

RESOLUTION 46/1994 (IX.30.) OGY ON THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY

Parliament lays down its rules of operation and order of proceedings - in accordance with paragraph (4) of Article 24 of the Constitution - in the following Standing Orders:

PART I

THE CONSTITUTION OF PARLIAMENT

The Convocation of the Constituent Sitting

Standing Order No. 1

The newly elected Parliament shall be convened by the President of the Republic within one month following the elections.

The Presentation of Credentials

Standing Order No. 2

(1) Before the constituent sitting of Parliament the Members elected at the general elections for Parliament shall present their credentials to the President of the Republic.

(2) The credentials of Members elected at by-elections or appointed according to party lists because of a vacancy shall be presented to the Speaker of Parliament.

The Chairing of the Constituent Sitting

Standing Order No. 3

(1) The constituent sitting of Parliament shall be opened by the President of the Republic. Thereafter he shall report on the receipt of the credentials and then ask the oldest Member to attend to the tasks of the "chair of age" and the four youngest Members to function as "notaries of age".

(2) If the Member refuses the request, the next Member following in age shall be requested.

Standing Order No. 4

(1) The constituent sitting shall be chaired by the chair of age until the election of the officers of Parliament.

(2) The Secretary-General of Parliament shall attend to his tasks relating to the sitting of Parliament under the direction of the chair of age until the election of the officers of Parliament.

Reports on the Elections

Standing Order No. 5

(1) Following the entry into office of the chair of age and the notaries of age,

- a. on the election of Members of Parliament on behalf of the National Electoral Board, its chair
- b. on the organization and technical arrangement of state tasks related to the elections, the Minister of the Interior

shall report to Parliament.

(2) On the acceptance of the reports referred to in paragraph (1) Parliament shall pass a resolution after the taking of the oath by the Members.

The Examination of the Credentials

Standing Order No. 6

(1) After the reading out of the reports the chair of age and the notaries of age - as a committee on mandate control - examine the regularity of the credentials of the Members on the basis of the electoral documents (minutes taken by electoral boards, declaration of Members concerning the acceptance of the mandate and the absence of incompatibility, party lists, credentials).

(2) The credentials of the chair of age and the notaries of age shall be examined by a committee of five Members whose credentials have first been cleared according to alphabetical order. This committee shall be constituted immediately and elect a rapporteur. If the chair of age or the notary of age belongs to the first five Members according to alphabetical order, or if any of the first five Members refuses the request, the Member next in alphabetical order shall be a member of the committee.

Standing Order No. 7

(1) First the rapporteur of the committee defined in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 6, and then the chair of age shall report to Parliament on the results of the examination of mandates.

(2) The electoral documents listed in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 6 of Members elected at by-elections or appointed by the party concerned from a regional or the national list shall be examined by the committee dealing with mandate control. The rapporteur of the committee shall report on the results of the examination at the next sitting of Parliament.

(3) No proposed amendment shall be made to the report on the results of the examination of mandates. Parliament clears the mandates without debate.

The Taking of the Oath

Standing Order No. 8

- (1) At the constituent sitting - after the passing of the resolution on the results of the examination of mandates - the Members shall take an oath and sign the text of the oath.
- (2) The text of the oath is contained in Schedule 1 to the Standing Orders.
- (3) Members who have been absent at the constituent sitting, as well as Members cleared according to paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 7, shall take the oath before Parliament and sign the text of the oath.
- (4) The Member - with the exception of tasks necessarily related to the constituent sitting - may not take part in the work of Parliament until the taking of the oath and the signing of its text; he* shall only be entitled to remuneration and reimbursement of expenses - also retroactively -, or may only take advantage of benefits after having taken the oath.

The Announcement of the Formation of a Faction

Standing Order No. 9

- (1) The announcement of the formation of factions shall be made at the constituent sitting after the taking of the oath.
- (2) The announcement on the formation of a faction shall contain the name of the faction, the name of the faction leader and of its other officers, if any, as well as the list of the names of the faction members.
- (3) Those contained in paragraphs (1) and (2) shall be reported in writing to the chair of age, and the changes therein to the Speaker of Parliament.
- (4) In the case of factions formed after the constituent sitting, the provisions of paragraphs (2) and (3) hereof, as well as of Standing Orders Nos. 14 to 15 shall be appropriately applied.

The Election of the Officers of Parliament

Standing Order No. 10

- (1) At its constituent sitting - on the motion of the faction leaders of parties represented in Parliament and on the proposal of the chair of age - Parliament shall elect, by secret ballot, the Speaker, Deputy Speakers and notaries of Parliament.
- (2) To the motion defined in paragraph (1) no proposed amendment shall be made; Parliament passes its resolution thereon without debate.
- (3) After voting, the notaries of age shall count the votes under the supervision of the chair of age, who shall announce the results.

(4) If the required majority is not reached for the election of any of the officers, a repeated vote shall be taken in respect of the same office.

(5) In the course of the repeated voting taken for the reason defined in paragraph (4) - if there have been several candidates for the office - the two candidates for Speaker who have received the highest number of votes may be voted for, or - from among the candidates not elected so far and receiving the highest number of votes - one candidate more than the number of offices to be filled by Deputy Speakers or notaries may be voted for.

(6) If the repeated vote is again unsuccessful, there shall be a new nomination and voting on the office to be filled.

Standing Order No. 11

In the event of cessation of the commission of an officer, the provisions of Standing Order No. 10 shall be appropriately applied to the election of the new officer, with the proviso that in the case of the election of the Speaker of Parliament the tasks of the chair of age shall be taken over by the Deputy Speaker of Parliament according to the order of substitution defined in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 20.

The Formation of the House Committee

Standing Order No. 12

(1) With the announcement of the names of the faction leaders (paragraphs (1) and (2) of Standing Order No. 9), and with the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speakers of Parliament (Standing Orders Nos. 10 to 11), the House Committee (with the composition defined in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 24) shall be formed.

(2) At the constituent sitting the chair of age informs Parliament of the names of the members of the House Committee and thereafter passes the chairmanship to the elected Speaker of Parliament.

PART II

THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND THE FACTIONS

Chapter 1

THE MEMBERS

The Rights and Duties of Members

Standing Order No. 13

(1) Members of Parliament shall exercise their activities in the public interest. They may not be given directions as to their activities as Members.

(2) Unless otherwise provided by law, any Member may be elected to the offices and/or committees of Parliament.

(3) It is a right and duty of a Member to participate with initiatives in the work of Parliament and to further its successful operation. It is his duty to attend the sittings of Parliament and the sittings of the committee of which he is a member.

(4) The Member shall perform his activities as a Member in accordance with the Constitution and legal rules and the provisions of the Standing Orders.

Chapter 2

THE FACTIONS

The Formation of the Parliamentary Factions

Standing Order No. 14

(1) Members of Parliament belonging to the same party may form a faction to coordinate their activities.

(2) Members belonging to the same party may form only one faction.

(3) In the application of this Standing Order, that Member shall be considered as belonging to a party who

- a. is a member of a party, or
- b. has run with the support of a party at the elections, or
- c. is such an independent Member, or a Member who has become independent, whose joining has been accepted by a faction.

(4) The faction shall elect a faction leader from among its members, and may elect other officers to deal with common matters. If the faction leader is unable to attend, his deputy shall exercise all the rights guaranteed by the Standing Orders for the faction leader.

Standing Order No. 15

(1) A parliamentary faction may be formed by not less than ten Members of Parliament.

(2) Members of Parliament belonging to the same party may form a faction in cases where their number is below the figure set forth in paragraph (1) above but their party acquired a mandate from the list provided all Members of Parliament who have been awarded a mandate from the list join the particular faction.

(3) A Member may be a member of only one faction.

(4) A Member may quit the faction. The faction may expel its Members.

(5) A Member who has quitted his faction or has been expelled therefrom shall be regarded as independent; the Member becoming independent in this manner may join any faction after six months following his quitting or expulsion.

The Financial Management of Factions

Standing Order No. 16

(1) The operational expenses of the factions shall be provided for separately within the budget of the Office of Parliament and the projections managed under the chapters belonging to the said budget (hereinafter: budget of the Office of Parliament).

(2) The faction may undertake obligations and make payments to the debit of the budget referred to in paragraph (1) on the basis of the instructions of the faction leader.

(3) The rules pertaining to the financial management of central budgetary organs shall be appropriately applied to the financial management of the factions.

Cessation of a Faction

Standing Order No. 17

(1) A faction shall cease to exist if

- a. its membership decreases below ten, with the exception of the case set forth in Standing Order No. 15, paragraph (2); or
- b. the faction passes a resolution to that effect.

(2) If Parliament has a faction that was formed pursuant to Standing Order No. 15, paragraph (2), any faction shall only cease to exist due to the decrease of its membership if the number of faction members drops below the number of members of the faction that was formed pursuant to Standing Order No. 15, paragraph (2) at the time of its formation. Should there be more than one factions formed on the basis of Standing Order No. 15, paragraph (2), the number of members of the faction with the least members at the time of its formation shall be governing.

(3) The faction shall not cease to exist in the events described in paragraph (1), point a) or paragraph (2) if the missing mandate can be filled on the basis of subsection (5) of Section 46 of Act XXXIV of 1989 on the Election of Members of Parliament, within the time limit indicated therein.

(4) The former leader of the faction shall notify the Speaker of Parliament of the cessation without delay but at latest within three days. Failure to meet this deadline shall result in the Speaker's declaring cessation *ex officio*.

Rules on the Formation of Groups and on Information

Standing Order No. 18

(1) Groups formed outside the party factions for purposes related to the activities of Members (e.g. professional or regional groups) shall not qualify as factions in the application of the Standing Orders.

(2) In the building of Parliament, factions, other groups formed outside of factions, and Members may inform the organs of mass communications only in connection with the activities of Parliament.

PART III

THE ORGANIZATION OF PARLIAMENT

Chapter 1

THE OFFICERS OF PARLIAMENT

The Speaker of Parliament

Standing Order No. 19

(1) The Speaker of Parliament shall guarantee the exercise of the rights of Parliament, see to the preservation of the authority of Parliament, to the maintenance of the order and security of Parliament, as well as to the organization of the work of Parliament.

