

Rules of the Confederate Parliament



Rules of the Confederate Parliament

RULE I General Rules

1. These Rules of the Confederate Parliament (subsequently denominated Rules) for the Parliament of the Confederacy of Independent Systems (subsequently denominated Parliament) shall be self-sufficient, except for modifications provided by the Speaker of the Confederate Parliament (subsequently denominated Speaker), and shall be considered adopted in advance of the first meeting of the legislature during the conference.
2. Unless explicitly specified by the Speaker, no other Rules are applicable.
3. English will be the official and working language of the conference.
4. After approval by the Speaker, Representatives of Accredited Observers, Non-Governmental Organizations and Third-Party Actors may be present in the chamber of the Parliament and may be yielded to during speeches.
5. The Parliamentary Staff shall consist of the Chief Administrative Officer and, optionally, Assistants who shall provide guidance to the Speaker and the Members of Parliament (subsequently denominated MPs) on questions concerning the Rules of the Confederate Parliament.
6. MPs shall show courtesy and respect to the Parliamentary Staff and to other MPs.

RULE II The Speaker of the Confederate Parliament

1. The Speaker shall take the Chair on every legislative day precisely at the hour to which the Parliament last adjourned and immediately call the Parliament to order.
2. The Speaker shall preserve order and decorum in the Parliament.
3. The Speaker shall decide all questions of order, subject to appeal by a MP.
4. MPs may appeal the ruling of the Speaker of the Parliament in which case the Speaker shall call a vote to uphold the ruling of the Speaker without debate;

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4.1. In case a simple majority of the MPs votes to uphold the ruling, the ruling by the Speaker stands.

4.2. In case a simple majority of the MPs votes to appeal the ruling, the ruling by the Speaker is overturned.

5. The Speaker shall put a question in this form: “Those in favor (of the question), please raise your placards”; and after the affirmative voice is expressed, “Those opposed, please raise your placards”.

6. The Speaker shall not be required to vote in ordinary legislative proceedings, except when such a vote would be decisive or when the Parliament is engaged in voting by secret ballot.

7. In case of absence of the Speaker, the Speaker may select a MP as Speaker pro tempore who shall hold the office of Speaker of the Confederate Parliament until the return of the elected Speaker.

8.1. The Speaker shall appoint all select committees ordered by the Parliament.

8.2. At any time after an original appointment, the Speaker may remove MPs from, or or appoint additional MPs to, a select committee.

9. To suspend the business of the Parliament for a short time when no question is pending before the Parliament, the Speaker may declare a “Recess subject to the call of the Chair”.

10. In case the office of Speaker of the Parliament is vacant, through resignation, death, expulsion or other ways, MPs shall elect a new Speaker by Roll-Call Vote.

10.1. During the election of a new Speaker of the Parliament, the Chief Administrative Officer shall act as Chair.

10.2. MPs may nominate any of their colleagues as Speaker of the Parliament.

10.3. Once all nominees have been named, the MPs shall vote on the candidates by Roll-Call in alphabetical order.

10.4. After the vote, the Chief Administrative Officer shall announce the result.

10.4.1. If a candidate has received an absolute majority of the votes cast, the MP shall be the next Speaker of the Parliament.

10.4.2. If no candidate has received an absolute majority of the votes cast, the process shall be repeated, beginning with the nomination of the candidates.

10.2. If the office of Speaker of the Parliament is vacant, no debate nor motion, except to adjourn or to change the rules, shall be in order.

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RULE III

The Executive Separatist Council

1. The Members of the Executive Separatist Council (subsequently denominated Council) may attend meetings of the Parliament.
2. Members of the Council shall not be allowed to vote during any vote held by the Parliament, be it procedural or substantive.
3. The Head of State of the Confederacy of Independent Systems may seek recognition by the Speaker for a speech on behalf of the Council or for other Members of the Council.

