



الفريق الدولي لدراسة مسائل الجوت
国际黄麻研究组
GROUPE D'ÉTUDE INTERNATIONALE DU JUTE
INTERNATIONAL JUTE STUDY GROUP

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International Jute Study Group (IJSG)

Sixteenth Session of the Council of IJSG

IJSG Secretariat, Dhaka

16 May 2013

Report of the Sixteenth Session of the Council of IJSG

A. Opening of the Session

1. The Sixteenth Session of the Council of the IJSG was held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 16 May, 2013. Mr. Asharaful Moqbul, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Textiles and Jute (MoTJ), Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Chairperson of the Council of IJSG chaired the session.
2. The Secretary General, Mr. Bhupendra Singh, welcomed the Chairperson, the European Union (EU) representative Mr. Philippe Jacques, First Counselor, Head of Cooperation, European Union Delegation to Bangladesh and the representatives from India, Mr. Arijit Banerjee, Secretary, National Jute Board (NJB), India and Mr. Subrata Gupta, Jute Commissioner, Kolkata, India. He also welcomed the Bangladesh delegation consisting of Mrs. Shameema Sultana, Additional Secretary (Policy), MoTJ, Major General Humayun Khaled, Chairman, BJMC and other Bangladesh delegates. The Secretary General also welcomed the representatives of CIRDAP and all present associate members of IJSG.
3. The Chairperson noted that the Sixteenth Council of IJSG is a remarkable one. He mentioned that IJSG has completed a full decade of life and IJSG has served well in the interest of growers of jute, kenaf and allied fibres and the consumers of jute as well. Till date IJSG has completed many importance projects and activities and hopefully will make more achievements in the future. With his best wishes for IJSG he formally declared the 16th Council session of IJSG 'open' and requested the Secretary General to facilitate the agenda.

A.1. Ascertainment of Quorum

4. The quorum was ascertained by the Secretary General and it was decided that since all the members were present, the quorum as required under Paragraph 9(g) of the Agreement Establishing the Terms of Reference of the International Jute Study Group, 2001, had been met. A complete list of participants is presented in Annex 1.

A.2. Adoption of Agenda and Organization of Work

5. With the permission of the Chairperson the Council adopted the provisional agenda as contained in document C/(XVI)/1 to be final for conducting the meeting. The adopted agenda is provided in Annex 2.

A.3. Credentials of Delegates

6. The Council, noting the limited number of membership and recalling the decision taken at its previous sessions, decided [Decision I (XVI)] not to elect a Credential Committee but to entrust the responsibility to the Secretary General to check the appropriate documents and to report to the Council. Accordingly, the Secretary General reported to the Council that the credentials of delegates of all Members have been checked and found to be in order.

A.4. Admission of Observers

7. The Council decided [Decision II (XVI)] to accept the representatives of CIRDAP and IJSG associate members. The Secretary General welcomed the representatives in the Sixteenth Session of the Council according to Paragraph 14(c) of the Terms of Reference.

A.5. Distribution of Votes to the Administrative Budget of IJSG for 2013-14

8. The Secretariat presented the document in C/(XVI)/2 relating to 'Distribution of Votes to the Administrative Budget of IJSG for 2013-14' based on the latest FAO statistics on production and trade.
9. The Council decided [Decision III (XVI)] to approve the Distribution of Votes to the Administrative Budget of IJSG for the jute year 2013-14.

A.6. Confirmation of the Report of the Fifteenth Session of the Council

10. The Secretary General informed the Council that the report of Fifteenth Session of the Council was circulated to the members and associate members. The Secretary General asked for comments from the members and observers. Since no observations were made, the Council decided [Decision IV (XVI)] to approve the report of the Fifteenth Session of the Council.

A.7. Confirmation of the Report of the Fourteenth Meeting of Committee on Project (CoP)

11. The Secretary General informed the Council briefly about the Fourteenth CoP meeting of IJSG which was held in IJSG on 15 May 2013. He informed that the CoP did not approve any new project to be taken up by IJSG. Moreover, IJSG will also put more focus especially on trade promotion, R&D, developing strategic action paper and policy recommendations. The Secretary General also informed that council that the IJSG will be doing all its regular work except new projects to avoid getting involved into any financial commitment extending beyond April 2014.
12. The Secretary General informed the Council that the IJSG works as a supervisory body for the projects. All the existing projects of the IJSG will be finished by April 2014. The existing projects are mostly having to deal with administrative activities and do not require any financial involvement. The projects will be completed within time and the benefits will be realized by the national Governments, he added.
13. The Council noted the comments of the delegates and decided [Decision V (XVI)] to approve the decision and recommendation of the Fourteenth CoP meeting.