(2) The Speaker of Parliament, within the scope of his tasks defined in paragraph (1) hereof,

- a. shall represent Parliament in its relations with other state organs, and social and other organizations;
- b. shall represent Parliament in international relations; and may make a proposal to the standing committee dealing with European Union affairs (hereinafter called the European Union Committee) and to other standing committees to discuss questions of strategic importance concerning the European Union;
- c. shall convene the sessions of Parliament, and within these the individual sittings;
- d. shall open and chair impartially, and then close the sittings; shall give leave to speak, see to the observance of the Standing Orders, announce the results of the voting, and watch over the order of the sittings;
- e. may speak at the sittings at any time to ensure the order of proceedings, but if he wants to speak on the merits of the matter, he shall hand over the tasks of chairmanship;
- f. may participate at the sitting of any committee with the right of consultation, and shall chair the sittings of the House Committee;
- g. shall coordinate the operation of the committees, and make motions concerning the number, name, competence and members of standing committees as well as the election of Chairmen, Deputy Chairmen and members of the standing and temporary committees and changes in their persons;
- h. shall pass on the motions and petitions received by Parliament to the competent committees for preparation and/or for the taking of measures;
- i. shall appoint and dismiss the Secretary-General of Parliament, the deputies thereof, the finance director general, the director general of the Library of Parliament and the heads of the office organs defined in the Organizational and Operational Regulations; shall exercise the employer's right in respect of the persons appointed by him;
- j. shall approve the Organizational and Operational Regulations of the office organs of Parliament and publishes other regulations and resolutions referring to the Office of Parliament;
- k. shall approve the draft budget of Parliament and supervise the implementation of the adopted budget;
- l. shall take or initiate the measures necessary for the security of Parliament;

- m. exercises the secret protection rights of the Chairman of a Committee terminated without legal successor;
- n. shall, in consultation with the Chairman of the House Committee, select the committee sittings that are to be broadcast;
- o. shall perform all the duties determined for him by the Standing Orders and/or by law.

(3) The Speaker shall not perform his tasks defined in sub-paragraph d) of paragraph (2) hereof if he has spoken as a Member in the course of the proceedings with the same matter on the order book of Parliament until the closing of the debate and voting, unless Parliament consents thereto.

(4) The Speaker shall immediately send to all Members the daily list of motions filed with him. The Office of Parliament shall hand out a copy of a motion at the request of any committee or Member. The Speaker shall send one complete series of the motions received to each member of the designated committee, and two complete series thereof to each faction leader.

(5) The Speaker shall make accessible to the Members the written matter addressed to Parliament, as well as those addressed to the Speaker of Parliament but concerning Parliament.

The Deputy Speakers of Parliament

Standing Order No. 20

(1) The Deputy Speakers of Parliament shall substitute for the Speaker of Parliament in the order defined by him in the performance of the tasks laid down in Standing Order No. 19.

(2) In the event of the permanent inability of the Speaker of Parliament to attend, he shall be substituted for by the Deputy Speaker belonging to the largest faction, or if the latter is also unable to attend, by the Deputy Speaker belonging to the next largest faction. In the case of equal membership, the Deputy Speaker to substitute shall be appointed by the House Committee.

(3) The rights and duties of the Deputy Speaker substituting for the Speaker of Parliament - with the exception of the right to appoint and dismiss - shall be identical with those of the Speaker of Parliament.

The Notaries of Parliament

Standing Order No. 21

(1) The notaries of Parliament shall

- a. participate in the chairing of the sittings of Parliament,
- b. count the votes - if necessary - in the event of voting by the show of hands,
- c. proceed as a committee for counting the votes in the event of secret balloting,
- d. read out documents of Parliament and the text of the oath at the oath-taking,
- e. keep the list of Members who have registered to speak,
- f. indicate that the time available for speaking is up,

g. authenticate the verbatim minutes of Parliament.

(2) At the sittings of Parliament, in an order determined by the Speaker of Parliament, simultaneously two notaries shall serve, preferably one belonging to a governing party and one to an opposition party.

The Cessation of the Commission of Officers

Standing Order No. 22

(1) The commission of an officer of Parliament shall cease

- a. with the termination of his mandate as a Member,
- b. with the quitting of or expulsion from his faction, or in the case of an independent Member if he joins a faction,
- c. with the cessation of his faction,
- d. upon dismissal,
- e. by resignation.

(2) Parliament shall decide on the motion of the House Committee according to the rules laid down in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 10 on the dismissal of an officer.

Chapter 2

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

Standing Order No. 23

The House Committee shall

- a. take a position on the sessional and weekly work schedule of Parliament;
- b. make a proposal for the orders of the day of sittings, their duration and the time limits for speeches;
- c. discuss the independent motions concerning the operation of Parliament, and take a position on them;
- d. [cancelled]
- e. [cancelled]
- f. reconcile disputed issues related to the operation of Parliament;
- g. appoint the Deputy Speaker to substitute for the Speaker of Parliament if he is permanently unable to attend on the basis of paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 20;
- h. take a position on matters concerning the organization of international relations, and prepare ceremonial events;
- i. take a position on issues concerning the press publicity of the work of Parliament;
- j. give a hearing to, and an opinion of, persons presented to it as nominees for offices belonging to the competence of appointment of the Speaker of Parliament;
- k. lay down the principles for the preparation of the budget of the Office of Parliament;
- l. at the request of the Speaker of Parliament discuss submissions of importance (petitions, appeals, open letters, etc.) sent to Parliament (or its officers), and form an opinion on the possible measures concerning the same;

- m. determine the order of accounting for absences (paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 44);
- n. make a motion to Parliament to depart from the provisions of the Standing Orders in the course of proceeding with a particular matter (Standing Order No. 140);
- o. make a motion to Parliament to determine an earlier deadline for the submission of amendments to proposed amendments than that defined in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 102;
- p. make a motion to dismiss an officer of Parliament (paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 22), and recall independent Chairmen, Deputy Chairmen and members of committees;
- q. make a motion to deliberate an item on the orders of the day in a set time frame and in order of lead speakers;
- r. determine the time frame for the speeches given by the President of the Republic or the Prime Minister outside the orders of the day (paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 51);
- s. make a motion to Parliament to proceed jointly with matters with similar or related subject matter;
- t. publish the planned orders of the day of the sitting of Parliament forty-eight hours in advance, and - depending on room available - provide seats for the citizens in the gallery,
- u. discuss other matters submitted by the members of the House Committee.

The Members of the House Committee

Standing Order No. 24

(1) The chairman of the House Committee shall be the Speaker of Parliament, its members the Deputy Speakers of Parliament, and the leader of each faction.

(2) In the House Committee only the faction leader shall have the right to vote or, in his absence, the person delegated by him.

The Participants at the Sitzings of the House Committee

Standing Order No. 25

(1) At the sitting of the House Committee, beyond the members of the House Committee, only the persons invited by the Speaker of Parliament may participate.

(2) The representative of the Government may participate at the sittings of the House Committee with the right of consultation as a person with permanent invitation.

The Operation of the House Committee

Standing Order No. 26

(1) During the sitting of the Parliament, the Chairman may convene the sitting of the House Committee.

(2) The House Committee shall be convened if any faction leader requests it.

(3) The House Committee shall make its decisions by consensus. In the absence of such decisions, matters referred to in sub-paragraphs a), f), g), and m) of Standing Order No. 23 but with the exception of recalling independent Chairmen, Deputy Chairmen and members of committees, shall be decided by the Speaker of Parliament.

(4) Parliament shall pass a decision on point g) of Standing Order No. 23 without a debate. Parliament shall pass a decision on points a), f) and m) of Standing Order No. 23 after presentation of the matter to be debated and contribution by one Member per faction and of the independent Member who first indicated the intent to take the floor, each contribution not being more than five minutes in duration.

(5) Verbatim minutes shall be taken of the sittings of the House Committee. Otherwise the House Committee shall adopt its own rules of operation with regard, to the provisions of the Standing Orders.

Chapter 3

The Meeting of Committee Chairmen

Standing Order No. 27

(1) The chairman of the meeting of committee chairmen shall be the Speaker of Parliament, its members the chairmen of the standing committees of Parliament.

(2) The meeting of committee chairmen shall make proposals

- a. to the House Committee on the weekly work schedule of Parliament,
- b. to the House Committee on the orders of the day for each sitting,
- c. to the Speaker of Parliament on the designation of a committee (Standing Order No. 79).

(3) The sittings of the meeting of committee chairmen shall be convened and chaired by the Speaker of Parliament.

(4) The meeting of committee chairmen shall pass its resolutions by a majority of votes. At the meeting of committee chairmen the chairman of a standing committee - or in the event of his inability to attend the deputy chairman appointed by him - shall have the right to vote.

Chapter 4

THE COMMITTEES OF PARLIAMENT

The Formation of Standing Committees

Standing Order No. 28

(1) After its constituent sitting, Parliament shall set up its standing committees.

(2) The number and scope of tasks of standing committees shall conform basically to the structure of the Government. It is obligatory to set up the committees dealing with

constitutional matters, the budget, foreign affairs, European Union affairs, national defence, as well as, in the case of parity committees (paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 33), with matters of immunity, incompatibility, and mandate control.

(3) Parliament may, at any time, set up, transform, or terminate committees.

The Competence of Standing Committees

Standing Order No. 29

(1) The standing committee shall be an organ of Parliament to take initiatives, make proposals, give opinions, and - in the cases laid down by law or in the Standing Orders - to decide matters and participate in the supervision of government work, and it shall exercise its competence as laid down in the Constitution and other Acts, the Standing Orders, as well as in other resolutions of Parliament.

(2) A standing committee may set up sub-committees from among its members to attend to the performance of certain tasks. The rules applicable to the operation of the standing committee shall be appropriately applied to the rules of operation of the sub-committee in the absence of other provisions made by the sub-committee.

(3) Each standing committee shall set up a sub-committee which shall monitor the implementation of Acts falling within the competence of the committee, as well as their social and economic impact.

(4) The committee chairman shall inform forthwith the Parliament on the setting up of a sub-committee.

