

37th International Conference of Data Protection and Privacy Commissioners

Amsterdam, 26-27 October 2015

The Executive Committee proposes the following amendments to the Conference Rules and Procedures:

1. Correction of cross-referencing errors in clauses 2.1(g), 5.3(a) and 5.5

In the following articles delete and replace the text as indicated:

Article	Delete text	Replace with
2.1(g)	the rules adopted at the 32nd International Conference	the rules set out at articles 5.1 to 5.5
5.3(a)	the criteria provided for in the first article	the criteria provided for in article 5.1
5.5	the criteria provided for in sections 1 or 3 of these Rules	the criteria provided for in articles 5.1 or 5.3

Explanation: The amendment corrects several cross-references.

2. Functions of the Executive Committee (article 3.2)

(1) To record the Executive Committee's strategic role, the following new paragraph is inserted into article 3.2 to follow paragraph (a):

“(aa) To provide leadership to the Conference in attaining its strategic goals.”

Explanation: The closed session has the function to set a strategic direction and has adopted a strategic plan. This function formally recognises the Executive Committee's role to support the Conference's strategic direction.

(2) To record several Executive Committee administrative, implementation and accountability functions, the following additional paragraphs are inserted into in article 3.2:

“(i) To maintain a permanent Conference website as a repository for Conference documentation.

“(j) To keep Members informed of the work of the Executive Committee.

“(k) To ensure that processes are in place to support the operation of the Global Cross Border Enforcement Cooperation Arrangement.”

Explanation for new paragraph (i): Establishment of a permanent website has been a long term goal of the Conference. Now that a website has been constructed by the current Executive Committee it is important expressly to record the function of maintaining a website permanently as a repository.

Explanation for new paragraph (j): Keeping members informed of the work of the Executive Committee is an important aspect of accountability.

Explanation for new paragraph (j): This function reflects the adoption at the 33rd Conference of the Resolution on Enforcement Cooperation.

3. Simplification of submission of applications for membership (article 5.2)

Replace existing article 5.2 with the following:

“5.2 Submission of applications for membership

- a. Supervisory Authorities that consider they meet the criteria provided for in article 5.1 may apply to the Executive Committee on the form provided by the Secretariat to be a Member of the Conference.
- b. Applications must be received by the Secretariat at least three months before the next Closed Session to be properly considered.”

Explanation: The new clause makes no change to the substantive requirements for membership but is focused upon simplifying the process for applicants and Secretariat. Dispensing with covering letters and being less prescriptive in relation to documentation is intended to facilitate implementation of electronic processing.

4. Observer status: clarification in relation to attendance at a single meeting and ongoing attendance (article 5.3)

At the end of article 5.3, replace:

“Observer status is granted once an entity or organisation has successfully completed the application process provided for in the next section of these Rules.”

With:

“Observer status may be granted for a particular annual meeting or for a period of time covering more than one annual meeting.”

Explanation: The change makes clear that entities or organisations may be approved to be an observer to a single conference or for a period of time spanning more than one conference. This will assist in administration. It is quite usual in the meetings of international forums to distinguish between guests having a need to attend a single meeting and those approved to have ongoing access to closed meetings.

5. Simplification of submission of applications for accreditation as Observer (article 5.2)

Replace existing article 5.4 with the following:

“5.4 Submission of applications to be Observers

- a. Entities or organisations that meet any of the conditions provided for in article 5.3 may apply to the Executive Committee on the form provided by the Secretariat to be an Observer.
- b. Applications must be received by the Secretariat at least three months before the next Closed Session to be properly considered.”

Explanation: The new clause makes no change to the substantive requirements for observer accreditation but is focused upon simplifying the process for applicants and the Secretariat. Dispensing with covering letters and being less prescriptive in relation to documentation is intended to facilitate implementation of electronic processing.

6. Supporting linguistic diversity in simultaneous interpretation (article 6)

At the end of the second sentence of article 6, replace:

“and the language of the hosting authority”

With:

“and the language of major linguistic communities.”

Explanation: Article 6 recognises that cultural and linguistic diversity are features of the Conference. The rule seeks to preserve that diversity by requiring best efforts to provide simultaneous interpretation. The rule change seeks to give better effect to the desired linguistic diversity by adopted a slightly broader formulation:

Cultural and linguistic diversity are features of the conference. Authorities shall make their best efforts to preserve it by providing simultaneous interpretation for different languages, including but not limited to English ~~and the language of the hosting Authority~~ and the language of major linguistic communities. The different linguistic communities shall contribute, when required, to accomplish that aim.