A.8 Opening remarks by the Chairperson of the Council

14. The Chairperson of the Council noted that this 16th Session of the Council is important and significant as the Terms of Reference of IJSG will expire on 26th April 2014. IJSG came into being in 2002 and during its 11 years life time it has done a good number of important development projects. He particularly emphasized on the project titled 'Development and Application of Potentially Important Jute Geo-textiles (CFC/IJSG/21)'. He said the field trials for the mentioned project are going on in India and Bangladesh. He mentioned that this project is particularly important as jute geo textiles are important for reducing soil erosion, river bank protection, and slope erosion. Jute as a versatile natural fiber is good for environment, human health. IJSG has been taking good care of jute, kenaf and other natural fibre commodities. He noted the EU has contributed a lot ever since the creation of IJSG and has been a strong supporter to the cause of jute. He mentioned that he firmly believes, after 2014 there will be a successor organization to

IJSG. He said, there ought to be a commodity body for jute, otherwise the natural fibre cannot contribute much to climate change issue. He hoped that the EU might reconsider its decision and be on the side of IJSG. He said that the world is increasingly getting concerned about 'unhealthy' change in climate and jute can play a very vital role to slow down the change. Having an organization like IJSG after 2014 can provide new momentum to our efforts of 'Go Green'. He noted the devastating calamities which took place recently around the Globe. He recalled his journey with IJSG since 2009 and hoped that this organization will continue after 2014 and continue providing its support to the cause of jute.

A.9. Statement by the Secretary General on the activities after the Fifteenth Session of the Council and assessment of the current jute situation and matters relating to membership and associate membership

15. The Secretary General of IJSG, Mr. Bhupendra Singh made a presentation on jute sector situation and major issues identified by IJSG. He discussed the cultivation area of jute and allied fibres of the major producing countries like Bangladesh, India, Thailand, Nepal, Myanmar, China etc. He said that China is focusing on growing jute in some African countries as Chinese land is under pressure for industrial and real estate expansion. The Secretary General also analyzed the productivity and yield of major producers. In his comprehensive presentation he analyzed the price comparison of raw jute among major producing countries. He also analyzed the 'Minimum Support Price' scheme as practiced in India and suggested that same maybe adopted in Bangladesh. He projected that in the upcoming season in 2013-14 the production, consumption and trade is likely to increase. He also analyzed the trade situation of jute, kenaf allied natural fibres products. He mentioned that Turkey being one of the largest importers of jute products has expressed their concern on quality of jute products. This needs to be addressed by the industries and the national Governments. He mentioned that import in EU and Middle east has gone down drastically.

16. The Secretary General informed the Council that till date IJSG has 198 associate members from 29 countries. He highlighted on the newly joined countries after the 15th Council meeting. He also analyzed the composition of IJSG associate members and mentioned that, there are 55 traders, 20 research institutes, 36 entrepreneurs and all major associations from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Malaysia etc. He also presented graphically the remarkable growth of associate members over the three years thereby indicating the growing interest and stakes of jute stakeholders in IJSG.

17. The Secretary General informed the Council about the major issues identified by IJSG and requested for valuable comments and suggestions from the members and associate members. The issues involved the scarcity of certified seeds in Bangladesh, Nepal and even in Africa, water scarcity for jute retting, reforming jute market creation of reliable supply chain of raw jute and jute products, minimum support price for farmers, challenges from bio-plastics, adoption of contract farming model etc. He mentioned that there is a latent untapped demand for eco friendly shopping bags and people are willing to pay more for such bags. Those markets need to be identified and suppliers need to prepare in order to supply in large quantity. He said the market for eco friendly shopping bag needs to be created from the supply side. He ended his

presentation with the suggestions that the R&D institutes have to conduct research to meet the needs of the industries and consumers. He opened the forum for discussion and questions.

