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CAHDI (99) 7

AD HOC COMMITTEE OF LEGAL ADVISERS
ON PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW
(CAHDI)

17th Meeting
Vienna, Hofburg, 8-9 March 1999

APPOINTMENT OF THE CAHDI BUREAU

Secretariat memorandum
Prepared by the Directorate of Legal Affairs

1. According to Article 18 of Appendix 2 to Resolution (76) 3 of the Committee of Ministers, the CAHDI may appoint a Bureau for a period of two years expiring 31 December 2000. The relevant provisions follow hereafter:

- a. *Every steering committee shall appoint a bureau consisting of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and from one to three members of the committee. Any other committee may, if need be, appoint a bureau composed, normally, of three members.*
- b. *Other members of the bureau shall be appointed in the same manner as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. They shall be appointed immediately after the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman in accordance with an equitable geographical distribution.*
- c. *The term of office of such members shall be two years and may be renewed only once. However, a member may, on expiry of his second term, be appointed Chairman. In order to ensure partial replacement of the bureau each year, the first term of one such member shall be limited to one year.*
- d. *A member elected to replace another whose term of office has not expired shall complete his predecessor's term. The same shall apply to the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman.*

2. The Secretariat suggests that the CAHDI appoints such a Bureau made of five members including *inter alia*: the Chairman of the CAHDI (as Chairman of the Bureau), the Vice-Chairman of the CAHDI (as Vice-Chairman of the Bureau) and the Chairman of the Group of Specialists on Reservations to International Treaties (as member of the Bureau). Two other members should therefore be appointed for a period of two years.

3. There are no financial implications resulting from the appointment of the Bureau as no separate meetings of the Bureau are envisaged other than possible meetings in the framework of CAHDI meetings, either immediately before or in between the meeting of the CAHDI. Moreover, it should be noted that steering and *ad hoc* Committees of the Council of Europe already have similar Bureaux.

4. The Bureau would be called upon to carry out the tasks entrusted to it by the CAHDI, particularly of a procedural nature and to provide the Secretariat with guidance as required in between meetings of the CAHDI.