DECISION OF THE ENERGY CHARTER CONFERENCE

Subject: Election of Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Conference, the Working Group III and the Legal Advisory Committee

In the absence of the Rules of Procedure on this matter, the Conference Chairman proposed that the most senior delegate among the participants should chair the meeting during the election of Conference Chairman for 1996. The head of the Russian delegation, Deputy Minister Anatoli Shatalov, proposed that Ambassador Charles Rutten should be elected to continue as Chairman of the Provisional Charter Conference for 1996. The Conference approved this proposal by acclamation. [...] 

In accordance with rule 14 of the Rule of Procedure (CC 40) which envisages the appointment of Vice-Chairpersons for the Conference and its subsidiary bodies, the Conference decided to invite the following countries to put forward Vice-Chairperson candidates:

Conference: Japan  
Budget Committee: Poland  
Working Group I: Czech Republic  
Working Group II: Australia  
Working Group III: Switzerland

In accordance with Rules of Procedure 14 (a) and (b), the Vice-Chairpersons of the Conference and Budget Committee would be designated for one year (1996), and the Vice-Chairpersons of the three Working Groups for the duration of those groups.

The Conference elected Mr Suganuma (Japan) as Vice-Chairman of the Conference and Mr Defilla (Switzerland) as Vice-Chairman of the Working group III.

Keywords: Conference Chairman, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Working Group III, Legal Advisory Committee, Charles Rutten, Steivan Defilla, Kenichi Suganuma, Esa Paasivirta
The Chairman invited the other delegations from the approved list to submit the names of their candidates. To ensure a smooth functioning of the subsidiary bodies, the remaining vice-chairpersons should be elected as soon as possible.

The Conference discussed the election of a Chairman for the sub-group of the Conference known as the Legal Advisory Committee. One delegation argued that, as a matter of principle, it should not be chaired by a member of the Secretariat. In the absence of any support for that view, the Conference Chairman proposed Dr Paasivirta should be appointed to this post for an initial period of two years (till the end of 1997) corresponding to the envisaged time limit for completion of the ongoing negotiations. The Conference adopted the Chairman's proposal.