18. Mr. Subrata Gupta, Jute Commissioner, Kolkata, India, appreciated the presentation made by the Secretary General and appreciated the efforts made by the IJSG Secretariat for the development of natural fibres globally. He stated that the role of IJSG will continue to be relevant in future. He said, it is necessary to have an institution which provides support to jute producing countries and as well as jute consuming countries. He referred to the issues highlighted in the presentation and mentioned that those issues will continue to be relevant in future. He mentioned that the environmental benefits of this natural fibre is well known and well documented. He said the farmers choose the crops which provide the best return. A recent study shows that in India the farmers are shifting to crops like Maze which perhaps gives them better return and thus the area under jute cultivation might decline, he added. He said that Government of India is working to develop better farming practice; better quality certified seeds and improved retting system. He mentioned the challenges involved in grading of jute fibres as there is no 'objective' method of grading jute fibres. He informed that Government of India is sponsoring in the research for automated grading system of jute fibres. He said that, the MSP has been successful in India. Also, the JCI had the mandate to purchase all the jute if the price falls below MSP or at the level of MSP. That provided the farmers the confidence for jute cultivation and stabilized the jute price in the market. He mentioned about the challenges of jute retting process especially in water scarce areas. He said research is being done to find the better process of retting which requires less water and labor. He said that the mandatory packaging act has of course provided protection to the jute farmers and mills but that might have probably outlived the utility. Thus investment in jute diversification might not have taken place significantly. He said that a lot of interaction among R&D institutes, jute farmers and industries is required and institution like IJSG can play a vital role in such areas. He concluded by saying that, Government of India is keen to support if a successor organization to IJSG is formed beyond 2014.
19. Mr. Kamran T. Rahman, Managing Director, Pubali Jute Mills Ltd., noted the comments of the Secretary General and the Jute Commissioner, India regarding the mandatory packaging act and said that the Act along with support of modernization from the Government will help the industries significantly. He mentioned that implementation of the law is also very important to ensure a larger domestic market.
20. Major General Humayun Khaled, Chairman, BJMC noted that the domestic consumption in Bangladesh is increasing. Global market of raw jute is also increasing. He mentioned that during the last several years jute price has gone up and farmers have been getting good price. He thanked the Secretary General for his effective leadership provided to IJSG. He said that global climate talk is intensifying and it is high time to substitute petroleum originated plastic products by jute. He said that it is encouraging to see the growth in associate membership of IJSG. That is a clear indication that many players around the globe are taking interest in natural fibers. He believes that strong diplomatic efforts together with the efforts of Indian Government will make a great impact on the future of IJSG. He believed international support is needed in favor of IJSG to ensure a sustainable development.

21. Mr. Arijit Banerjee, Secretary, National Jute Board (NJB) stated that 'jute industry' has been the mother industry for this sub continent. Jute has been the packaging material in this part of the world since long, he said. He said that there is a significant demand for diversified products and advanced materials like geo textiles, composites etc. He also emphasized the need of research on the needs of industries and farmers.
22. Mr. Md. Robiul Islam, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said that the awareness for jute can be translated in marketing terms. He mentioned that bio-plastics are taking up the place of greener products and thus jute products need rigorous marketing for promoting its features over competitive synthetic products.
23. The Council appreciated the increasing number of associate members of IJSG and decided [Decision VI (XV)] to approve the associate membership of 21 (twenty one) associations/entities provisionally accepted by the Secretary General, as provided in the List-B of the document C/(XVI)/3.

C. Administrative and Financial Matters

C.1. Approval of the Administrative budget of the IJSG for the jute year 2013-2014

24. The IJSG Secretariat prepared and circulated the Administrative Budget of the IJSG for the year 2013-2014, contained in Secretariat document C/(XVI)/4 for the approval of the Council. The EU representative Mr. Jacques reflected this view on this agenda item based on the EU position. The EU acknowledged and appreciated the efforts made by the Secretary General to reduce the budget as much as possible in the year 2013-14 since this will be the closing year of the Group. He referred to the proposed budget head 'travel on official business' stating that EU is aware of the fact that the forecast was made based on previous years which has been increased by about 15-20%, especially when the Secretary General had to travel to seek new membership. However, he stated that the termination of the Group at this juncture may not justify the membership trips to be undertaken next year. Thus EU recommended reducing the allocation under this head accordingly. He also referred to the budgeted head 'Information and Studies' amounting to USD 2500.00 for books and subscription. He stated that during the liquidation phase some saving should be done on the mentioned head as well. Finally, he requested a clarification for 'separation payment' and provident fund. He said that the IJSG staff members have been provided a facility of provident fund which is part of the procedure of the Group. He requested more information on the need of 'separation payment'.
25. The Secretary General clarified that IJSG has been following the United Nations (UN) financial norms and the separation payment is part of the Staff Rules and Regulation of IJSG. He mentioned that as per the UN norms there is a clause 'Separation from Service' under that such separation payments are admissible which in fact is 'leave encashment' of unutilized leave by the staff members. Moreover, the Staff Rules and Regulations of IJSG has been approved by the IJSG Council within the ambit of ToR which is being followed and implemented. The Secretary General also clarified that the provision for 'separation' is same in case of for executive and professional staff. The Secretary General also added that although the membership drives will not continue but various international trade promotions and conferences are being held and

