

## 8<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES

26 – 30 September 2022, Budapest, Hungary

### DRAFT RESOLUTION 8.1

#### **PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE AGREEMENT**

*Referring* to Article X.3 of the Agreement defining the procedure for submission of proposals for amendments to the Agreement,

*Recalling* Article I.4 of the Agreement which clarifies that the annexes to the Agreement form an integral part thereof and any reference to the Agreement includes a reference to its annexes,

*Acknowledging* the necessity for any proposal for amendment of the Agreement and the accompanying description of reasons for proposing such an amendment to be comprehensive and technically sound,

*Further referring* to Article VI.9(b) of the Agreement mandating the Meeting of the Parties to adopt specific actions to improve the effectiveness of the Agreement,

*Recalling* Article VII.3(a) of the Agreement mandating the Technical Committee to provide scientific and technical advice and information to the Meeting of the Parties and to Parties.

#### *The Meeting of the Parties:*

1. *Decides* to establish an additional preliminary step to the procedure for submission of proposals for amendments to the Agreement as defined in Article X.3 of the Agreement, as follows:

- 1.1. The text of any proposed amendment and the reasons for it, other than proposed amendments originating from the work of the Technical Committee, shall be communicated by the submitting Contracting Party to the Technical Committee, through the Agreement Secretariat, not later than 300 days before the opening of the session of the Meeting of the Parties;
- 1.2. The Technical Committee shall review the submission and provide its advice on the text of the proposed amendment and the reasons for it to the submitting Contracting Party for its consideration not later than 180 days before the opening of the session of the Meeting of the Parties;
- 1.3. The decision of whether to adjust the proposal or the reasons for it following the advice from the Technical Committee remains entirely at the discretion of the submitting Contracting Party;

1.4. The Agreement Secretariat shall transmit the advice of the Technical Committee to all Contracting Parties and the Meeting of the Parties together with the text of the proposed amendment and the reasons for it once submitted by the Party as per Article X.3.

2. *Requests* the Secretariat to issue a timely notification to the Contracting Parties in advance of each Session of the Meeting of the Parties on the timeline for submission of proposals for amendments to the Agreement in order to accommodate for this additional preliminary step to the procedure.

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