53rd Session of the Executive Council
Geneva, 12-13 October, 2020

DECISIONS*
(As amended by the Resolution IV of the 24th session of the ICDO General Assembly)

Decision 1

Opening of the 53rd Session

The Executive Council,

Acting in accordance with Article 25 of the Constitution and Article 11 of the Internal Regulations,

Having examined the presence of the Member States of the Council at the session,

Recalling its decision 15 of the 52nd Session reelecting Kyrgyzstan to the Presidency of the Executive Council for the period 2019-2021,

1. Registers present the following Member States:

   Algeria          Egypt          Qatar
   Azerbaijan       Georgia        Russian Federation
   Benin            Jordan         Saudi Arabia
   Burkina Faso     Kazakhstan     Senegal
   Cameroon         Kuwait         Tunisia
   China            Kyrgyzstan    United Arab Emirates
   Congo            Lebanon        
   Côte d’Ivoire

2. Confirms hereby the legality of the session in accordance with the Article 25 of the Constitution.

3. Welcomes H.E.Mr. Azamat Mambetov, the State Secretary of the Ministry for Emergency Situations of Kyrgyzstan, as the President of its 53rd Session.
Online participation of delegates in the 53rd Session of the Executive Council

The Executive Council,

Guided by the Constitution and the Internal Regulations of the ICDO,

Bearing in mind technical and logistical challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic,

1. Decides on an exceptional basis to allow accredited representatives of Member States to deliver their statements, to vote and to exercise other functions as delegates remotely by means of videoconference.

Decision 3

Adoption of the Agenda

The Executive Council,

Acting in accordance with Articles 74 and 75 of the Internal Regulations,

1. Adopts the draft Agenda\textsuperscript{1} as presented by its President:

Decision 4

\textsuperscript{1} Annex 1
Report on the activities of the Acting Secretary General since the 52nd session of the Executive Council (Beirut, April 2019)

The Executive Council,

Having examined the report of the Acting Secretary General on ICDO activities since the 52nd session of the Executive Council,

1. Expresses its concern over the absence of the written report;

2. Requests the Acting Secretary General to submit the report at the 54th session of the Executive Council;

3. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

Adopted without a vote on 12 October, 2020

Decision 5

The Acting Secretary General

The Executive Council

1. Decides to dismiss Mr. Belkacem Elketroussi from the post of the Acting Secretary General, with immediate effect;

2. Decides further to appoint Mr. Andrey Kudinov, the Deputy Secretary General, as Acting Secretary General in accordance with the Article 80 of the Internal Regulations, with immediate effect.

Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020

Decision 6

Conflict of Interests in the Permanent Secretariat
The Executive Council,

Resolved to protect the Permanent Secretariat from the incidents of conflict of interests and fraud that had taken place in the past,

1. Decides to prohibit the hiring to the Permanent Secretariat of close relatives of the high officials of the Permanent Secretariat, namely the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General;

2. Decides also to prohibit the practice of refunding income tax to the employees of the Permanent Secretariat with immediate effect;

3. Requests the new Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General to investigate whether such practices have taken place in the past, and authorizes them to take all necessary measures to recuperate funds that have been paid by the ICDO for the refund of income taxes of the present or former Permanent Secretariat employees.

Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020

Decision 7

Implementation of Decisions of the 52nd Session of the Executive Council: Activities of the Former Secretary General and the Former Deputy Secretary General

The Executive Council,

Bearing in mind its Decision 11 of the 52nd session, which mandated the Acting Secretary General to continue legal proceedings on the financial malfeasance, abuse of power and conflict of interest of former Secretary General Vladimir Kuvshinov,

1. Expresses its regret that its Decision 11 has not been duly implemented;

2. Requests the new Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General to conduct necessary investigation with regard to the activities of the former Secretary General under the supervision of
the President of the Executive Council and to present its results at the 54th session of the Executive Council;

3. **Authorizes** the new Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General to contact the Swiss law enforcement authorities in this regard, and engage, with the prior approval of the President of the Executive Council, in a legal pursuit against present or former employees or other actors involved in the fraud schemes harming the activities or reputation of the ICDO or violating the law of the host country.

*Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020*

**Decision 8**

**Implementation of Decisions of the 52nd Session of the Executive Council: Audit and Financial Commission**

The Executive Council,

*Bearing in mind* its Decision 8 of the 52nd session,

*Having considered* the report of the Special independent audit mission presented by MAZARS SA,

*Having also considered* the report of the Financial Commission established in accordance with the Decision 8 of the 52nd Session of the Executive Council,

1. **Takes note** of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Special independent audit mission and **decides** to transmit the said report to the General Assembly for further consideration;

2. **Takes note with concern** of the report of the Financial Commission established in accordance with the Decision 8 of the 52nd Session of the Executive Council as well as findings, conclusions and recommendations contained therein, and **decides** to transmit the said report to the General Assembly for further consideration;

3. **Decides** to extend the mandate of the Financial Commission and further entrust it with the following tasks:
a. To assess the quality of the audit performed by MAZARS SA;
b. To assess the reasonableness and validity of the expenditure by the Secretariat in 2014-2020;
c. To acquire and receive any information and documents related to the financial expenditure of the Secretariat;
d. To make proposals to be included in the draft budget of the Organization;
e. To report its findings to the Executive Council at each of its regular sessions.

4. Decides also that the Financial Commission will be composed of three representatives of Executive Council Member States selected for the period of two years;

5. Decides, as an interim arrangement, to extend the term of the members of the Financial Commission established in accordance with the Decision 8 of the 52nd Session of the Executive Council, as first members of the Financial Commission until the 54th session of the Executive Council;

6. Requests the Financial Commission to complete its report of 2019 and to present the final report to the 54th session of the Council together with the conclusions and recommendations.

7. Requests the Permanent Secretariat to ensure all necessary access, arrangements, logistical and technical support for the work of the Financial Commission;

8. Decides that establishing of permanent Member State-led financial oversight body should be considered on a priority basis in the framework of an in-depth administrative reform of the Permanent Secretariat.

Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020

Decision 9

Implementation of Decisions of the 52nd session of the Executive Council: Transparency and Accountability of the Permanent Secretariat Staff

The Executive Council,

Bearing in mind its Decision 8 of the 52nd session,

Having considered the report of the Special independent audit mission presented by MAZARS SA,
Having also considered the report of the Financial Commission established in accordance with the Decision 8 of the 52nd Session of the Executive Council,

Expressing its grave concern at the lack of accountability of the Permanent Secretariat staff,

Alarmed at findings of the Financial Commission and the Special Independent Audit Mission, in particular, with regard to the transparency of the staff and financial issues,

Being resolved to separate administrative and financial powers within the Secretariat,

1. Decides that the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary General will be the principal authorizing officers for all the financial acts of the Organization;

2. Decides also that all expenses by the Permanent Secretariat amounting more than five thousand Swiss francs must receive a prior approval of both Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General;

3. Decides further that all hiring and dismissal of the staff shall be approved by both Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General;

4. Requests the Deputy Secretary General:
   - to bear responsibility for the coordination and facilitation of the work of the Financial Commission;
   - to coordinate the administrative activities of the Secretariat;
   - to be in charge of implementing humanitarian assistance projects conducted by the ICDO;
   - to direct the International Monitoring and Coordination Centre (IMCC).

5. Decides that the separation of powers and introducing the system of checks and balances in the work of the Permanent Secretariat should be considered as a matter of priority in the framework of an in-depth administrative reform of the Permanent Secretariat.

Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020

Decision 10
Implementation of Decisions of the 52nd session of the Executive Council:
In-depth Administrative Reform

The Executive Council,

*Bearing in mind* its Decision 9 of the 52nd session,

*Expressing its profound concern* at the fact that the decision was not implemented,

1. **Decides** to extend the mandate of the Administrative Commission to prepare a deep reform on the administrative and financial functioning of the Permanent Secretariat as stipulated in the Decision 9 of the 52nd Session of the Council;

2. **Decides** also that the Commission will be composed of 5 (five) Executive Council Member States Representatives and will be chaired by the Presidency of the Executive Council;

3. **Requests** the Commission to complete its work and send to the final report to the Council at least one month before its 54th session, taking as guidelines the provisions contained in the Executive Council’s decisions;

4. **Requests** the Secretariat to render all necessary resources and facilities to the Administrative Commission to complete its mandate.

*Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020*

**Decision 11**

**Budget for 2020-2021**

The Executive Council,

*Having examined* the report on the 2019 budget,

*Denouncing* the late submission of the financial statement and budget for 2021,

1. **Confirms**, on an exceptional basis, the budget proposal for 2020-2021;
2. Requests the Permanent Secretariat to provide a detailed report on the income and expenditure in financial year 2020 and a draft budget proposal for financial year 2021 at least one month before its 54th session to be held in 2021;

3. Requests the Financial Commission to study the draft budget proposal for financial year 2021 and to report its findings to the Council at its 54th session.

Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020

Decision 12

54th session of the Executive Council

The Executive Council,

Bearing in mind that its 53rd session was held with an undue delay,

1. Decides to hold its 54th session in 2021;

2. Requests its President to determine the timing and venue of the session in consultation with the Permanent Secretariat.

Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020

Decision 13

Permanent Secretariat Staff

The Executive Council,

Alarmed by the existing arbitrary and illegitimate practice of hiring and dismissal of staff and outsourcing certain functions in violation of the organigram adopted by the Executive Council,

Deeply concerned about the ongoing violations of the Staff Regulations of the ICDO by the Acting Secretary General,
Requests the Secretary General to prepare an updated organigram and to present it for approval at the 54th Session of the Council;

Requests also the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General to align the salaries and allowances of the Permanent Secretariat staff with the relevant United Nations scale, or, if deemed necessary, to present deviations from the mentioned scale to the Executive Council for approval at its 54th session.

Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020

Decision 14

Appointment of the Secretary General

The Executive Council,

Acting in accordance with the Article 27 of the Constitution,

Having examined the documents submitted by respective candidates,

Having verified the compliance of all candidates, as well as of respective Member States that had proposed them, with the requirements stipulated in the Article 78 of the Internal Regulations,

1. Submits to the General Assembly the following candidatures for subsequent appointment of one of them to the post of the Secretary General in accordance with Article 14(c) of the Constitution:

   - Mme. Mariatou Yap (Cameroon),
   - Brig.Gen. Raymond Khattar (Lebanon).

Adopted with a recorded vote on 13 October, 2020
10 votes in favour of Mme. Mariatou Yap (Cameroon)
10 votes in favour of Brig.Gen. Raymond Khattar (Lebanon)
2 Member States – absent

Decision 15

Theme of the World Civil Defence Day - 2022

The Executive Council
1. **Decides** that the theme of the World Civil Defence Day in 2022 will be: Civil Defence and Management of Displaced Populations in the Event of Disaster and Crises, Including the Role of Volunteers and Pandemic Control.

*Adopted without a vote on 13 October, 2020*
ANNEX 1

Draft Agenda

1. Opening of the session

2. Adoption of the Agenda

3. Report of the Acting Secretary-General on ICDO Activities since the 52nd session of the Executive Council (Beirut, April 2019)

4. Implementation of the decisions of the 52nd session of the Executive Council
   4.1. Activities of the former Secretary General and former Deputy Secretary General
   4.2. Report of the external audit over 2014-2018 period (Decision 8)
   4.3. Report of the Commission to accompany and follow-up the audit (Decision 8)
   4.4. Report of the Administrative and Financial Commission (Decision 9)
   4.5. Implementation of the Training Plan for the International Monitoring and Coordination Center (Decision 13)
   4.6. Administrative and financial reform of the Organization (Decision 9)
   4.7. Adoption of proposals under item 4

5. Financial and administrative matters
   5.1. Financial Statement for 2019 and 2020
   5.2. Report of the external audit over financial year 2019
   5.3. Budget for financial year 2020 and proposed budget for financial year 2021
   5.4. Arrears of Contributions
   5.5. Permanent Secretariat Staff
   5.6. Other issues

6. Theme of the World Civil Defence Day 2022

7. Questions submitted by the Secretary-General and the ICDO Member States

8. Questions submitted by members of the Executive Council

9. Appointment of the candidate to the post of Secretary-General

10. Adoption of the Decisions under items 5-9

11. Closure of the session