Standing Order No. 30

(1) Parliament may request the standing committee to prepare a bill (Standing Order No. 85), a proposed resolution (Standing Order No. 87), a political declaration (Standing Order No. 88), or a report (Standing Order No. 89) - hereinafter jointly referred to as "motions for decision".

(2) The committee designated by the Speaker of Parliament shall make a recommendation (paragraphs (1) to (3) of Standing Order No. 95) to the motion for decision submitted to Parliament.

(3) A standing committee may discuss any matter within its competence - either in response to the request from the Parliament or at its own decision - and take a position thereon. The committee may publish its position taken on the matter, in the committee's information material.

The Setting Up of Committees

Standing Order No. 31

(1) The Speaker of Parliament shall make motions concerning the number, name, competence and members, belonging to factions as well as independent, of standing committees (as set

forth in Standing Orders No. 28 and 33 and taking into consideration the provisions of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 13), taking into account the agreement between faction leaders, which gives scope to the opinion of independent Members. In the absence of such an agreement the Speaker of Parliament shall make a motion to Parliament summarizing the proposals of faction leaders.

(2) The Speaker of Parliament shall make motions concerning the election of Chairmen, Deputy Chairmen and members of the committees, taking into account the agreement between faction leaders, which gives scope to the opinion of independent Members.

(3) The Speaker of Parliament shall make motions concerning changes in the person of Chairmen, Deputy Chairmen and members of the committees in accordance with the recommendation of faction leaders and taking into account the opinion of independent Members.

(4) Independent Members shall submit their - preferably joint - proposals to the Speaker of Parliament in matters described in paragraphs (1) to (3).

(5) Parliament shall decide on motions regarding committees and personal matters without a debate and taking the provisions of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 33 into consideration. Proposals of amendment of the motion can only be made by faction leaders, or, in the case of motions on personal matters, by the leader of the faction concerned or the independent Member concerned. Parliament may decide on motions submitted according to the procedure described in paragraphs (1) and (2) by appointing more than one Deputy Chairmen to a committee.

(6) The faction leader may appoint a Member belonging to the particular faction or an independent Member as officer or member of a committee. Appointment of independent Members is subject to the independent Member's prior consent. Independent Members may be appointed to positions of officers or committee members allocated to the faction.

The Cessation of the Commission to Serve on a Committee

Standing Order No. 32

(1) The mandate of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and member of committees shall cease in the following instances:

- a. by resignation,
- b. upon termination of the committee's mandate,
- c. upon cessation of the Member's mandate in Parliament,
- d. upon the Member's leaving of, or expulsion from, the faction,
- e. upon the Member's recall by the delegating faction,
- f. upon cessation of the delegating faction, and
- g. in cases where the independent Member joins a faction or is recalled by the House Committee.

(2) Parliament shall pass a decision to fill the vacant post on the basis of the Speaker's motion and in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 31.

The Members of the Committees

Standing Order No. 33

- (1) The number of members delegated to standing committees by each faction shall be in proportion to the number of members of the factions. Each faction shall have at least one position on each standing committee.
- (2) Each Member of Parliament must be a member of at least one standing committee, with the exception of members of the Government and secretaries of state.
- (3) Parliament may pass a decision different from the provisions of paragraph (1). A majority vote of four-fifths of the Members of Parliament present shall be necessary to secure that the proportion of members delegated to a standing committee by a faction should differ from the size of the faction compared to Parliament by more than one committee positions.
- (4) Parliament may decide that factions of the governing party (parties) as well as the opposition party (parties) can jointly delegate an equal number of members to a committee (parity committee).

The Temporary Committees

Standing Order No. 34

- (1) Parliament may appoint a committee of inquiry to investigate any matter, and may set up an ad hoc committee to deal with issues defined in the resolution on setting up the committee for a period of time specified in the same (hereinafter committees of inquiry and ad hoc committees shall be referred to jointly as "temporary committees").
- (2) Proposed amendments to the proposed resolution concerning the establishment of a temporary committee may not be submitted regarding
 - a. the name of the Committee of Inquiry, the subject matter investigated,
 - b. the name of the Ad Hoc Committee, and the matter included in its scope of tasks.

Special Rules Concerning Ad Hoc Committees

Standing Order No. 35

- (1) The task, name, number of members, and period of commission of an ad hoc committee shall be determined by Parliament when establishing the same.
- (2) Appointment and election of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and members of ad hoc committees shall be governed by Standing Order No. 31, and the cessation of their mandate shall be governed by Standing Order No. 32 with the proviso that not more than half of the members of an ad hoc committee may be persons who are not Members of Parliament.
- (3) The rules pertaining to the operation of standing committees shall - in the absence of other provisions made by Parliament or the ad hoc committee itself - be applied appropriately to ad

hoc committees. The chairman and deputy chairman of the committee shall be a Member, and non-Member members of the committee shall have no vote.

Special Rules Concerning Committees of Inquiry

Standing Order No. 36

- (1) To the setting up, operation, name, determination of the object of inquiry, and the termination of the committee of inquiry, the same provisions governing ad hoc committees shall be applied with the exceptions laid down in this Standing Order.
- (2) A committee of inquiry shall be set up if at least one fifth of the Members support such a motion.
- (3) Only Members of Parliament shall be members of the committee of inquiry.
- (4) The committee of inquiry shall be set up in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 33. A committee of inquiry investigating the activities of the Government, any Government agency or ministry shall be presided over by an opposition Member of Parliament. If the inquiry concerns successive Governments and the opposition of the Governments concerned is not the same, the committee of inquiry shall be co-chaired by Members belonging to the opposition parties to each Government. The Co-chairmen shall jointly prepare committee sittings and chair the sittings by rota. They shall undertake other duties of Chairman with identical powers, in cooperation, and taking their fellow Co-chairmen's activities into consideration.
- (5) The committee of inquiry shall make a report on its activity, which report shall include the following:
 - a. the task of the committee;
 - b. the rules of procedure and methods of inquiry determined by the committee;
 - c. the statement of facts the committee has found and of the legal findings the committee has made;
 - d. the presentation of evidence on which its findings are based;
 - e. the comments of the organ or person concerned on the methods and findings of the inquiry.
 - f. a motion on the necessary measures to be taken, if such a proposal thereon has formed part of the committee's tasks.

(6) [cancelled]

Acting as Proxy for Committee Members

Standing Order No. 37

- (1) Committee members shall participate at the sittings of the committee in person or by way of a proxy.
- (2) The committee member, in the event of his absence, may give a commission to act as proxy only to a member of the same committee (hereinafter referred to as "proxy").

- (3) The commission to act as proxy shall be valid only for one committee sitting.
- (4) The commission to act as proxy, in the form laid down in Schedule 2 to the Standing Orders, shall be presented to the chairman latest at the beginning of the sitting. The chairman announces the fact of such substitution. The presented commission to act as proxy shall be attached to the minutes.
- (5) The rights and duties of the proxy shall be identical with those of the committee member. The activity of proxy, however, shall not extend to exercising the rights of committee chairmen or deputy chairmen.
- (6) The proxy shall have the right to act as proxy only for one committee member at a sitting.

PART IV

THE ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT

Chapter 1

GENERAL PROVISION

The Sessions and Sittings of Parliament

Standing Order No. 38

- (1) Parliament shall hold two regular sessions each year, one from 1 February to 15 June, and one from 1 September to 15 December.
- (2) Sessions shall consist of sittings, and sittings of sitting days. At the convening of a sitting, the expected number of sitting days shall be indicated.
- (3) The Government - possibly within thirty days following its constitution and at the end of each session - will inform the Parliament on its legislation program planned for the next session.

The Extraordinary Session and the Extraordinary Sitting

Standing Order No. 39

- (1) At the written request of the President of the Republic, of the Government or of one fifth of the Members Parliament shall be called together for an extraordinary session or extraordinary sitting. In the request the reason for the calling together as well as the proposed date and orders of the day shall be indicated. The Speaker of Parliament shall call together Parliament at the proposed date, if possible, but at the latest within eight days following the proposed date.
- (2) The Speaker of Parliament shall call together an extraordinary session or extraordinary sitting in the cases defined in the Constitution or the Standing Orders.

(3) If the calling together of the extraordinary session or extraordinary sitting is requested in order to proceed with an independent motion, the latter - to be put on the orders of the day - shall be introduced simultaneously with the request. The independent motion so submitted will be included in the book of order of the Parliament without any special decision.

(4) The Parliament will decide on the orders of the day of the extraordinary session or extraordinary sitting. Only such independent motions shall be put on the orders of the day of an extraordinary session or extraordinary sitting the putting of which is requested by the persons defined in paragraph (1).

(5) The provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) shall not be applied to interpellations and questions introduced during the extraordinary session or extraordinary sitting.

(6) If the Parliament requested urgency procedure in respect of the independent motion pursuant to paragraphs (3) to (4), such procedure may be started on the sitting requesting the urgency.

The Language of the Proceedings

Standing Order No. 40

(1) At the sittings of Parliament Hungarian shall be the language of the proceedings.

(2) If the mother tongue of a Member is not Hungarian, he may speak in his mother tongue as well. His intention to do so shall be indicated one day before the sitting day concerned. The Office of Parliament shall provide for interpreting.

(3) Continuous interpretation shall be provided - if requested - for the Member of non-Hungarian mother tongue.

(4) The Office of Parliament shall see to having the official documents of Parliament translated if a Member whose mother tongue is not Hungarian requests so.

Public Sitting

Standing Order No. 41

(1) The sittings of Parliament - with the exceptions specified in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 42 - shall be public. The authentic minutes of the public sittings of Parliament shall be open to the public in the Library of Parliament, and the archival appendices of the same, as well as the computer-registered voting lists shall be open to the public by way of the Library of Parliament. The minutes of the public sittings of Parliament as well as the documents discussed in the public sittings together with the relevant voting list should also be made available on the Internet web. Viewing videos taken on the public sittings of Parliament shall be ensured by the Library of Parliament.

(2) At public sittings the audience - including the representatives of the mass media - shall sit only at the designated seats of the gallery, and shall abstain from any form of expressing their opinion.

(3) In case the audience disturbs the order of the sitting, the Speaker may expel the audience or part of it.