RULE IV

Suspension and Amendment of the Rules

1. No motion to modify or amend any rule, or any part thereof, shall be in order, except a written notice has been deposited with the Speaker and the Chief Administrative Officer in advance of the raising of said motion precisely describing the rule or part proposed to be modified or amended, and the purpose thereof.
2. In case a written notice about modifying or amending any rule, or any part thereof, has reached the Speaker, the Speaker shall immediately announce content of the note and its author to the Parliament.
3. If a notice has been filed with the Speaker in accordance with these rules and the Motion to Modify or Amend a Rule has been raised by an MP, the Speaker shall call a vote on the proposed changes to the Rules;
 - 3.1. If two thirds of the MPs agree with the notice, the changes to the rules shall be considered accepted and the Chief Administrative Officer shall amend the rules.
 - 3.2. If less than two thirds of the MPs agree with the notice, the changes to the rules shall be considered not accepted and the rules shall remain unchanged.
4. Any rule may be suspended for a Draft Resolution without notice by a vote of two-thirds, except as otherwise provided by the rules.

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5. The rules of the Parliament shall continue from one meeting of the legislature to the next meeting of the legislature unless they are changed as provided in these rules.

RULE V

Quorum

1. To open debate, vote on motions, Resolutions and other matters, a quorum, consisting of a simple majority of the MPs, shall be present.
2. No MP shall absent himself from the service of the Parliament without leave, granted by the Speaker.
3. To ensure the presence of a quorum, each legislative day of the conference shall be opened with a quorum call, during which the members shall be called upon to declare themselves present in alphabetical order.
4. If a MP believes that a quorum of the Members is no longer present, the MP may ask for a quorum call.
5. If no quorum is present, no debate nor motion, except to adjourn, shall be in order.

RULE VI

General Speaker's List

1. After the opening of a meeting of the Parliament, one continuously open Speaker's List shall be established for the purpose of general debate, which shall be followed for all debate during the Conference, except when superseded by procedural motions, amendments, or the introduction of a Draft Resolution.
2. No person may address the chamber during general debate without recognition by the Speaker.
3. Speakers may speak generally on the topic being considered and may address any Working Paper circulating amongst the MPs or Draft Resolution currently on the floor of the Parliament.

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4. To be recognised for the General Speaker's List, MPs shall raise their placard whenever they wish, however, such a recognition may not interrupt a speaker.
5. MPs wishing to be removed from the General Speakers List may send a written request to the Speaker.
6. When the General Speakers list is exhausted, debate shall automatically close on all Draft Resolutions currently on the floor and the Parliament shall move into voting procedure on the Draft Resolutions and Amendments currently on the floor.

RULE VII

Motions, Quorum call and Suspension of the Rules

MPs may file motions, ask for quorum calls and a Suspension of the Rules whenever the meeting of the legislature has been declared open. To be recognised by the Speaker to file a motion, MPs may raise their hand whenever they wish, however, such a recognition may not interrupt a speaker.

1. As provided in Rule V, 3. MPs may question the presence of a quorum by asking for a quorum call, which shall be done immediately by the Speaker without further debate.
2. During an Unmoderated Caucus MPs may leave their seats and roam freely across the chamber.
 - 2.1. The MP filing the motion shall specify a topic and the time.
 - 2.2. A simple majority of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.
 - 2.3. An Unmoderated Caucus may be extended, as deemed necessary by the Speaker.
 - 2.4. The motion for an extension shall take precedence over any other motion.
3. In a Moderated Caucus, the Speaker shall temporarily depart from the General Speakers List and call on the MPs to speak on a more narrowly defined topic.
 - 3.1. The MP filing the motion shall specify a topic, total time and the individual speaking time.
 - 3.2. A simple majority of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.

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3.3. After the motion has been ordered, the Speaker shall ask the MP who initially filed the motion, whether the MP wishes to speak first or last.

3.4. A Moderated Caucus may be extended, as deemed necessary by the Speaker.

3.5. The motion for extension shall take precedence over any other motion.

4. During an Informal Consultation of the Whole, the Speaker shall hand over the moderation of the debate to the MPs and shall initially grant the right to address the chamber to the MP who filed the motion.

4.1. The MP filing the motion shall specify a topic and the total time.

4.2. A simple majority of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.

4.2. After a MP has spoken during an Informal Consultation of the Whole, the MP shall recognise a fellow MP to speak next.