IJSG will be participating in those events. However, he assured that the IJSG Secretariat would take all necessary measures to reduce the expenses. The Chairman and the Indian delegates agreed with the budgetary proposal put by the Secretary General.

26. The EU representative insisted that the Secretary General should revise the budget in the areas mentioned by the EU representative. The Secretary General after having a relook at budgetary proposal volunteered to reduce the demand under travel, services and other heads. The Council decided [Decision VII (XVI)] to approve a gross total of USD 621,842.00 as the total Administrative Budget of the IJSG for the jute year 2013/2014;

C.2. Guidelines of Incentive and Rewards for IJSG Staff Members

27. The Secretary General explained to that Council that the IJSG staff members have been given some kind of incentives at the end of financial years for their achievements and extraordinary performance. However, the auditors in 2011-12 made an observation that there was no specific guideline for providing the incentive to the staff IJSG members. Thus IJSG Secretariat formulated this guideline to provide a framework to the existing practice. The Secretary General assured that this guideline will be implemented within the approved budget in a fair and transparent manner.
28. The EU representatives Mr. Philippe Jacques said that it is not part of EU policy to provide incentive to the staff member in cash for those responsibilities of staff which are part of their regular tasks. He also mentioned that EU endorses the need to reward the efficient staffs by non cash incentives.
29. The Indian representative Mr. Subrata Gupta mentioned that as IJSG has been paying these incentives since the last several years, thus, if the proposal is not approved formally then all the actions taken in past might be put under question. He suggested the approval of the incentive guideline as proposed by the Secretary General.
30. The Secretary General clarified that the associate members pays USD 100.00 as subscription fee and the incentive benefits to IJSG staff members are paid from that contribution. The subscription fee is not part of contribution made the members countries. Other cash incentives can be discontinued as proposed by the EU representative.
31. The IJSG Council Chairperson Mr. Ashraful Moqbul noted the comments of Indian representative and proposed that the Secretary General maybe allowed continuing the practice as before.
32. The Secretary General noted the comment of EU representative regarding cash-incentives and stated that the other forms of cash incentives maybe avoided as proposed by EU. He also added that the contributions from the associate members are deposited in the PSCB account which is broadly part of IJSG budget but not charged on Administrative Budget and the amount is spent for PSCB meetings, seminars and cash incentives to staff members for enrolling new members.

33. The Council decided [Decision VIII (XVI)] to allow the Secretary General to withdraw the proposal and implement the incentive scheme within the approved Financial Rules and guidelines of the IJSG.

C.3. Approval of policy on withdrawal from IJSG provident fund

34. The Secretary General informed that the IJSG provident fund is maintained by the provident fund committee. The proposed policy is an emergency facility for the staff in case of dire financial requirement. He informed the Council that there has been a request from two IJSG staff member for a withdrawal of his part of contribution from the provident fund. The Secretary General in anticipation of the approval of the Council allowed one of the staff members withdrawing his part of contribution from the provident fund. The Secretary General requested the Council to approve the policy.

35. Mr. Subrata Gupta mentioned that advance from provident fund is a standard practice in the Government of India. The EU representative also agreed with the proposal. However, he requested to add the sentence *'Should the recovery not be completed by 31 March 2014, the remaining balance, including the interest, will be deducted from the separation indemnities of the staff member'* in the Para 4 of the proposed policy.

36. The Council decided [Decision IX (XVI)] to approve the policy on withdrawals from IJSG provident fund accordingly and make necessary amendments in the existing Provident Fund Rules.