Visual broadcast of plenary sittings and committee sittings of Parliament

Standing Order No. 41/A

Annex 3 contains the rules of visual broadcast of plenary sittings and committee sittings of Parliament.

Sitting in Camera

Standing Order No. 42

(1) On the request of the President of the Republic, the Government or any of the Members, with the votes of two third of the Members, the Parliament may opt for the sitting in camera. In order to discuss one or more orders of the day or speeches outside the orders of the day, a part of the public sitting can be declared to be sitting in camera.

(2) At the sitting in camera, besides the Members, only persons with the right of consultation (paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 45), the Secretary-General of Parliament, and the staff members of the Office of Parliament on duty there, and the minute-takers may participate.

(3) The Parliament will make a separate decision concerning the confidentiality of the decision made at the sitting in camera.

Quorum

Standing Order No. 43

(1) Parliament has a quorum if more than half of its Members or - if the Constitution or any other Act provides for different rules concerning the number of Members required for voting - the specified number of Members are present.

(2) If Parliament has no quorum, the Speaker shall try to reestablish quorum. If this is not possible, the Speaker shall determine the list of absent Members, postpone voting on the orders of the day, and at the next sitting of Parliament publish the names of Members who have not reported their absence, provided that the decision making has been included in the orders of the day in advance. The sitting shall be continued with proceedings on the next order of the day. If the Speaker subsequently ascertains that Parliament has a quorum, he may decide that voting shall take place on the previous order of the day.

(3) Voting shall be done in Parliament by the show of hands (sub-paragraph a) of paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 60) on the orders of the day, on procedural motions as well as in respect of cases mentioned in paragraph (7) of Standing Order No. 50 and paragraph (6) and (7) of Standing Order No. 51.

Attendance

Standing Order No. 44

(1) Members shall be present when votes are taken in Parliament.

(2) The basic remuneration due to Members shall be proportionately reduced if the Member does not take part in more than one third of the votes indicated in advance in the orders of the day.

(3) The rules of implementation of the provisions of paragraph (2) hereof shall be determined by the House Committee.

The Participants of the Sittings of Parliament

Standing Order No. 45

(1) The President of the Republic, a member of the Government, the President of the Constitutional Court, the President of the Supreme Court, the Chief Public Prosecutor, the Ombudsman, the President of the State Audit Office, persons obliged to give an account for Parliament during the discussion of the report submitted by them and, when matters related to European integration are discussed by Parliament, Hungarian Members of the European Parliament, may attend and take the floor during plenary sessions of Parliament.

(2) The President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, and - at the instructions of the Government - a member of the Government may speak at any time unless an exception is made by the Standing Orders.

(3) In the absence of a person listed in paragraph (1) or of his deputy entitled to substitute for him - if he has introduced the independent motion which is on the order of the day - Parliament shall not proceed with the motion.

(4) Members of the Government or the persons entitled to substitute for them shall participate at the sitting of Parliament if the bill, proposed resolution, or report on the order of the day is within their competence.

(5) Parliament may oblige the persons listed in paragraph (1) - with the exception of the President of the Republic, the President of the Constitutional Court and the President of the Supreme Court - to be present at the sitting of Parliament.

(6) The Secretary-General - or in his absence his deputy - shall participate at the sittings of Parliament, but he may not take the floor.

Reporting the Introduction of Independent Motions

Standing Order No. 46

(1) At the beginning of the sitting the Speaker informs Parliament of the introduced bills, proposed resolutions, draft political declarations, reports and the motions for urgency.

(2) The proposer may give reasons for the motion for urgency in a speech not longer than two minutes on the week following the week of submission - in the event of motion submitted by a Member (paragraphs (4) and (5) of Standing Order No. 98) following its inclusion to the book of order. In the matter of urgency Parliament shall decide without debate.

(3) If urgent proceedings with such bill or proposed resolution have been requested the passing of which requires the votes of a qualified majority of the Members, the question of urgency shall be decided by the same majority.

Establishing the Orders of the Day

Standing Order No. 47

(1) The orders of the day shall be proposed by the Speaker upon the advice of the House Committee. This proposal shall be sent two days in advance to the Members and the persons listed in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 45.

(2) The expected time of votes - with the exception of votes which are impossible to schedule in advance; e.g. votes on procedure - shall be indicated in the proposal for the orders of the day.

(3) Until one hour before the beginning of the sitting, the Government or at least ten Members may introduce a reasoned proposal to amend the proposal for the orders of the day.

(4) At the sitting the Speaker shall present the House Committee's proposal for the orders of the day, any other proposals for the orders of the day, as well as the House Committee's proposal for the duration of the proceedings, the time limits on speeches and the proposals regarding contributions by lead speakers.

(5) If there is a bill or proposed resolution related to a report or a proposed resolution to a bill, the motions shall be proceeded with together.

(6) On the proposals defined in paragraph (4) - first on the proposal to amend the orders of the day - Parliament shall decide without debate.

The Chairing of the Sitting

Standing Order No. 48

(1) The sitting shall be opened, chaired, and closed by the Speaker. Before closing the sitting, he shall provide for convening the next sitting according to the proposal of the House Committee or on the basis of a resolution of Parliament.

(2) The Speaker shall decide - after hearing the opinion of the Deputy Speakers - on when and in what succession the Deputy Speakers shall chair the sitting of Parliament.

(3) If the elected notaries are not present in the necessary number at the sitting of Parliament, the presiding Speaker shall request other Members to perform the notarial tasks.

Standing Order No. 49

[cancelled]

Speeches Relating to the Orders of the Day

Standing Order No. 50

(1) The intention to speak to an order of the day shall be registered in writing with the notary on duty before the opening of the sitting day.

(2) During the debate, further or repeated speeches may be authorized by the Speaker.

(3) The order of speeches shall be determined by the Speaker in such a way that, if possible, Members from a governing party and from the opposition - always from different factions - alternate taking the floor. After at least one Member from each faction of the governing party and from the opposition has taken the floor, the floor shall be given to the independent Member who first indicated the intent to contribute. This order of succession shall be continued until every Member intending to contribute has had the floor or the time frame set according to paragraph (1) of so or the time frame set according to paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 53 expires.

(4) Factions may contribute to orders of the day in order of lead speakers. Contribution by order of lead speakers shall be mandatory if motioned by any of the factions. Such a motion shall be submitted to the sitting of the House Committee where the House Committee or, in the case of proceedings under paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 26, the Speaker of Parliament, motions that the proposal for decision concerned be adopted among the orders of the day. Government and oppositions parties take the floor alternately, in diminishing order of size, in the time limit allocated to lead speakers. Two or more factions may appoint a joint lead speaker, however, the joint time limit available shall not exceed the time limit set for one faction. A lead speaker speaking on behalf of several factions shall take the floor when the largest faction represented would take the floor in the order of speeches. A faction may appoint several lead speakers, who will take the floor successively within the lead speaker's time limit.

(5) The time limit set forth in point b) of Standing Order No. 23 shall be no less than

- a. 15 minutes in a general debate;
- b. 20 minutes for lead speakers' speeches with the exception set forth in point c);
- c. 30 minutes in the case of proposals regarding the Constitution, decisions requiring a qualified majority, the annual budget of the Republic of Hungary as well as its implementation and amendment, the supplementary budget, and joint debate on several motions for decision;
- d. 10 minutes per debate phase in the case of detailed debate on the Constitution and six minutes per debate phase in the case of other motions for decision; and 15 minutes in the case of single-phase detailed debate;
- e. 15 minutes in the case of extraordinary proceedings.

(6) In cases falling under points a), d) and e) of paragraph (5) the Speaker may grant an extra minute upon the request of the speaker.

(7) In the course of the debate any Member may request the floor for a two-minute remark in respect of a previous contribution. The Speaker shall grant the floor. No two-minute contribution shall be granted between lead speakers' speeches.

(8) The proposer of the particular order of the day and the Chairman (speaker) of the competent committee may take the floor any time prior to voting.

(9) If in cases specified in paragraphs (2) or (7) the Speaker does not grant the floor Parliament shall resolve on the matter without a debate, upon the Member's request.

Speeches not Forming Part of the Orders of the Day

Standing Order No. 51

(1) In matters which are not on the orders of the day but are of national importance, urgent, and extraordinary (hereinafter referred to as "extraordinary matters"), before proceeding with the orders of the day - indicating the subject matter and reason for the speech - faction leaders shall be entitled to speak for at most five minutes on behalf of their faction. The intention to speak shall be reported in writing to the Speaker at least one hour before the opening of the sitting. The Speaker shall inform the Government on the intended speech, as well as on the subject matter and the reason given by the person intending to speak.

(2) The President of the Republic, the Prime Minister and the members of the Government may give speeches on extraordinary issues outside the orders of the day. The intention to speak - should the circumstances of the matter so enable - shall be reported to the Speaker at least one hour before the opening of the sitting. Simultaneously with the reporting of the intention to speak the subject matter and the reason of such speech should be revealed. The Speaker will inform on the intended speech each faction leader. The time frame for the speeches of the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister and for the contributions of the faction leaders will be determined by the House Committee. The members of the Government will be entitled for a speech of not more than five minutes. In this event the person who is personally referred to and the faction leader are entitled for two-minute speeches.

(3) The Member whose immunity has been suspended by Parliament shall have the right to inform Parliament of the non-appealable termination of the proceedings in two minutes before the orders of the day of the sitting day. The intention to speak shall be reported in writing to the Speaker at least one hour before the opening of the sitting.

(4) Any Member may request leave to speak on an extraordinary matter after the orders of the day, in the manner defined in paragraph (1) but in a time frame of at most five minutes.

(5) In order to make a remark concerning a speech in accordance with paragraph (1) or (4) the representative of the Government may request leave to speak for five minutes, and the Member who has been personally referred to may request leave to speak for two minutes.

(6) If the Speaker has refused leave to speak in the cases listed in paragraphs (4) and (5), Parliament shall decide the matter without debate at the request of the Member.

(7) Otherwise no debate shall be opened or no vote shall be taken on the speech.

Speeches on Procedural Motions

Standing Order No. 52

(1) Any Member may, at any time, request leave to speak for one minute concerning the orders of the day or the order of the day being proceeded with, and make a procedural motion, and add a justification in two minutes. After hearing the procedural motion, at most one Member from each faction as well as the first independent Member requesting leave to speak may speak, otherwise Parliament shall decide about the motion without debate.