4.3. During an Informal Consultation of the Whole, no individual speaker time is defined, nevertheless, MPs may be invited by the Speaker to keep their speeches brief out of courtesy to other MPs wishing to speak.

5. During a Tour de Table, the Speaker shall grant the right to speak to all MPs present in alphabetical order.

5.1. The MP filing the motion shall specify a topic.

5.2. A simple majority of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.

5.4. During a Tour de Table, no individual speaker time is defined, nevertheless, MPs may be invited by the Speaker to keep their speeches brief.

6. MPs may file a Motion to Adjourn the Meeting until a specified time.

6.1. The MP filing the motion shall define a time when the meeting of the legislature is resumed after adjournment.

6.2. A simple majority of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.

6.3. The meeting of the legislature resumes at the previously approved time, assuming that a quorum is present, unless the meeting was adjourned until another legislative day, in which case a quorum call is required.

7. To end the meeting of the legislative, MPs may file a Motion to Adjourn the Parliament SINE DIE, which immediately closes debate on all Draft Resolutions on the floor without a further vote on them and ends the Conference.

7.1. To begin the vote upon a Motion for to Adjourn SINE DIE, the Speaker shall be required to recognise at least one Second.

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7.2. If the Speaker recognises a Second, a simple majority of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.

7.3. If the Motion to Adjourn SINE DIE is adopted, the Speaker shall declare the meeting of the legislative closed without a further vote on any Draft Resolutions on the floor.

7.4. Since a Motion to Adjourn the Parliament SINE DIE ends the Conference, a Motion to Adjourn SINE DIE may be ruled out of order by the Speaker, whose decision is not subject to appeal.

8. To change the speaker's time on the General Speakers List, MPs may file a Motion to Change to the Speaker's Time.

8.1. The MP filing the motion shall state to which time the MP wishes to set the Speaker's Time.

8.2. The Speaker's Time shall not be smaller than ten seconds.

8.3. A simple majority of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.

8.4. If a Motion to Change to the Speaker's Time has been ordered, the Speaker shall change the Speaker's Time to the adopted time before recognising the next MP to speak.

9. As provided in Rule IV., 4., any rules, unless not explicitly defined otherwise, may be suspended for a specific Draft Resolution without notice with the approval of two-thirds of the Parliament if a MP asks for Approval on the Suspension of the Rules.

9.1. To change the Rules of the Confederate Parliament for a specific Draft Resolution, MPs may ask for approval of the Parliament to directly introduce a proposal as a Draft Resolution, limit the number of allowed Amendments to the Resolution, change the rules for the debate on the Resolution, or any other matter not ruled dilatory by the President.

9.2. In case a suspension of Standing Rules is proposed for a Resolution, MPs shall state the preferred suspension of the Rules of the Confederate Parliament in the preambulatory clauses (*Noting...*) of the Resolution.

9.3. Out of courtesy to the MPs present, the Speaker shall call the chamber to order and state clearly which of the Rules of the Confederate Parliament may be suspended pending the approval of the Parliament.

9.4. After the Speaker has stated which Standing Rules are subject to the approval of the Parliament, the Speaker shall conduct a vote on the approval to suspend the rules.

9.5. If two-thirds of the MPs present approve of the Suspension of the Rules, the suspension shall be considered ordered.

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9.6. Otherwise, the suspension of the rules shall not be granted.

10. If MPs believe the Speaker of the Parliament no longer enjoys the confidence of a majority of the MPs, they may file a Motion to Vacate the Chair.

10.1. A Motion to Vacate shall only be in order if it is seconded by at least one-third of the MPs on a written notice to the Chief Administrative Officer before the motion was raised.

10.2. If a Motion to Vacate the Chair was raised, the Speaker shall begin a vote on the motion without further debate.

10.3. If during the vote a majority of MPs support the Motion to Vacate, the Chair shall be vacated and the election process for a Speaker shall begin immediately.

11. At any time during debate, MPs may file a Motion for a Recorded Vote during voting procedure on any Draft Resolution currently on the floor .

