

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF
THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES APPROVED AT THE
PLENARY SITTING OF 7 JULY 2009

Rules 12, 153-ter and 154

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SEGRETERIA GENERALE

10 JULY 2009

Amendments and additions appear in bold type.

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RULES 12, 153-*TER* AND 154
OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE CHAMBER OF
DEPUTIES, AS AMENDED OR SUPPLEMENTED
AT THE PLENARY SITTING OF
7 JULY 2009 ^(*)

Rule 12

1. The President of the Chamber shall convene the Bureau and establish its agenda.

2. The Bureau shall deliberate on the budget and the accounts of the Chamber as drawn up by the Quaestors; it shall decide on appeals concerning the formation or the first meeting of the Groups, and on appeals by the Groups regarding the composition of Parliamentary Committees; it shall approve the regulations for the Library of the Chamber and, through a special committee, ensure that it functions efficiently.

^(*) Amendments to Rules 12 and 154 and the newly-introduced Rule 153-*ter*, approved at the plenary sitting of 7 July 2009, were published in the *Official Journal* No. 157 of 9 July 2009 and entered into force on 10 July 2009.

3. The Bureau shall adopt the regulations and other rules regarding:

a) the conditions and arrangements for the admission of strangers to the Chamber premises;

b) the internal administration and accounting;

c) the organisation of the Chamber departments and the tasks assigned to them, that are relevant to the performance of the functions of Parliament;

d) the legal status, remuneration and pensions, and conditions of service of the employees of the Chamber, including any obligations relating to confidentiality;

e) the criteria for entrusting to persons who are not employees of the Chamber activities that are not directly relevant to the performance of the functions of Parliament, and the duties of confidentiality and any other obligations such individuals shall be held to observe, in relation also to organisations other than the Chamber;

f) appeals concerning the issues mentioned in letter *d)* above and appeals and any acts of impugment, including those presented by persons who are not employees of the Chamber, against other administrative acts of the Chamber.

4. The Bureau shall appoint, at the President's proposal, the Secretary General of the Chamber.

5. The decisions adopted by the Bureau pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 shall be made enforceable by decrees issued by the President of the Chamber.

6. A Regulation to be adopted by the Bureau shall provide for the establishment of the internal first-degree and second-degree bodies, consisting of Members of Parliament in office, which shall have exclusive responsibility to judge the appeals referred to in letter f) of paragraph 3. Members of the Bureau may not belong to the aforementioned bodies.

7. After summoning the deputy concerned, the Bureau shall decide on sanctions proposed by the President in the cases provided for in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Rule 60.

8. When the Chamber is re-elected the Bureau shall remain in power until the first meeting of the new House.

Rule 153-ter

The amendments approved by the Chamber on 7 July 2009 shall come into force on the day following their publication in the *Official Journal* of the Republic.

Rule 154

1. On a transitional basis the measures set out in paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 of Rule 24 shall not apply to the procedure for the confirmation of decree-laws; confirming bills for decree-laws shall be entered in the programme and in the order of business, taking into account the criteria set out in paragraph 3 of Rule 24, and shall be considered in accordance with Rules 81, 85, 85-*bis* and 96-*bis* in particular.

2. On a transitional basis, and until new regulations governing questions of confidence are adopted, if questions of confidence are raised by the Government while a bill is being considered, the timescale envisaged by the current order of business shall be suspended, unless the Groups agree otherwise. Such timescale shall be reinstated after the vote on the question of confidence has been taken.

3. The provisions set out in Rule 24 in the text in force on 31 December 1997 shall apply to debates on constitutional bills as envisaged by Constitutional Law no. 1 of 24 January 1997.

4. The Committee on the Rules of Procedure shall submit to the House, no later than 31 January 1999, a report on the implementation of the reform of the legislative procedure.

4-*bis*. The Committee on the Rules of Procedure and the

Committee on Legislation shall submit jointly, no later than 31 December 2000, a report on the implementation of sections 16-*bis*, paragraph 6-*bis*, and 96-*ter*.

5. The special Committee for Community Policies set up in the XIII Parliament shall be named European Union Policy Committee. Until the Committees are re-appointed in accordance with paragraph 5 of Rule 20, the prohibition referred to in the first sentence of paragraph 3 of Rule 19 shall not apply.

6. The provisions of paragraph 3 of Rule 102 shall apply to bills after referral as of the date on which these provisions come into force.

7. The provisions under Rule 5, paragraph 7, shall not apply to Secretaries elected prior to the date on which these provisions enter into force.

8. On a transitional basis, until the Regulation referred to in Rule 12, paragraph 6, comes into force, the appeals mentioned in Rule 12, paragraph 3, letter *f* shall be decided in accordance with the provisions of the regulations on judicial protection applicable until the entry into force of the amendment to Rule 12, paragraph 6.

