

No. 10418

MULTILATERAL

Convention establishing an International Sericultural Commission. Opened for signature at Paris from 1 July 1957 to 31 December 1957

Authentic text: French.

Registered by France on 10 April 1970.

MULTILATÉRAL

Convention instituant une commission séricicole internationale. Ouverte à la signature à Paris du 1^{er} juillet 1957 au 31 décembre 1957

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistrée par la France le 10 avril 1970.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION ¹ ESTABLISHING AN INTERNATIONAL SERICULTURAL COMMISSION

The States Parties to this Convention, conscious of the importance assumed by sericultural production in the economic sphere and of the value of studies on silk producing insects in the scientific sphere, have agreed to transform the Permanent Commission of International Sericultural Congresses into an international organization which shall be called the "International Sericultural Commission" and shall have this Convention as its charter.

TITLE I

PURPOSE

Article 1

The International Sericultural Commission shall have as its purpose to encourage and further the development and improvement, in the technical, scientific and economic fields, of all activities relating to sericulture in general (including mulberry cultivation, production of seed eggs, sericulture and raw silk reeling).

Article 2

With a view to attaining the aforementioned objectives, the International Sericultural Commission shall, in particular, undertake the following activities:

¹ Came into force on 17 September 1960, i.e. thirty days after the deposit with the French Government of the fourth instrument of ratification or accession (a), in accordance with article 26:

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit</i>
Yugoslavia	24 December 1958 a	India	11 September 1959 a
Romania	3 April 1959 a	Spain	18 August 1960 a

Subsequently, the following States deposited their instrument of ratification or accession (a) on the dates indicated, which are also the date of entry into force of the Convention in respect of those States:

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Date of deposit</i>
Japan	27 March 1961 a	France	23 November 1961
Madagascar	2 October 1961 a	Tunisia	1 April 1968 a

- (a) Exchanges of information among member States;
- (b) Publication of a periodic bulletin, reports on meetings and other specialized publications;
- (c) Provision of general information through the establishment of a sericultural documentation centre;
- (d) Organization of international meetings on the science of sericulture;
- (e) Research and investigation;
- (f) Development and co-ordination of efforts to make the silkworm and all other silk-producing insects a "biological type";
- (g) Co-operation with all organizations having interests and functions related to and compatible with its own.

TITLE II

SEAT

Article 3

The seat of the International Sericultural Commission shall be at Alès (France).

It may be transferred in the future only by a decision of the Conference and at the request of the Executive Committee.

TITLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Article 4

The member States having ratified or acceded to this Convention shall constitute the membership of the Commission. Each delegate from these States shall have the title of national delegate.

Each member State shall appoint a head of its delegation.

TITLE IV

ORGANS

Article 5

The Commission shall consist of the following organs: the Conference, the Executive Committee and the Office of the General Secretary.

CONFERENCE

Article 6

The Conference shall consist of up to five national delegates appointed by each member State, at least one of whom shall represent sericultural associations.

Article 7

It shall concern itself with all the matters listed in article 1 of this Convention. It shall receive and discuss the reports submitted to it by the Executive Committee, the decisions of which it shall have the power to ratify.

Article 8

The Conference shall meet at least once every three years. It shall establish its own rules of procedure, elect its President and determine the venue of the following Conference.

Article 9

At the proposal of the General Secretary and with the agreement of the Executive Committee, national associations of non-member States engaged in activities similar to those of the Commission may participate as observers in the work of the Conference. Such participation shall be limited to one association from each State.

Article 10

Decisions of the Conference shall be made by an absolute majority of the national delegates present, each of whom shall have one vote.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article 11

The Executive Committee shall consist of the heads of the delegations of member States.

Article 12

It shall endeavour to attain the objectives defined in article 1, in accordance with the decisions of the Conference.

Article 13

It shall meet annually. It shall approve the budget submitted to it by the General Secretary and shall express its views on the draft agenda of the Conference prepared by the General Secretary.