11.1. The MP filing the motion shall state clearly for which Draft Resolution the MP wants to vote on Record.

11.2. The support of one-fifth of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.

11.3. If the motion has been ordered, the need for a Recorded Vote shall be stated in the preambulatory clauses of the Resolution by “*Noting* the need for a Recorded Vote”.

12. At any time during debate, MPs may raise a Motion for a Division of the Question during voting procedure on any Draft Resolution currently on the floor.

12.1. The MP filing the motion shall state clearly for which Draft Resolution the MP wants to divide the question.

12.2. A simple majority of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.

12.3. If the motion has been ordered, the need for a Division of the Question shall be stated in the preambulatory clauses of the Resolution by “*Noting* the need for a Division of the Question”.

13. If MPs question a procedural ruling of the Speaker as provided in Rule II, 3., they may Motion to Appeal the Ruling of the Speaker.

13.1. If a MP appeals a procedural ruling by the Speaker, the Speaker shall immediately ask for a vote on the appeal to the ruling.

13.2. MPs may motion for a Recorded Vote during votes on appeals to the ruling of the Speaker.

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RULE VIII Decorum and Debate

1.1. If an MP, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the Rules, the Speaker shall call to order the offending MP, who shall immediately sit down unless permitted on motion of another MP to explain.

1.2. If another MP appeals the call to order, the Parliament shall decide the question without debate.

1.3. If the decision of the Parliament is in favor of the MP called to order, the MP shall be at liberty to proceed, but not otherwise.

2.1. When the Speaker is putting a question or addressing the Parliament, a MP may not exit or cross the chamber.

2.2. When a MP is speaking, another MP may not pass between the person speaking and the Chair.

3. A MP or member of the parliamentary staff may not engage in disorderly or disruptive conduct in the chamber, including—

3.1. intentionally obstructing or impeding the passage of others in the chamber.

3.2. the denial of legislative instruments to others seeking to engage in legislative proceedings.

4. As provided in Rule VI, the Parliament shall have an open General Speaker's List at all times.

4.1. Separate Speaker's Lists for Moderated Caucuses or debates on amendments shall be established by the Speaker.

4.2. At any time the Speaker may call for MPs that wish to be added to the General Speaker's List.

4.3. The names of the next several MPs to speak shall always be posted for the convenience of the MPs and the Speaker.

5. As provided in Rule VI, no speaker may address the chamber without prior approval by the Speaker.

5.1. A MP who desires to speak or deliver a matter to the Parliament shall respectfully address the Speaker and, on being recognized, may address the Parliament from any place on the floor.

5.2. Remarks in Debate (which may include references to the Council or its Members) shall be confined to the question under debate, avoiding personality.

5.3. MPs may use the first person singular when referring to themselves.

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5.4. MPs shall address the Speaker as “Mister Speaker” or “Madam Speaker” and the Members of the Council as “Councilman” or “Councilwoman”.

6. When two or more MPs seek recognition, the Speaker shall name the MP who is to speak first.

7.1. The MP who introduces a Draft Resolution may open and close debate thereon.

7.2. A Sponsor of a Draft Resolution who opposes an Amendment thereto is entitled to close debate thereon.

8. The Parliament may limit the time allotted to each speaker up to a minimum of ten seconds.

8.1. At the beginning of the conference, the Speaker’s time on the General Speaker’s List shall be two minutes and zero seconds.

8.2. Changes to the allotted General Speaker’s time or the complete elimination of a time limit may be made through the Motion to Change the Speaker’s Time.

8.3. If a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the Speaker shall call the speaker to order without delay.

9. Speakers may yield the time granted to them on the General Speaker’s List to the Speaker, to questions, to another MP or to a Council Member.

9.1. No explicit yields at the end of a speech shall be considered a yield to the Speaker.

9.2. Speakers may only yield once during their speech.

9.3. Yields other than a yield to the Speaker are not in order if the remaining Speaker’s time is smaller than ten seconds.

9.4. If a speaker yields to another MP or to a Council Member, the MP or Council Member shall be recognised to speak for the remaining speaker’s time.

