

## **Closed Session**

### **Rules and Procedures**

Amendment to the Rules and Procedures

Amendment to article 2.2, first sentence, of the Rules of Procedure of the International Conference.

*Old text:*

The Closed Session will be chaired by the Hosting Authority of the Annual Meeting.

*New text:*

The Closed Session will be co-chaired by the Chair of the Executive Committee and by the Hosting Authority of the Annual Meeting.

*Explanation:*

Since the new structure of the Conference was adopted during the Mexico City Conference in 2011, a clear division has been introduced between the open and closed sessions of the International Conference. The Closed Session is organised under the responsibility of the Executive Committee, which proposes the agenda, approaches relevant speakers and prepares the conclusions of the discussions in the form of a declaration. In practice, since the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference in Uruguay, the Closed Session has been chaired jointly by the Chair of the Executive Committee and the Hosting Authority.

The Executive Committee considers this practice should be formalised in the Rules and Procedure.