Georgia	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	Response after dead- line (vote not counted)

<i>CA member</i>	<i>Physical attendance (Annex 2)</i>	<i>Remote attendance (Annex 2)</i>	<i>In favour of permitting remote representation (Annex 3)</i>	<i>Decision-making modality (Annex 3, Attachment 1)</i> <i>Option 1 – Decisions only by consensus</i> <i>Option 2 – Roll-call ballot in the absence of consensus</i>	<i>Notes</i>
15 Germany	Yes	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
16 Indonesia	Yes	Yes	No	No	
17 Iran (Islamic Rep.)	Yes	No	No	No	
18 Italy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
19 Japan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
20 Kazakhstan	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
21 Kenya	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
22 Korea (Rep.)	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
23 Malaysia	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
24 Mexico	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
25 Morocco	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
26 Pakistan	Yes	No	No	No	
27 Paraguay	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
28 Poland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
29 Romania	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
30 South Africa	-	-	-	-	Formal response not submitted
31 Spain	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
32 Sudan	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
33 Switzerland	Yes	No	Yes	Option 1	

<i>CA member</i>	<i>Physical attendance (Annex 2)</i>	<i>Remote attendance (Annex 2)</i>	<i>In favour of permitting remote representation (Annex 3)</i>	<i>Decision-making modality (Annex 3.Attachment 1)</i>	<i>Notes</i>
34 Tunisia	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
35 Turkey	Yes	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
36 Uganda	No	Yes	Yes	Option 1	
37 United Arab Emirates	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
38 United Kingdom	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
39 Uruguay	No	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
40 Viet Nam	Yes	Yes	Yes	Option 2	
41 Zambia	No	Yes	No	No	

Results

Total responses	40
On-time valid responses	37
Late responses (not counted for vote on Annex 3)	2
No submission (not counted for vote on Annex 3)	1
Member country under sanctions (not counted for vote on Annex 3)	1
CA members to physically attend	12
CA members to attend remotely ¹	34

¹ Of this number, 25 CA members will be represented only remotely and 9 CA members will be represented both remotely and physically.

<p>In favour of permitting remote representation (Annex 3)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yes – 32; - No – 5; - Ab – 0 <p><i>Result: Remote representation allowed</i></p>
<p>Decision-making modality (Annex 3.Attachment 1)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Option 1 – 12; - Option 2 – 20² <p><i>Result: Option 2 adopted</i></p>

² This count is based on the votes of the 32 CA members in favour of virtual representation.