

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF THE
WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Eighteenth session
Phuket, Thailand

12-17 December 1994

Item 16 of the Provisional Agenda: Organization of the General
Assembly of the States Parties in 1995

1. At the eighteenth session of the Bureau of the World Heritage Committee, held in Paris from 4 to 9 July 1994, the Secretariat presented a proposal for the modification of paragraphs 8 and 12 of Rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly. The details of this proposal are given in the Report of the Rapporteur, document WHC-94/CONF.003/3 pages 51 and 52.

2. The Delegate of Thailand also presented a proposal to that effect, suggesting the modification of paragraphs 9 and 10 in order to harmonize them with paragraph 8, as amended by the Secretariat's proposal. The Bureau, having debated the two proposals, agreed upon the following wording:

"II. Proposed Amendments (underlined words):

13.8 Those States obtaining in the first ballot the required majority shall be elected, unless the number of States obtaining that majority is greater than the number of seats to be filled. In that case, the States obtaining the greatest number of votes, up to the number of seats to be filled, shall be declared elected. If the number of States obtaining the majority required is less than the number of seats to be filled, there shall be a second ballot to fill the remaining seats, the voting being restricted to the States obtaining the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot, to a number not more than twice that of the seats remaining to be filled.

13.9 In the second ballot, the candidates obtaining the greatest number of votes, up to the number of seats to be filled, shall be declared elected.

13.10 If, in the second ballot, two or more candidates obtain the same number of votes, the Chairperson shall decide between them by drawing lots."

Paragraphs 11 and 12 of Rule 13 remain unchanged.

3. Furthermore, it was observed by the Bureau members as well as by the observers that the election of new members to the Committee should take place in a simplified manner. Such a stance was taken by the Italian Observer who was endorsed by other Delegates and Observers. Namely, it was suggested that there should be four ballots with an absolute majority, after which a simple majority rule would apply.

4. The Bureau also underlined, in the spirit of the Convention, the need to find a solution for a more equitable electoral system in order to allow a better geographical representation.