Resolution 920 (1989)[1]

Special guest status with the Parliamentary Assembly (Amendment of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure)

Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. Having regard to Resolution 917 (1989) on a special guest status with the Parliamentary Assembly,

2. Resolves to insert in its Rules of Procedure, after Rule 55, the following new rule :

   2.1. ‘‘Special guests The Assembly may grant special guest status to national legislative assemblies of European non-member states which apply and implement the Helsinki Final Act of 1 August 1975 and the instruments adopted at the CSCE conferences, together with the two United Nations International Covenants of 16 December 1966 on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, if such assemblies show an interest to be granted this status.

   2.2. If any such state complies with the above conditions, this interest must be confirmed in a formal request from the president of its Legislative Assembly to the President of the Parliamentary Assembly.

   2.3. Any invitation to benefit from this status shall be extended to these assemblies by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly on the proposal of the Committee on Relations with European Non-Member Countries, with the opinion of the Political Affairs Committee and with the agreement of the Bureau enlarged to include the chairmen of the political groups.

   2.4. Each such assembly shall appoint a delegation of its members reflecting the various currents of opinion represented within it.

   2.5. The number of seats allocated to each special guest, which shall not exceed eighteen, shall be determined by the enlarged Bureau on the proposal of the Committee on Relations with European Non-Member Countries, with the opinion of the Political Affairs Committee.

   2.6. Members of such delegations shall sit in the Assembly without the right to vote. They shall have the right to speak only with the authorisation of the Bureau. They may take part in the discussions of committees in accordance with the provisions of Rule 45, paragraph 16, third sub-paragraph, above.

   2.7. The credentials of members of special guest delegations shall be sent to the President of the Parliamentary Assembly not less than one week before the opening of the session. These credentials shall be submitted to the Parliamentary Assembly for ratification at the same time as those of Representatives and Substitutes. Credentials of members of special guest delegations which give rise to an objection or are contested on grounds drawn from paragraph 1 above shall be referred without debate to a joint meeting of the Committees on Relations with European Non-Member Countries and on Rules of Procedure, presided over by the Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Procedure. These committees shall report to the enlarged Bureau at the earliest opportunity." ;

3. Resolves to reconsider in one year's time the above provisions, in the light of experience.

---

1. See Doc. 6060, report of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Rapporteur : Sir Geoffrey Finsberg. Text adopted by the Standing Committee, acting on behalf of the Assembly, on 5 July 1989.