9.5. Turning over the floor to a member of the same delegation shall not be considered a yield.

9.6. By yielding to questions, speakers may allow other MPs and Council Members, selected by the Speaker, to ask questions to the speaker.

9.7. Only the speaker’s answer to a question shall be deducted from the speaker’s time.

9.8. If MPs do not wish to answer questions or yield to other MPs or Council Members, they may yield to the Speaker, thereby ending their speech.

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10. If the personal integrity of a MP or the integrity of the home system of the MP has been impugned by a speaker, the MP may ask for a Right of Reply in written form to the Speaker.

RULE IX

Rules governing Points

1. By Raising a Point of Personal Privilege, MPs and Council Members may bring attention to personal discomfort, which impairs their ability to participate in the proceeding.

1.1. Points of Personal Privilege may be raised by raising one's hand and saying clearly "Point of Personal Privilege".

1.2. Points of Personal Privilege may never interrupt a speaker, unless the Point of Personal Privilege concerns inaudible speaking by the speaker.

2. If MPs want to bring attention to improper procedure under the Rules of the Confederate Parliament, they may raise a Point of Order.

2.1. Points of Order may be raised by raising one's hand and saying clearly "Point of Order".

2.2. Points of Order may never interrupt a speaker.

2.3. The Speaker shall call upon the MP to briefly explain the MP's Point of Order before immediately deciding on the Point raised by consulting the Chief Administrative Officer if the Speaker wishes to do so.

2.4. The President's decision on the Point of Order raised by a MP may be subject to appeal.

2.5. The Speaker may not entertain a Point of Order that a quorum is not present unless a question has been put to a vote.

3. Whenever the floor has been declared open by the Speaker, MPs or Council Members may raise a Point of Parliamentary Inquiry to clarify the Standing Rules.

3.1. Points of Parliamentary Inquiry may be raised by raising one's hand and saying clearly "Point of Parliamentary Inquiry".

3.2. Points of Parliamentary Inquiry may never interrupt a speaker.

3.3. Points of Parliamentary Inquiry shall only be used to clarify small questions on details in the Rules of the Confederate Parliament if appropriate for the current procedure.

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3.4. MPs or Council Members with substantive questions on the Rules of the Confederate Parliament shall consult the Chief Administrative Officer in written form, during unmoderated caucuses or adjournment.

RULE X

Rules governing the path to a Draft Resolution

1. In case MPs wish to write preliminary documents for consideration, collect ideas to discuss informally with other MPs or begin to write a Resolution they may begin writing a Working Paper.

1.1. Working Papers shall not be considered official documents and therefore shall not require any formal formatting.

1.2. MPs who wish to distribute a Working Paper shall be required to obtain approval by the Speaker, after which they shall be allowed to distribute it through official channels.

1.3. The Speaker shall announce the distribution of a Working Paper at the next opportune moment after which the Working Paper shall be considered introduced and may be referred to by the speakers.

2. MPs may introduce Draft Resolutions to the floor to begin official debate on the matter at hand and begin the procedural process of passing a Resolution into law.

2.1. Draft Resolutions shall be written in the proper Resolution format;

2.1.1. The MPs may choose to write their Draft Resolutions in the United Nations Security Council format consisting of one sentence.

2.1.2. Alternatively, MPs may write their Draft Resolutions in the One-Sentence-per-Operative-Clause format used by the US Congress or the European Parliament.

2.1.3. Draft Resolutions in the Confederate Parliament shall contain one or several clauses outlining the debate rules on the Resolution.

2.1.3.1. The Resolution shall at least set a time of debate through a maximum number of allowed speakers, a time the Resolution may spend on the floor or a designated time when the debate on the Resolution ends automatically and voting begins or any other matter sunsetting the time of debate automatically.

2.1.3.2. Optionally, MPs may add clauses to Resolutions to assign a committee to take up a Resolution after a vote to recommit or any other matter not ruled dilatory by the Speaker.

2.1.3.4. The Chief Administrative Officer may refuse to allow debate clauses if they undermine the spirit of the conference, whose decision is not subject to appeal.