(2) The proposer of the procedural motion shall be given leave to speak with priority.

Time Limits for Proceedings

Standing Order No. 53

(1) Upon the advice of the House Committee Parliament may decide to proceed with any order of the day within time limits. On this subject matter a member of any faction may speak for three minutes before voting.

(2) Separate time limits shall be determined for the general debate, for the debate in detail, and for the closing debate.

(3) The allotted time shall be distributed as follows:

- a. Members of the Government party/parties and the opposition as a whole shall have an equal share of time at their disposal;
- b. the opening and closing speeches of the proposer of the motion for decision, the presentation of the majority - and of the minority, if any - standpoint of the designated committee shall not count toward the allotted time;
- c. time taken by members of the Government speaking during the debate shall be counted towards the time allotted to governing party Members;
- d. one half of the allotted time shall be distributed among the governing party/parties and opposition Members equally between the factions, whereas the other half of it shall be distributed proportionately according to the strength of the factions allowing at least thirty minutes for each faction, whereby independent Members shall be counted as opposition Members;
- e. speeches of two minutes during the debate shall, except where the speaker has been personally referred to, be counted towards the allotted time;
- f. speeches on procedure shall not be counted towards the allotted time.

(4) At the request of at least ten Members the allotted time for the general debate shall not be shorter than

- a. ten hours when proceeding with a motion for decision requiring a qualified majority, when proceeding with the government programme or the accounting of the Government, and in the case of a motion of censure against the Prime Minister,
- b. thirty hours when proceeding with the annual Bill on the Budget of the Republic of Hungary,
- c. fifteen hours when proceeding with the Bill on the Implementation of the Annual Budget of the Republic of Hungary.
- d. [cancelled]

(5) The notary on duty shall measure the time of speeches and sum it up by factions. He shall point it out to the Speaker if the faction or Member has used up its/his time.

Coming to the Point and Calling to Order

Standing Order No. 54

(1) The Speaker shall call on the Member who digresses from the point to come to the point, and simultaneously warn him of the consequences of non-compliance.

(2) The speaker who during his speech uses an expression offensive to the authority of Parliament or to a Member, or breaches the Standing Orders governing the order of proceedings or voting shall be called to order and simultaneously warned of the consequences of a second call to order.

(3) The Speaker shall cut off the speaker who during his speech is called upon for the third time to come to the point or is called to order for the second time. The Member may not be cut off if the Speaker has not warned him of the consequences of the calls.

(4) If the speaker has used up the time allotted to him or his faction the Speaker shall cut him off and simultaneously give reason for the same.

(5) The Speaker will cut off without warning the speaker who objects the decision made by the Speaker or the manner of chairing, with the exception of procedural motions. The speaker who has been cut off by the Speaker without warning may request the position of the committee responsible for the interpretation of the Order of the House.

(6) A Member who has been cut off may not speak again on the same sitting day on the same matter.

(7) In the application of paragraph (6)

- the general debate, the debate in detail, and the closing debate,
- two-minute speeches in any of the debates,
- interpellations and replies to them, and
- speeches on procedure

shall qualify as separate matters.

Interrupting the Sitting

Standing Order No. 55

(1) If such disturbance occurs at the sitting of Parliament which makes it impossible to continue the proceedings, the Speaker may interrupt the sitting for a definite period of time.

(2) If the Speaker cannot get heard, he leaves his chair; the sitting shall thereby be interrupted and shall only be continued when it is convened by the Speaker of Parliament.

Ordering a Break During Proceedings

Standing Order No. 56

At the request of the Government or of any faction leader the Speaker may order a break, on one occasion each, during the debate of the order of the day or during voting. The duration of the break, depending on the decision of the Speaker, may be two hours at most.

Prorogation of the Sitting

Standing Order No. 57

(1) The President of the Republic may, on one occasion during each session, prorogue the sitting of Parliament for at most thirty days. The prorogation shall be reported in writing to the Speaker of Parliament.

(2) During the period of prorogation the Speaker shall call together Parliament at the written request of one fifth of the Members to a date not later than eight days from the receipt of the request.

Adjournment of the Proceedings with an Order of the Day

Standing Order No. 58

(1) The proposer may propose the adjournment of the order of the day. Parliament shall decide about it without debate.

(2) If the proposer does not request the continuation of the debate within eight days of the adjournment, the submission shall be considered as withdrawn.

(3) At voting the motion to close the debate shall precede the motion for adjournment.

The Closing of the Debate

Standing Order No. 59

(1) When there are no more speakers to the motion - in the debate in detail to the part under debate - and the expected closure of the debate is on the orders of the day, the Speaker shall close the debate.

(2) If all the factions as well as the independent Member first indicating the intent to take the floor have had the opportunity to express their views on the motion - in the debate in detail to the part under debate -, the proposer of the motion, or at least 15 Members, may propose in writing the closing of the debate. Parliament shall decide about this without a debate. In the case of the debate in detail the closing of the debate shall apply only to the part under debate.

(3) When Parliament has closed the debate, one Member from each faction and the first independent Member who has requested leave to speak, as well as the chairman (rapporteur) of the designated committee may speak in a time limit of at most five minutes.

(4) When Parliament has closed the debate, the proposer shall have the last word.

(5) Paragraphs (2) and (3) cannot be applied when time limits are determined.

Open Voting

Standing Order No. 60

(1) Parliament shall decide - apart from the exceptions defined in the Constitution, in an Act, or in the Standing Orders - with open voting in each matter.

(2) Open voting may take place

- by the show of hands,
- with the use of a vote counting machine, or
- >by the show of hands and the joint use of the vote counting machine.

(3) The Speaker shall determine the results of the voting. If there are any doubts as to the results of the voting by the show of hands, the voting shall be repeated with the use of the vote counting machine at the request of any Member.

(4) The manner of open voting shall be determined by Parliament on the proposal of the House Committee.

(5) The proposals according to paragraphs (3) and (4) shall be decided upon by Parliament without debate.

(6) If open voting has taken place with the use of the vote counting machine (sub-paragraphs b) and c) of paragraph (2)), the authenticated copy of the computer list registering the results shall be kept attached to the minutes.

Voting by Name

Standing Order No. 61

(1) At the request of any faction, in the case of open voting a voting by name shall be held. One faction may propose voting by name only on one occasion concerning the same motion for decision.

(2) No voting by name shall be held regarding the number of committee members and the composition of committees or regarding matters relating to the conduct of proceedings (procedural motions).

Standing Order No. 62

(1) In the event of voting by name the notary shall read out the names of Members in alphabetical order. The Members shall vote standing up with the words "Aye", "Nay", or "Abstain".

(2) The notary shall indicate the votes on the list of names, count the votes and hand over the result of the vote, together with the list of names, to the Speaker. The Speaker shall announce the result of the voting.

(3) The separately authenticated list of names shall be attached to the minutes.

Secret Ballot

Standing Order No. 63

- (1) In the cases defined in the Constitution, in any other Act, or in the Standing Orders, a secret ballot shall be held.
- (2) In the event of secret balloting the notaries shall act as a committee on counting the votes.
- (3) The voting shall take place on voting slips placed in envelopes, in a polling booth, with the use of a ballot-box.
- (4) Minutes signed by the notaries shall be taken on the voting.

The Order of Voting

Standing Order No. 64

- (1) Resolutions of Parliament - with the exceptions defined in the Constitution, the Standing Orders, or any other Act - shall be passed by the votes of a simple majority of the Members present.
- (2) Members may vote with "Aye", "Nay", or "Abstain".
- (3) In the event of open voting, the Speaker shall vote only in the case of equality of votes and only after the voting, in which case he shall have the casting vote. The Speaker not participating in the voting shall not be counted as being present when establishing the results of the vote.
- (4) If equality of votes occurs in the course of secret balloting, the voting shall be repeated.
- (5) Members shall vote only in person.
- (6) The result of the voting shall be announced by the Speaker.

The Minutes

Standing Order No. 65

- (1) Verbatim minutes shall be taken of everything that has been said at the sittings, and the minutes shall be authenticated by the notaries. If the Parliament discusses a speech outside the Orders of the Day or discusses one or more orders of the day in camera, this/these will be recorded in separate minutes.
- (2) The archival appendices of the minutes are
 1. the document proceeded with,
 2. the communication that has been read out,

3. the list of names of the voting by name,
4. the minutes of the secret balloting,
5. the signed oath document,
6. the question requiring a written answer and the answer to the same.

(3) The voting list by computer shall be an appendix to the minutes.

Standing Order No. 66

(1) The Speaker of Parliament shall ensure that the minutes be taken.

(2) The verbatim minutes shall include every declaration, speech and interruption, as well as any loud expression of approval or disapproval.

(3) The Member or other speaker may request within three days of the authentication and putting on public display of the minutes the correction of the erroneous text of his speech in the minutes. The Speaker chairing the session shall decide in the matter after hearing the person requesting the correction.

(4) The verbatim minutes - without the appendices - shall be sent in a printed form within fifteen days following the procedure pursuant to paragraph (3) to the Members, the President of the Republic, the members of the Government, the President of the Constitutional Court, the President of the Supreme Court, the Chief Public Prosecutor, the Ombudsmen, the Head of the State Audit Office, the President of the National Bank of Hungary, as well as to the metropolitan, county, and university libraries. The Member may declare in writing if he does not request the receipt of the printed minutes.

(5) On the basis of the minutes of the public sittings of the Parliament, the Parliamentary Journal containing a subject and name index shall be published by sessions, and made available on electronic data media. The Speaker of Parliament shall see to its publication.

(6) The verbatim minutes on the public sittings of the Parliament authenticated by the notaries should be filed in the archives and the printed, authenticated minutes and the Parliamentary Journal shall be deposited at the Library of Parliament.

