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Proposal by the Government of
Democratic Yemen to amend
Rule 12 of ECWA's provisional
rules of procedure

Note by the Secretariat
(Item 9 of the provisional agenda)

The Executive Secretary has received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Democratic Yemen a note concerning amendment to Rule 12 of the Commission's provisional rules of procedure. The Ministry has requested the Executive Secretary to circulate among ECWA's Member States the following proposed amendment to Rule 12 for study and discussion:

"The Commission shall, at the commencement of each session, appoint from among the representatives of its Member States a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur who shall hold office until their successors are appointed. The offices of Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur shall be held in turn by all Member States of the Commission according to the Arabic alphabetical order of their names. However, no Member State shall, during any session, hold more than one such office."

The note of the Government of Democratic Yemen indicates that "the objectives of this amendment are as follows:

1. To give all Member States of the Commission an opportunity for effective contribution by holding the offices of Chairman and of Vice-Chairmen of ECWA.

2. To prevent that the selection of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen give rise to discussions and debates but rather to make it possible

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for Member States of knowing in advance which State will hold said offices, and for the Member State whose turn it is of holding chairmanship to make any necessary preparation to that effect (assuming that said Member State will not waive turn and will actually accept the chairmanship)".

Rule 12 of the present provisional Rules of Procedure, whose amendment is hereby proposed, reads as follows:

"The Commission shall, at the commencement of each session, elect from among the representatives of its members a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, who shall hold office until their successors are elected. They shall be eligible for re-election."