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2.2. Draft Resolutions shall have at least one Sponsor.

2.3. To be introduced, Draft Resolutions shall have the required number of Signatories, unless explicitly stated otherwise, the number is one third of the MPs present.

2.4. By being Signatories to a Draft Resolution, MPs may indicate their support for a formal debate on the subject, but not any commitment to supporting the Resolution in the final vote.

2.5. Any Draft Resolution shall be subject of approval by the Speaker and the Chief Administrative Officer before it may be formally introduced.

3. To formally begin debate on a Draft Resolution and bring it to the floor, MPs may file a Motion to Consider a Legislative Matter for a Resolution.

3.1. The Speaker may read the operative clauses of the Resolution in question or the Speaker may recognise a MP to briefly explain the content of the Resolution and to answer questions.

3.2. After the explanation of the proposed Resolution, the Speaker may grant time to the MPs to read the Resolution in full.

3.3. When the Speaker assumes that the MPs are aware of the subject at hand, the Speaker shall conduct a vote on the Motion to Consider a Legislative Matter for a Resolution.

3.4. A simple majority is required for the Motion to Consider a Legislative Matter for a Resolution to be ordered, after which the Draft Resolution shall be considered introduced and on the floor.

3.5. After being introduced, MPs and Council Members may refer to the Draft Resolution on the floor using the Resolution's number or its official title.

3.6. The Speaker may withhold Draft Resolutions from the floor if the Speaker believes an additional Resolution on the floor would negatively impact the legislative progress.

4. To alter the content of a Draft Resolution on the floor, MPs may write and introduce Amendments to a Resolution by filing a Motion to Consider an Amendment.

4.1. Amendments may add, change or remove any part of the operative clauses of the Draft Resolution.

4.2. To introduce an Amendment, MPs shall obtain permission to do so by the Speaker and the Chief Administrative Officer.

4.2. To be debated, an Amendment shall need at least one Sponsor and the required number of Signatories, unless not explicitly otherwise defined, the number is one fifth of the MPs present.

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4.3. To open debate on an Amendment, MPs may file a Motion to Consider an Amendment to a specific Resolution.

4.3.1. After the Motion has been filed, the Speaker may read the operative clauses of the Amendment in question or the Speaker may recognise a MP to briefly explain the content of the Amendment and to answer questions.

4.3.2. When the President assumes that the MPs are aware of the subject at hand, the President shall conduct a vote on the Motion to Consider an Amendment to a Resolution.

4.3.3. If the Motion to Consider an Amendment receives the necessary simple majority of the members present, the Amendment shall be considered introduced and debate on the Amendment opened.

4.3.4. By signing an Amendment or voting for its introduction to the floor, MPs may indicate their support for a formal debate on the subject, but they may change their support of the Amendment in the vote on the adoption of the Amendment.

4.3.5. If a Motion to Introduce an Amendment fails, the Amendment may not be introduced again until the Speaker determines the Amendment has been significantly altered.

4.4. After the Parliament has opened debate on an Amendment, the Speaker shall open a separate Speaker's List for the debate on the Amendment.

4.4.1. The Speaker's List for the debate on the Amendment shall have the same speaker's time as the General Speaker's List.

4.4.2. The Speaker shall ask for MPs wishing to speak on the Amendment to seek recognition.

4.4.3. MPs and Council Members may speak on the Amendment not more than twice, unless yielded to by other MPs.

4.4.4. When the separate Speaker's List for the debate of the Amendment elapses, the Speaker shall conduct a vote on the adoption of the Amendment.

4.5. If a simple majority of the MPs present votes in favor of the Amendment, the Amendment shall become part of the Resolution and the Chief Administrative shall amend the Resolution.

4.6. MPs shall only introduce one Amendment at a time.

4.5. If the vote on passage of a Draft Resolution requires a Recorded Vote, the adoption of the Amendment to the Draft Resolution shall also require a Recorded Vote.

5. To cut off all debate on a Resolution and bring the Parliament to a direct vote on the immediate question or the questions on which it has been ordered, MPs may file a Motion for the Previous Question.