Alternative rules related to the minutes of the sitting in camera

Standing Order No. 66/A

(1) The Speaker of Parliament requests the indication of the original qualification on the minutes taken on the sitting in camera or a part of the sitting held in camera (hereinafter: sitting in camera), if:

- a. the independent motion or its justification proceeded with in the sitting in camera of the Parliament includes state secret or service secret and this can be stated from the qualification of the document;
- b. the proposer of a written motion or the person speaking before the Orders of the Day reveals data containing state secret or service secret declaring simultaneously the original qualification of such data;

(2) In the case of several data that are qualified for different periods, the Speaker of Parliament requests the indication of the latest original deadline on the minutes.

(3) In respect of declaration of state of war or proclamation of martial law or state of emergency specified in points g), h), i) and j) of subsection (3) of Section 19 of the Constitution, and of passing a decision by the Parliament regarding the deployment of armed forces abroad or within the country, and in the course of performing the tasks specified in subsection (1) of Section 19/E of the Constitution, the Speaker of Parliament will qualify the data generated in the sitting in camera of the Parliament as state secret or service secret with reference to the legal rules related to the protection of secrets and will request the indication of this qualification on the minutes taken on the sitting in camera.

(4) This quality is extended to the entire volume of the minutes and all data media carrying the minutes and to the voice and image records taken on the sitting in camera.

(5) If the Speaker of Parliament - with respect to the absence of the conditions mentioned in paragraphs (1) to (2) - did not qualify or did not request the indication of the qualification on the minutes of the sitting in camera, the minutes should be handled as public documents in accordance with Standing Orders Nos. 65 to 66.

Standing Order No. 66/B

(1) Two copies of qualified minutes should be taken on the sittings in camera.

(2) The Member or a speaker may - within three months from the announcement of the authentication of the qualified minutes - inspect the minutes in the Secret Document Handling (TÜK) Office of the Parliament and ask for the correction of the erroneous text of his speech in the minutes. The decision is to be made by the authenticating notaries following the hearing of the person requesting the correction. In case of debate the decision will be made by the Speaker who chaired the sitting.

(3) The first copy of the verbatim minutes taken on the sitting in camera will be kept by the Speaker of Parliament, and the second copy by the Parliament's TÜK office.

Standing Order No. 66/C

(1) The qualified minutes taken on the sitting in camera could be inspected with the permission of the Speaker of Parliament in the Parliament's TÜK office. Persons permitted to participate in the sitting in camera of the Parliament may inspect the minutes without special permission.

(2) The Speaker of Parliament will permit inspecting of the minutes taken on the sitting in camera only for the certified representative of the state agencies, if

- a. learning of the data included in the minutes is necessary for the performance of the tasks of such state agency, specified in the legal rules, and
- b. the data cannot be retrieved from within the public administration organisation.

(3) The Speaker of Parliament may permit inspecting the qualified minutes including state secret, with the preliminary consent from the person who qualified the data. Inspection of the

minutes including service secret - in the absence of any alternative legal provision - will be permitted without restrictions to the extent specified for the persons concerned.

(4) Inspection should be permitted in writing. The permit shall be attached to the minutes. The inspecting person should inscribe the fact and date of inspection on the minutes and certify same with his signature.

Standing Order No. 66/D

Copying or abstracting the qualified minutes taken on the sitting in camera of the Parliament could be permitted by the Speaker of Parliament. Making copy or abstracts pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 66/C could be permitted on application if the purpose indicated in the said application can only be achieved this way. The permit should be attached to the minutes.

Chapter 2

THE ORDER OF COMMITTEE SITTINGS

Standing Order No. 67

- (1) Following their formation, each committee shall determine the order of its sittings.
- (2) During the session of Parliament, the committees shall have regular sittings.
- (3) Between two sessions committees shall hold sittings if the House Committee or not less than one fifth of the members of the committee request it. Considering the order of operation of the institutions of the European Union, the European Union Committee and other standing committees shall hold sittings during such periods as required.
- (4) The committees may hold sittings during the sitting of Parliament except when votes are scheduled.
- (5) The chairman of the committee shall convene the sitting of the committee by sending a written invitation containing the proposal for the orders of the day, or - in exceptional cases - by word of mouth, indicating the proposed orders of the day.

The Openness of Committee Sittings

Standing Order No. 68

- (1) Committee sittings shall be open to the press.
- (2) The proposer and the Member who has introduced a proposed amendment (amendment to a proposed amendment) may participate at the committee sitting with the right of consultation. Other Members may be given leave to speak with a majority vote of the committee.
- (3) At the request of two fifths of the committee members the committee shall hold a hearing.

(4) The committee shall hear, at least once annually, the minister whom it has heard before his appointment.

Standing Order No. 69

(1) For the protection of state secrets, service secrets or of other data which may not be published the committee shall hold a sitting in camera. On a motion of the proposer or of any other Member the committee may order a sitting in camera. Sitting in camera may be requested for discussing one or more orders of the day of a public sitting.

(2) Committee's sitting in camera may not be requested if the proposer did not designate the scope of state secret, service secret, personal, business or legally protected data, which contains the data the protection of which justifies the request for sitting in camera.

(3) At the sitting in camera the President of the Republic, the Speaker of Parliament, the members of the committee, as well as the persons invited by the committee chairman to the given order of the day may participate. The committee may allow, by a majority vote, the participation of other Members of Parliament not belonging to the committee. Unless the committee otherwise provides, the assigned staff members of the Office of Parliament and the minute-takers may participate at the sitting in camera.

(4) Members of Parliament shall not be excluded from sittings in camera ordered in the course of an extraordinary procedure.

Quorum and Ability to Proceed

Standing Order No. 70

(1) The committee shall have a quorum in the presence of more than half of its members. From the point of view of the quorum the Member having given a commission to a proxy shall be considered as being present.

(2) The committee shall have the ability to proceed in the presence of more than one third of its members. The ability to proceed of the committee shall only be determined if any committee member requests it. From the point of view of ability to proceed the Member having given a commission to a proxy shall be considered as being present.

(3) If the committee has no quorum, then at the next committee sitting the committee shall have a quorum in respect of the same orders of the day regardless of the members present, provided that in the invitation for the repeated committee sitting convened for a date of more than twenty-four hours after the previous one the Members have been warned of this consequence, and provided that at the next sitting the chairman (deputy chairman) as well as at least one Member from the governing party/parties and one from the opposition is present. A committee sitting repeated because of no quorum shall be held within twenty-four hours only if at the repeated sitting at least half of all the committee members are present and vote for the holding of the sitting. The committee sitting repeated in this manner may only be held if at least one opposition Member is present.

(4) The provisions of paragraph (3) shall not be applied in the course of an extraordinary procedure.

Persons Invited to Committee Sittings

Standing Order No. 71

(1) The proposer of the order of the day, the President of the Republic, the representative of the European Union in Hungary, the Speaker of Parliament, the Ombudsman, the Head of the State Audit Office, and - if the order of the day proceeded with is within their competence - members of the Government shall receive an invitation simultaneously with the convocation of the sitting of the standing committee.

(2) The persons invited in accordance with paragraph (1) shall have the right of consultation at the sitting or when proceeding with the order of the day. The person entitled to substitute for the person invited may represent the latter at the sitting. The leader of a faction who is not a member of the committee may be represented by a faction member in possession of a one-time proxy or a proxy valid until repealed. A person who is authorized to make decisions shall represent the Government at the sitting of the committee.

Standing Order No. 72

A Member who has introduced a proposed amendment (amendment to a proposed amendment) to a bill, proposed resolution or draft political declaration shall be informed of the committee sitting one day in advance, if possible. The proposal may be voted on even in the absence of the Member so notified.

Experts

Standing Order No. 73

(1) The chairman of the committee may invite experts to the committee sitting, who shall have the right of consultation at the sitting. The members of the committee may also make proposals to invite experts - with or without naming the expert(s) -, and the committee shall decide about the proposal.

(2) The members of a faction may bring - by factions - one expert each to the committee sitting for the proceedings with the given order of the day. At the sitting of the committee such experts may speak only if the committee gives them leave to do so.

The Chairing of the Committee Sitting

Standing Order No. 74

(1) The committee sitting shall be prepared, convened and chaired by the chairman of the committee.

(2) The chairman of the committee shall give leave to speak, ensure that order be maintained, arrange the voting, announce the resolution of the committee, and sign the minutes taken at the sitting.

(3) Parliament shall elect a deputy chairman (deputy chairmen) to each committee. The deputy chairman shall perform the tasks assigned to him by the committee chairman.

(4) In the event of his permanent inability to attend, the committee chairman shall be substituted for by the deputy chairman appointed by him. In the absence of all of the deputy chairmen the Speaker may give one-off proxy authorisation to a member of the committee. The deputy chairman substituting for the chairman shall enjoy all those powers and have the same duties as the chairman.

Establishing the Orders of the Day

Standing Order No. 75

(1) The orders of the day of the committee shall be determined - on the basis of the written proposal of the chairman forwarded previously to the committee members - by the committee itself. Before the sitting any member of the committee may forward further proposals on the orders of the day to the chairman, who shall transmit the same before the committee sitting to the other members of the committee.

(2) The committee may amend the orders of the day in the course of the sitting, but may add to it only if more than two thirds of its members present approve it.

(3) The committee may limit the time for speeches to an equal duration for all factions.

The Closing of the Debate

Standing Order No. 76

At the committee sitting the provisions of Standing Order No. 59 shall be applied to the closure of the debate, with the proviso that any Member may propose the closure of the debate.

Voting

Standing Order No. 77

(1) The committee shall pass its resolutions - unless otherwise provided by the Standing Orders - with a simple majority of its members present.

(2) The chairman of the committee shall vote together with the committee members.

(3) The rapporteur appointed by the committee shall inform Parliament of the positions taken by the standing committee.

(4) After voting the members of the committee belonging to the minority may announce that they submit a minority opinion. Parliament shall be informed of such minority opinions, after having heard the majority opinion of the committee, from the rapporteur chosen by the minority members from among themselves.

The Minutes

Standing Order No. 78

(1) Verbatim minutes shall be taken of the public committee sittings and shall be authenticated by the chairman.

(2) To the taking and handling of the minutes Standing Orders Nos. 65 and 66 shall be appropriately applied, with the following exceptions:

- a. The chairman shall make a proposal for the correction of the erroneous text of speeches in the minutes at the sitting following public display, on which the committee shall decide without debate.
- b. The authenticated original copy of the verbatim minutes should be filed in the archives and its duplicate be deposited with the Library of Parliament. The verbatim minutes shall be delivered - at their request - to those entitled to participate at the committee sitting.