Article 14

Should the Executive Committee eventually have more than eleven members, it shall be empowered to delegate its powers to a Board consisting of one fourth of its membership.

The members selected to serve on the Board and the duration of their mandate must be approved by the Conference.

Article 15

Decisions of the Executive Committee shall be made by an absolute majority of its members. Voting by correspondence shall be permitted.

GENERAL SECRETARY

Article 16

The General Secretary shall be elected by the Conference at the proposal of the Executive Committee.

Article 17

Acting under the supervision of the Executive Committee, he shall ensure the implementation of resolutions adopted by the Conference.

Article 18

He shall prepare the budget, submit it to the Executive Committee for approval and be responsible for its management. He shall submit a report on the management of the budget to the Conference, which shall alone be empowered to give him discharge therefor.

Article 19

He shall make arrangements for the meetings of the Conference and the Executive Committee.

Article 20

Between meetings of the Executive Committee he may consult individual members in writing to ascertain their views.

Article 21

He shall be empowered to take any initiative likely to enhance the smooth functioning and prestige of the Commission; he shall do so under the supervision of the Executive Committee, which may entrust him with any task or mission it deems necessary.

TITLE V

FINANCE

Article 22

The income of the Commission shall consist of financial contributions from member States and affiliated national associations.

Two annual contributions shall be made:

- one, for scientific purposes, based on population;
- another, for technical and economic purposes, calculated in proportion to the number of fresh cocoons produced.

Affiliated national associations shall pay one-half of the financial contribution.

Article 23

The Commission may receive grants and gifts from various sources to help attain its objectives.

The General Secretary shall report to the Executive Committee on their utilization.

TITLE VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 24

This Convention shall be open for signature from 1 July 1957 to 31 December 1957 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic.

It shall be ratified.

The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Government of the French Republic, which shall notify all signatory States of the date of deposit.

Article 25

States which have not signed the Convention may accede to it at the expiration of the aforementioned period.

Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Government of the French Republic, which shall notify all member States of the date of deposit.

Article 26

This Convention shall enter into force thirty days after the deposit of the fourth instrument of ratification or accession.

The Government of the French Republic shall notify each Contracting Party of the date on which this Convention enters into force.

Article 27

Any member State may submit amendments to this Convention.

Member States may not propose any amendments until one year after the entry into force of the Convention.

Proposed amendments shall be addressed to the French Government, which shall forward them to the Executive Committee of the Commission for consideration. After studying them the Executive Committee shall submit them to the Conference and shall inform the French Government of the latter's views.

Any amendment deemed receivable shall be submitted by the French Government to all member States for acceptance or rejection.

Member States shall inform the Government of the French Republic and the Commission of their acceptance in writing. If the majority of States accepts an amendment, it shall be incorporated in the Convention.

Instruments of acceptance of amendments shall be deposited with the French Government, which shall inform member States and the Commission of such deposit.

Once an amendment has entered into force, no State may accede to or ratify this Convention unless it also accepts the amendment.

Article 28

A member State may at any time announce that it denounces this Convention by notification addressed to the French Government.

The French Government shall immediately inform all member States and the Commission of such notification.

Article 29

This Convention shall be drawn up in one original copy in the French language, which shall be deposited in the archives of the Government of the French Republic, which shall transmit true copies to each signatory Government.

Article 30

Any State may, at the time of ratification or any other time, declare by notification addressed to the Government of the French Republic that this Convention shall apply in respect of all or some of the territories for the foreign relations of which it is responsible.

Article 31

The French language shall be the official language of the International Sericultural Commission.

The Conference may nevertheless provide for the use of one or more other languages in the Commission's work and debates.

Article 32

The Commission may be dissolved by a decision of the Conference, provided that the delegates have full powers to authorize dissolution when the vote is taken.

Paris, 15 October 1957.

For the Government of the French Republic:

[CHRISTIAN PINEAU]

[SEAL]