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5.1. When filing the Motion for the Previous Question, the MP shall state clearly, for which Draft Resolution(s) the MP wishes to file for the Previous Question.

5.2. To begin the vote upon a Motion for the Previous Question, the Speaker shall be required to recognise at least one Second.

5.3. If the Speaker recognises a Second, a simple majority of the MPs in attendance shall be required for the motion to be ordered.

5.4. After a Motion for the Previous Question has been ordered, the Parliament shall immediately begin voting procedure on the passage of the Draft Resolution the Motion for the Previous Question has been ordered for.

6. To end debate on a Draft Resolution without entering voting procedure on the Draft Resolution, MPs may Motion to Recommit a Draft Resolution.

6.1. MPs may file a Motion to Recommit a Draft Resolution whenever the floor has been declared open.

6.2. To Recommit a Draft Resolution, a simple majority of the members present shall be required.

6.3. After a Motion to Recommit a Draft Resolution has been successful, the Draft Resolution shall be considered removed from the floor and speakers shall no longer refer to the Draft Resolution in their speeches.

6.4. Motions to Recommit a Draft Resolution may be ordered with explicit clauses for the responsible committee to amend and to add through comments in the text or at the end of the Draft Resolution.

6.5. After a successful Motion to Recommit, the Speaker shall designate a Committee chiefly responsible to rework the Resolution.

6.6. Once a recommitted Resolution has been reworked, it may again be introduced through a Motion to Reconsider.

7. If any motion has been ordered by the Parliament, the vote may be redone at the request of the prevailing side through a Motion to Reconsider.

7.1. MPs filing a Motion to Reconsider state clearly which previous vote they may wish to reconsider and may briefly explain the reasoning to reconsider a previous vote.

7.2. A MP filing a Motion to Reconsider must have been on the prevailing side of the vote the MP wants to reconsider.

7.3. If the Motion to Reconsider receives a simple majority of the MPs present, the Motion to Reconsider is ordered and the previous vote void.

RULE XI Voting Procedure

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1. Every MP shall be present within the Chamber of the Parliament during its sittings, unless excused or necessarily prevented, and shall vote on each question put, unless having a direct personal or pecuniary interest in the event of such question.
2. If the Parliament did not vote for a Recorded Vote, the Parliament shall vote by show of Placards.
 - 2.1. If voting by Placards, the Speaker shall ask first for the Ays to clearly raise their placards, before asking for the Nays to clearly raise their placards.
 - 2.1.1. Only for substantive votes, the Speaker shall ask for those abstaining to raise their placards.
 - 2.1.2. After the vote, the Chief Administrative Officer shall confirm the vote count before the Speaker shall announce the result of the vote.
 - 2.2. If voting by a show of placards, a simple majority shall be reached if there are more votes in favor than against.
 - 2.3. If voting by a show of placards, a majority of two thirds shall be reached if there are at least twice as many votes in favor than against.
 - 2.4. MPs not raising their placards either in favor nor against, shall be considered not voting.
3. If the Parliament voted for a Recorded Vote, the Speaker shall ask each MP individually for their vote in alphabetical order.
 - 3.1. In the first round, MPs may vote “Aye”, “Aye, with rights”, “Abstain”, “Nay, with rights”, “Nay”, or “Pass”.
 - 3.1.1. When voting “with rights”, MPs shall be recognized in alphabetical order for thirty seconds to explain their vote after the voting process is completed.
 - 3.1.2. MPs voting to abstain shall not be considered in the final vote tally.
 - 3.2. Those MPs voting to pass, shall be asked for their votes by the Speaker during a second round of voting, during which they may only vote “Aye” or “Nay”.
 - 3.3. When the second round of voting is completed, the Speaker shall announce the result of the vote.
 - 3.4. When voting, MPs may use synonymous terms to those described in Rule XI, 3.1., as long as their voting intention is clearly understandable to the Speaker and the Chief Administrative Officer.
4. When the Parliament enters or is about to enter voting procedures on Draft Resolutions or Amendments and a recorded vote is ordered, the Speaker may postpone further proceedings to a designated place in the conference schedule.