(3) The authenticated minutes taken at public committee sittings shall be published on the website of Parliament.

Standing Order No. 78/A

(1) The chairman of the committee will request the indication of the original qualification on the minutes taken on the sitting of the committee in camera or on the part of the open sitting of the committee held in camera (hereinafter sitting in camera), if:

- a. in accordance with the qualification specified by or the declaration in this respect of the submitter of the order of the day, the minutes include data communicated by him either in writing or orally, which are qualified by him or by the eligible head of the represented organisation as state secret or service secret, or include the positions revealed in the debate on this subject in the committee;
- b. based on the declaration of a person heard by or making confession at the committee, the information given to the committee qualifies as state secret or service secret, or the confession contains such data;
- c. based on the declaration made by the member of the committee, the revealed data are qualifying as state or service secret.

(2) In the case of several data qualified for different periods, the chairman of the committee requests the indication of the latest original period in the minutes.

(3) The chairman of the committee:

- a. if the data generated in respect of declaration of state of war or proclamation of martial law or state of emergency specified in points g), h), i) and j) of subsection (3) of Section 19 of the Constitution, and of the preparation of the decision of the Parliament regarding the deployment of armed forces abroad or within the country, and in the course of performing the tasks specified in subsection (1) of Section 19/E of the Constitution, qualify as state secret or service secret with reference to the legal rules related to the protection of secrets;
- b. shall qualify the personal, business or legally protected data included in the minutes taken in the course of committee procedures as service secret based on the Parliamentary scope of service secrets, and request the indication of such qualification on the minutes of the sitting in camera.

(4) The chairman of the committee:

- a. will take into consideration the qualification mentioned in point a) of paragraph (1) or any declaration in that respect, without further review;
- b. will take into consideration the declaration mentioned in point b) of paragraph (1) if the person heard or making confession can evidence the original qualification of the data he revealed, by presenting the exemption he received from secrecy obligation. The original qualification of the data revealed must not be certified if the person heard or making confession is eligible for granting exemption from secrecy obligation;
- c. will take into consideration the declaration mentioned in point c) of paragraph (1) if the data revealed are covered by the scope of the legal rules on state secret or service secret and the member of the committee indicates the original qualification of the data he revealed.

(5) The qualification indicated on the minutes is extended to the entire volume of the minutes taken on the sitting in camera and all data media carrying the minutes and to the voice and image records taken on the sitting.

(6) Disregarding the declaration from the person heard by or making confession at the committee, or that of the member of the committee should be justified in writing by the chairman of the committee latest at the signing of the minutes. Such justification should be filed with the documents of the committee meeting.

(7) If the chairman of the committee - with reference to the absence of the conditions stated in paragraphs (1) to (3) - did not qualify or did not request the indication of the qualification on the minutes of the sitting in camera, the minutes should be handled in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 78.

(8) In response to the motion presented by the member of the committee or the person heard by or making confession at the committee, the chairman of the committee may request the derivation of abstracts of the minutes of the sitting in camera, which does not include the data qualifying as state secret or service secret, or personal, business or other legally protected data. If with reference to paragraph (1) the chairman of the committee requests the repeated qualification of the minutes, a statement should be requested from the person originally specifying the qualification in order to certify that the abstracts do not include data qualifying as state secret or service secret. The minutes' abstract should bear the indication of its quality and be handled in accordance with paragraph (7).

Standing Order No. 78/B

The member of the committee when informing the press or in the course of any other activities as a Member may not reveal the data that the qualification or the repeated qualification of the minutes taken on the committee meeting has been based on.

Standing Order No. 78/C

(1) Qualified minutes will be taken on the sitting in camera in one copy that should be handled at the committee's secretariat, together with the rest of the meeting's documents.

(2) The minutes handled together with the documents of the committee meeting should be handed over to the Parliament's TÜK office at the time stipulated by the chairman but latest at the end of the Parliamentary cycle, duly observing the regulation of handling qualified documents.

Standing Order No. 78/D

(1) The qualified minutes taken on the sitting in camera can only be inspected with the permission of the chairman of the committee. Persons permitted to participate in the committee's sitting in camera may inspect the minutes - including the minutes taken during the preceding Parliamentary cycles - without special permission.

(2) The chairman of the committee will permit inspecting of the qualified minutes taken on the sitting in camera to Members not permitted to participate in the committee's sitting in camera if learning the data included in the minutes - according to the written declaration of such Member - is necessary for the performance of his tasks as a Member.

(3) The chairman of the committee will permit inspecting of the minutes taken on the sitting in camera only for the certified representative of the state agencies, if

- a. such representative requests the inspection for the performance of the tasks of the said agency, and
- b. the data included in the qualified minutes cannot be learned within the system of public administration organisations.

(4) The chairman of the committee permits the inspection of the minutes taken on the sitting in camera by a private person or a certified representative of a non-state agency having legal personality to the extent as it refers to him/it and in the interest of his enforcing his rights ensured by the Law, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Orders Nos. 78/E and 78/F.

(5) Inspection of the minutes taken on the sittings in camera will be permitted by the chairman of the committee in writing. Such permission and - in the cases specified in paragraph (2) - the declaration of the Member should be filed with the documents of the committee meeting.

Standing Order No. 78/E

The chairman of the committee will permit the inspection of the minutes including state secret with the consent of the person specifying the qualification of the data. Inspection of the minutes including service secret - should the Law not stipulate alternatively - will be permitted for the parties concerned to the extent of their involvement, without any restriction.

Standing Order No. 78/F

Inspection of the qualified minutes taken on the sitting of the committee in camera can be performed in the official venues of the committee or in the Parliament's TÜK office. The inspecting person should inscribe the fact and the date of the inspection on the front page of the minutes and certifies same with his/her signature.

Standing Order No. 78/G

A copy of or abstracts from the minutes taken on the sitting in camera could be prepared exclusively with the permission of the chairman of the committee. Permission for preparing copy or abstracts could be given in accordance with the conditions stated in Standing Orders Nos. 78/D and 78/E, in response to the relevant application, provided that the purpose indicated in such application can be achieved exclusively this way. The permission should be filed together with the committee's documents.

Standing Order No. 78/H

The chairman's scope of authority regarding the documents of in camera sittings of a Parliamentary committee terminated, will be exercised by the chairman of the committee that took over the tasks of the committee terminated. The scope of authority regarding the documents of in camera sittings of a committee terminated shall be exercised by the Speaker of Parliament.

Designation of Committees

Standing Order No. 79

(1) The Speaker of Parliament - also with regard to the provisions of the Standing Orders - shall, in order to prepare a motion for decision or a committee recommendation,

- a. designate one committee, which may request other committees to give their opinion, or
- b. designate two or more committees indicating the one designated on the first place, or
- c. make a proposal to Parliament to form an ad hoc committee.

(2) A non-designated committee may introduce to Parliament - if it differs from the motion for decision - its opinion on the bill, proposed resolution, or draft political declaration as a proposed amendment.

Joint Proceedings of Several Committees

Standing Order No. 80

(1) In the case of the joint proceedings of several committees these committees may also hold joint sittings.

(2) At the joint sitting voting shall be held separately for each committee.

(3) If the committees proceeding jointly have formed a common standpoint then the provisions of this chapter shall be appropriately applied to the formation of the joint standpoint and the submission of the minority opinion.

The Rules of Operation of the Committees

Standing Order No. 81

(1) The committees shall determine their rules of operation taking into account the provisions of the Standing Orders.

(2) Members shall be given the opportunity to receive information of the opinion of the national interest groups and social organizations which are registered in the register kept by the Secretary-General and which are affected in the matter at hand.

(3) If the Standing Orders or rules of operation of the committee contain no special provisions for the operation of the committee, then the provisions regarding the sittings of Parliament shall be applied appropriately to the proceedings of the committee, with the proviso that the proceedings of Parliament shall mean the proceedings of the committee.

The Operational Costs of the Committees

Standing Order No. 82

(1) The operational costs of the committees shall be provided for separately within the budget of the Office of Parliament.

(2) For the operational costs of temporary committees a committee reserve fund - to be used only for this purpose - shall be set up within the budget of the Office of Parliament.

Reporting by Members Participating in Delegations Abroad

Standing Order No. 83

Members participating in a delegation of Parliament (personal invitation, committee delegation, and delegation by Parliament) abroad shall make a report for the committee dealing with foreign affairs and for the committee competent in the field the delegation is involved in.

Chapter 3

PROCEEDING WITH MOTIONS

1. Independent and Non-Independent Motions

Types of Motions

Standing Order No. 84

(1) Motions that can be put as an independent order of the day on the order book of Parliament (hereinafter referred to as "independent motions") shall be

- bills,
- proposed resolutions,
- draft political declarations,
- reports,
- interpellations, and
- questions.

(2) Motions that can be introduced in connection with independent motions (hereinafter referred to as "non-independent motions") shall be

- proposals for urgency,
- proposals for extraordinary procedure,
- proposed amendments, and
- committee recommendations.

(3) Matters other than those mentioned in paragraph (1) - except for the application specified in paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 143 - shall not be put on the order book of Parliament. Other proposals, requests, or motions that can be submitted in accordance with the Standing Orders shall not qualify as motions according to paragraphs (1) and (2); to them the appropriate provisions of the Standing Orders shall be applied.

Bills

Standing Order No. 85

(1) A bill shall be a proposal for the framing of a legal rule belonging to the competence of Parliament and containing the proposed text and title of the Act.

(2) Bills can be introduced by

- the President of the Republic,
- the Government,
- the committees of Parliament, and
- Members.

(3) If the bill intends to amend or invalidate an Act, this should be indicated in its title.

Standing Order No. 86

(1) If until the general debate of the bill several bills have been introduced in the same subject matter during the same period of time or concerning the same Act,

- the proposals of those standing higher up in the hierarchy in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 85 shall have precedence over the ones of those being lower in the hierarchy, and
- from the proposals of those standing on the same level of the hierarchy the earlier proposals shall have precedence over the ones introduced later.