C.6. Audit report for the year 2011-12

37. The Secretary General informed the Council about the observations made by the auditor and mentioned that all the financial norms have been strictly followed by IJSG Secretariat. In response to the query of Mr. Subrata Gupta regarding contingent liabilities claimed by the Dhaka City Corporation, the Secretary General informed that as per the Headquarters agreement between IJSG and Government of Bangladesh, IJSG Secretariat is not supposed to pay the municipality taxes and other dues. IJSG has already requested the Dhaka City Corporation to exempt the liabilities as per the Headquarters agreement. The Council decided [Decision X (XVI)] to approve the audit report for the year 2011-12.

C.7. Appointment of Auditors for the year 2012-2013

38. The Secretary General informed the Council that in its Fourteenth Session of Council it decided [Decision XXI (XIV)] to appoint the ACNABIN Audit Firm as the auditor for IJSG for the jute year 2011-12 with an audit fee of BDT 76,100.00. The Council decided [Decision XI (XVI)] to appoint the existing ACNABIN Audit Firm as the auditor for IJSG for the jute year 2012-13 with an audit fee of BDT 76,100.00.

D. Organizational Matters

D.1. Finalizing the modalities of liquidation of IJSG

39. The Secretary General referred to the paragraph 25 of the ToR of IJSG related to 'Duration, Extension and Renegotiation of the Group', which reads as following:

- (a) The Group shall remain in force for a period of eight years, unless the Council, by special vote, decides to extend or renegotiate these Terms of Reference as provided for in subparagraphs (b) and (c) below or to terminate them as provided for in paragraph 27 below;
 - (b) The Council may, by special vote, decide to extend the duration of these Terms of Reference for not more than two periods of two years each;
 - (c) The Council may, by special vote, decide to renegotiate these Terms of Reference.
40. The Secretary General said that the Council has already exercised the jurisdiction and two extensions have already been made. As per the decision made in the 12th Session of the Council, the tenure of IJSG was extended for two years from 27 April 2012 to 26 April 2014. Thus, the Council has exhausted its jurisdiction under this provision and now there is no scope for this Council to extend the tenure of the ToR of IJSG. Thus the Group stands liquidated on 26 April 2014. Moreover he clarified that paragraph 28 of the ToR states as: 'Notwithstanding the expiry or the termination of these Terms of Reference, the Council shall continue in being for as long as is necessary, but not exceeding a period of 12 months, to carry out liquidation of the Group including settlement of the accounts.' That actually refers to the extension of the 'Council' and not the 'Group'. Therefore, the Secretary General requested the Council to advice on the proposed modalities for liquidation.
41. Mr. Robiul Islam, MoFA, said that a strong diplomatic effort is ongoing to extend the tenure of IJSG and suggested not making a decision on liquidation at the moment. He also mentioned that since no project has been approved beyond April 2014, the liquidation process may not take more than three or four months. Thus he requested to wait until December 2013 and call a special Council session for taking a decision on liquidation.
42. The EU representative Mr. Philippe Jacques noted the comment of the Secretary General that there is no possibility for extending the Group and there will be no new element until December. He mentioned that the EU, as per present status, has decided not to consider the extension of the Group and it is not legally possible to work towards anything else but liquidation.
43. The Secretary General clarified that forming a successor organization is a separate matter and needs to be dealt separately. He further clarified that, the EU has not withdrawn its membership from the Group; rather it has decided not to renegotiate the ToR after April 2014. He said the liquidation needs to be started as per the ToR mentioned in its last paragraph no. 28 (Liquidation) and the member states are bound by the ToR. He clarified that the liquidation is already in progress.
44. Ms. Shameema Sultana, Additional Secretary (Policy), MoTJ, GoB, stated that the Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh needs some time to examine the proposal and suggested that the agenda maybe deferred until next Council.
45. Mr. Arijit Banerjee, Secretary, National Jute Board (NJB), said that current ToR allows very little flexibility to continue with present IJSG. He said the diplomatic efforts are on and new organization might be formed. In the meantime the decision of liquidation made by the head of

states of member countries should be respected. Therefore, the effort for forming a new organization and liquidation of current Group could go on in parallel, he suggested.