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4.1. When the Speaker decides to postpone further proceedings on a Draft Resolution or Amendments, the Speaker shall clearly state to the Chief Administrative Officer and the Parliament, to when the proceedings are postponed to.

4.2. If the time of postponement is reached, the Chief Administrative Officer shall remind the Speaker and the Parliament that the proceedings have to continue, unless the Speaker decides to postpone again.

4.3. The decision of the Speaker to postpone proceedings may be appealed by the MPs.

5. Votes on any matter than on passage of Draft Resolutions and on the adoption of an Amendment shall be considered procedural votes.

5.1. MPs may motion for a recorded vote on any procedural matter if they wish to do so, although granting such a motion for procedural matters may be ruled out of order by the Speaker.

5.2. During a recorded vote, abstentions shall be in order.

5.3. If a vote is conducted by show of placards, MPs not raising their placard shall be considered not voting by the Speaker.

6. Votes on the passage of Draft Resolutions and the adoption of Amendments shall be considered substantive votes.

6.1. Once the Parliament has entered substantive voting procedure, MPs may only raise Points of Personal Privilege, Points of Parliamentary Inquiry or Points of Order.

6.2. MPs may not leave the chamber during substantive voting procedure unless granted permission by the Speaker.

6.3. During substantive voting procedure, the Parliament shall vote on the Draft Resolutions on the floor in order of introduction.

7. Once debate of Draft Resolutions is concluded, the Parliament shall vote on the passage of the Draft Resolution.

7.1. The Parliament shall not vote on more than one Draft Resolution simultaneously.

7.2. If the Parliament votes on a Draft Resolution, the Speaker shall call the chamber to order, name the Draft Resolution that the MPs may vote upon and remind the MPs that the following vote shall be on the passage of a Draft Resolution.

7.3. If the vote on the passage of a Draft Resolution is successful, the Speaker shall announce the Draft Resolution as passed and the Resolution shall be considered law.

7.4. If the vote on the passage of a Draft Resolution fails, the Speaker shall announce the Draft Resolution as not passed.

RULE XII

Appointment of Standing Committees

1. In the appointment of the standing committees, or to fill vacancies thereon, the Parliament, unless otherwise ordered, shall by resolution appoint the chairperson of each such committee and the other members thereof.
2. Such resolution shall be subject to amendment and to division of the question.
3. When a chairperson of a committee shall resign or cease to serve on a committee, action by the Parliament to fill the vacancy in such committee, unless specially otherwise ordered, shall be only to fill up the number of members of the committee, and the election of a new chairperson.

RULE XIII

Standing Committees

There shall be in the Parliament the following standing committees, each of which shall have the jurisdiction and related functions assigned. All Resolutions and other matters relating to subjects within the jurisdiction of the standing committees listed shall be referred to those committees:

1. Committee on the Budget
 - 1.1. Internal Revenue
 - 1.2. Appropriations
 - 1.3. Government grant approvals
 - 1.4. Annual budgets of the Departments and Offices of the Confederacy
 - 1.5. Banks, banking and financial institutions
 - 1.6. Trade
2. Committee on Oversight
 - 2.1. Oversight over the Separatist Council, the Departments and Offices of the Confederacy
 - 2.2. Oversight over appropriate spending and programs authorized by Parliament
 - 2.3. Governmental Reform

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3. Committee on Defence
 - 3.1. Military spending and efficacy
 - 3.2. Integration of the Separatist Armed Forces
 - 3.3. Military Procurement
 - 3.4. Military research and development

4. Committee on Intelligence
 - 4.1. Establishment and regulation of Confederate Intelligence Services
 - 4.2. Oversight over Intelligence Services and Personnel
 - 4.3. Surveillance
 - 4.4. Intelligence services and gathering, in general

5. Committee on Foreign Affairs
 - 5.1. Relations with Systems neither members of the Confederacy nor the Republic
 - 5.2. Boundaries of the Confederacy and Systems joining the Confederacy
 - 5.3. Diplomatic Service
 - 5.4. Recognition and peace with the Republic.

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