46. Mr. Kamran T. Rahman noted the report of 15th Council session that the Government of Bangladesh and India were willing to continue supporting the Group beyond 2014 and the view of EU was required furthering the duration, extension and renegotiation issue of the ToR of IJSG beyond 2014. However, even if according to the ToR the Group could not be extended after April 2014, the Council could have discussed the issue of forming a successor organization beyond 26 April 2014.
47. The Secretary General further clarified that the IJSG Secretariat will not like to have a time a gap between IJSG and the successor organization. It is assumed that when the IJSG liquidates the foundation of the successor organization should be in place. This effort does not prohibit the Council to discuss future of IJSG since it is presumed that the successor organization will be formed with the support of the entire existing member or some of the existing members. However, this excludes the jurisdiction of the existing Council to approve further extension of the Group. During the 15th Council the EU communicated that EU will not continue supporting the future organization and thus the agenda of extension for the Group was dropped. Therefore, that agenda technically cannot be discussed in the Council.
48. The Chairperson noted the comments of the member delegates and stated that the Group ceases to exist on April 2014. He also added that an effort is underway to form a successor organization. He said that the IJSG Secretariat is comparatively a smaller office and the liquidation may not take long time. Thus the agenda maybe deferred until next Council session.
49. Mr. Philippe Jacques stated that it will be difficult for the Group to function after 26 April 2014 and it will be impractical to liquidate during that period. Moreover there will no Secretariat and budget to conduct the liquidation process.
50. Mr. Gupta said that the proposal made by the IJSG Secretariat is probably the best estimate which has been made. He said none of those steps come in the way of forming a new organization. Rather it facilitates the transfer of assets to the new organization. He said that if the agenda is deferred and the decision is taken during the next Council then the time might be very limited for the Secretariat to conduct the liquidation process. Thus the preparatory work for liquidation maybe carried out by the IJSG Secretariat and during the next Council the liquidation process can be decided.
51. Mr. Philippe Jacques said that the EU welcomes the suggestion of digitalizing the library of IJSG and is keen to have a copy of the digital version. However, he requested to know if the budget will be covered from 2013-14 budgets. Regarding the hard copy of the library resources, he suggested that those maybe handed over to the Government of Bangladesh if any future international entity does not come up. He also requested for an inventory of the library to be shared with IJSG members. He also suggested that the copyright of IJSG website may be given to the Government of India since it was sponsored by them. Moreover, the EU would like to receive an electronic version of the contents of the website during the time of the closer. He also added

that these actions may require some budgetary allocation and requested the Secretary General to specify which part of the allocation will be used for these activities. He requested for preparing a budget for liquidation and report to the Council regarding the expenses during its next session.

52. The Council decided [Decision XII (XVI)] to authorize the Secretary General to continue preparatory work for liquidation as deemed necessary and update the Council on the progress during the next session and to provide an estimate of the incidental cost of liquidation and to report on the same.

D.2. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council for 2013-2014

53. The Indian representative Mr. Subrata Gupta proposed the name of Mr. Md. Ashraf Moqbul, Senior Secretary, Ministry of Textiles and Jute, Government of People's Republic of Bangladesh, in favor of the position of Chairman of IJSG Council.

54. The Council decided [Decision XIII (XVI)] to elect Mr. Md. Ashraf Moqbul as the Chairman and the European Union representative as the Vice-Chairman of IJSG Council till April 26, 2014.

D.3. Election of the Secretary General

55. The BJMC Chairperson Major General Humayun Khaled proposed the name of present Secretary General Mr. Bhupendra Singh for the position of the Secretary General. The Indian representative Mr. Subrata Gupta and the EU representative Mr. Philippe Jacques also endorsed the name of Mr. Bhupendra Singh as the Secretary General for the Group up to 26 April 2014.

56. The Council decided [Decision XIV (XVI)] to extend the contract of the present Secretary General Mr. Bhupendra Singh upto 26 April 2014 in accordance with the Staff Rules and Regulation of the IJSG.

F. Date(s) of the Seventeenth Session of the Council of the IJSG

57. The Council decided [Decision XV (XVI)] to convene a Special Seventeenth Session of the Council in the month of November/ December 2013 to discuss the status of the Group and liquidation modalities for which the actual date(s) to be decided by the Secretary General in consultation with the Chairperson and the member countries.

G. Adoption of the Record of Decisions of the Fifteenth Session of the Council

58. The Council decided [Decision XVI (XVI)] to adopt the Record of Decisions of the Sixteenth Session of the Council as contained in document C/(XVI)/9 and to authorize the Secretariat to prepare and circulate the Report of the Sixteenth Council Session in document C/(XVI)/10 as soon as possible to all Members, Associate Members and Observers. The Record of Decisions of the Sixteenth Session of the Council is presented in Annex 3 of the report.