(2) In the application of point a) of paragraph (1) the thirty-day deadline specified in paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 99 must not be applied.

Proposed Resolutions

Standing Order No. 87

(1) A proposed resolution shall be a textual motion for a decision of Parliament, for a guideline of Parliament or for a principled position which do not require the format of a legal rule and which shall contain the proposed text of the resolution, guideline or principled position.

(2) Proposals for a resolution may be submitted by those listed in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 85.

(3) Proposed resolutions shall be provided with a title characteristic of their contents and with a justification. If the proposed resolution aims at amending or repealing a resolution of Parliament, this shall be indicated in the title.

Political Declarations

Standing Order No. 88

(1) Parliament - with the votes of two thirds of the Members present - may make a declaration on any political issue.

1. Draft political declarations may be submitted by those listed in sub-paragraphs b) to d) of paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 85.

Reports

Standing Order No. 89

(1) A report shall inform Parliament of some measure taken, investigation conducted or the activity of some organ.

(2) Reports shall be made by those listed in sub-paragraphs b) to c) of paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 85, as well as the Head of the State Audit Office and those required by law to do so.

(3) The accounting of those who are required to render account on the basis of the Constitution or of any separate Act shall be considered as a report when applying the Standing Orders.

(4) Those authorized to report may, together with the report, introduce a bill or a proposed resolution as well.

Interpellations

Standing Order No. 90

(1) In order to ask for an explanation, Members of Parliament may address an interpellation to those defined in the Constitution in all matters belonging to the competence of the latter.

(2) The subject matter of the interpellation shall be indicated in the form of a title.

(3) In the interpellation the addressee shall be indicated, as well as the reason why he is competent to give an answer.

(4) The Speaker of Parliament shall refuse an interpellation introduced not in accordance with paragraphs (1) to (3). He shall inform Parliament thereof at its next sitting day.

Questions

Standing Order No. 91

(1) In order to ask for information, Members of Parliament may submit a question to those defined in the Constitution in all matters belonging to the competence of the latter.

(2) The subject matter of the question shall be indicated in the form of a title, and reference shall be made as to whether the person asking the question requests an oral answer at the sitting of Parliament or a written one outside the sitting. The addressee of the question should give the answer to the person requesting written answer in fifteen days. The provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) of Standing Order No. 90 shall be applied to questions as well.

Motions for Urgency

Standing Order No. 92

(1) The proposer of an independent motion may propose to Parliament to proceed with the motion with urgency.

(2) The motion for urgency shall be justified.

(3) At least fifty supporting signatures of Members shall be required for the Member to be able to introduce the motion of urgency.

Motions for Extraordinary Procedure

Standing Order No. 93

The proposer of a bill or proposed resolution may propose to Parliament to proceed with the motion in an extraordinary procedure (Standing Orders Nos. 124 to 128).

Proposed Amendments

Standing Order No. 94

(1) Committees of Parliament and Members of Parliament may - with the exceptions laid down in the Standing Orders - introduce proposed amendments to bills, proposed resolutions, or to draft political declarations.

(2) The proposer - with the exception of the case referred to in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 107 - shall not introduce proposed amendments to his own motion.

(3) If the introduced bill or proposed resolution aims at amending a legal rule or resolution of Parliament, the proposed amendment shall not extend to those parts of the legal rule or resolution which are not affected by the amendment, except if this is clearly necessary because of the contents of the regular proposed amendment.

(4) Proposed amendments shall be justified.

(5) If a proposed amendment may result in an increase in the expenditures of the central budget or in a decrease in the revenues of the same, the solution proposed in order to preserve the budgetary balance shall also be pointed out.

Committee Recommendations

Standing Order No. 95

(1) The designated committee shall introduce a recommendation to Parliament to a bill, a proposed resolution, a draft political declaration, or a report assigned to it by the Speaker of Parliament. In the case of a bill, proposed resolution or draft political declaration the recommendation shall evaluate the introduced proposed amendments as well.

(2) In its recommendation made to the general debate of the bill the designated committee shall also examine those referred to in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 101 and paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 97.

(3) In its recommendation to the debate in detail of the bill the designated committee shall also examine whether the bill, proposed resolution or proposed amendment supported by the committee

- a. is in conformity with the Constitution, other Acts, or can be harmonized with the Hungarian legal system in force,
- b. contains contradictory provisions, and
- c. observes the requirements of drafting legal roles and of grammatical correctness.

(4) The Speaker of Parliament or - at the request of at least ten Members - Parliament may determine a deadline for making the committee recommendation. The deadline shall be determined so as to leave at least fifteen days for the committee to make its recommendation for the general debate, and at least thirty days for its recommendation for the debate in detail.

The Recommendation of the Budget and the Constitutional Committees

Standing Order No. 96

(1) The standing committee dealing with the budget (hereinafter "Budget Committee") - if it proceeds as a non-designated committee - shall make a recommendation at the request of the Speaker of Parliament or of the designated committee, and may, at its own initiative, make a recommendation to each bill, proposed resolution, and proposed amendments related thereto which have a significant impact on the budget.

(2) The Budget Committee shall assess whether the proposal

- a. conforms to the rules relating to the budget;
- b. can be implemented from the point of view of the budget, and in what manner.

(3) The standing committee dealing with constitutional matters (hereinafter referred to as "Constitutional Committee") - if it proceeds as a non-designated committee - shall make a recommendation at the request of the Speaker of Parliament or of the designated committee, or may, at its own initiative, make a recommendation to each bill, Parliamentary resolution

regarding the questions determined in sub-paragraph a) to c) of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 95. The Constitutional Committee shall make a proposed amendment if necessary.

(4) In the cases regulated in this Standing Order the provisions regarding the designated committee shall be applied to the Budget Committee and the Constitutional Committee.

Committee Information Material

Standing Order No. 96/A

The Parliamentary Committee may elaborate a committee information material on its statements - not requiring the form of Parliamentary resolution - regarding the inspection of governmental work or any other issues coming to the competence of the committee. The committee information material should be sent to the Speaker, the parliamentary Committees and the leaders of the factions, and simultaneously made available for the Members.

The Conformity of Motions with the Rules

Standing Order No. 97

(1) Motions shall be suitable for proceedings and voting.

(2) In the justification of a bill or proposed amendment the expected social and (if possible, quantified) estimated economic impacts shall be pointed out.

(3) The Speaker of Parliament may order the use of forms in respect of the documents to be filed with him.

(4) A motion introduced not in conformity with the rules may be refused by the Speaker of Parliament.

2. Proceedings with Independent Motions

Proceedings with Bills

Standing Order No. 98

(1) Bills shall be introduced to the Speaker of Parliament.

(2) The Speaker shall announce the introduction of a bill at the next sitting of Parliament, naming simultaneously the designated committee.

(3) A bill introduced by a Member shall be put on the order book of Parliament only if the designated committee supports it.

(4) The bill introduced by a Member shall be handed over by the Speaker of Parliament to the designated committee, which shall pass a resolution within thirty days - or within eight days if the Member has asked for urgency - on putting it on the order book. If the designated committee refuses to put it on the order book, the title, the name of its proposer and the date of the committee resolution shall be announced by the notary at the next sitting of Parliament.

(5) If the putting on the order book of the motion introduced by the Member and refused by the committee in accordance with paragraph (4) hereof is requested by the faction leader on behalf of the faction, Parliament shall pass a resolution after a speech of at most five minutes of the proposer on putting it on the order book. On the question of whether to put the motion on the order book, one Member from each faction and the independent Member first asking leave to speak may speak for at most two minutes, and the proposer may respond for at most two minutes. Such request for putting a motion on the order book may be introduced by each faction exclusively at regular sessions, and not more than six times a session during the session when the designated committee refused the inclusion of the bill into the order book.

(6) An independent Member may request a motion to be put on the order book under the proceedings set forth by paragraph (5) if such a request is supported by at least the number of Members specified in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15. A Member may only support motions regarding bills introduced by independent Members to be put on the order book at ordinary sessions, and not more than once per session.

Standing Order No. 99

(1) The proposer may request urgent proceedings with the bill.

(2) If urgent proceedings with a bill have been requested to the passing of which the vote of a qualified majority of Members is required, the same majority shall decide on the matter of urgency as well.

(3) If Parliament has ordered urgent proceedings with the bill, the bill may be put on the orders of the day - taking also into account the preparation in committee - at the earliest at the following sitting, and at the latest it shall be put on the orders of the day within thirty days of the ordering of urgent proceedings.

Standing Order No. 100

(1) Parliament shall, on the basis of its own decision, proceed with significant bills in two stages; first debating the principles of the bill, and then the elaborated text of the bill.

(1) The principles of the bill will be specified by the Parliament in a Parliamentary resolution which should be approved by the same majority as is necessary for the bill.

Standing Order No. 101

(1) Proceedings with bills shall start with the general debate. The general debate shall consist of debating the necessity of the bill or parts of it, its regulating principles, as well as whether it is suitable for the debate in detail. The debate may also extend to those put down in subparagraph a) of paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 95.

(2) The starting day of the general debate shall be determined in such manner that the recommendation of the designated committee - if it is not presented orally - be delivered to the Members at least three days before the sitting. In the event of urgent proceedings an exception may be made to this rule.

(3) In the debate, first the proposer of the bill shall take the floor, and then - if the proposer is not the Government - the representative of the Government. Thereafter the Chairman or the rapporteur of the designated committee shall summarize the recommendation of the committee, and - if there is a minority opinion - the minority of the committee shall present its opinion. Following this the Chairman (rapporteur) of the committee which has not been designated but whose competence the bill concerns shall speak, then the members of the factions, and finally the independent Members shall speak, in the order set forth in paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 50. The time allotted to both the Chairman (rapporteur) of the committee and the speaker expressing the minority opinion shall be five minutes each. Parliament may allott a longer time limit, upon the proposal of the House Committee. Before the closure of the general debate the proposer shall have the right to reply.

Standing Order No. 102

(1) Proposed amendments may be introduced to the bill until the closure of the general debate, and amendments to proposed amendments until the closure of the debate in detail. The designated committee, as well as the Constitutional Committee proceeding in accordance with paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 96, may introduce proposed amendments until the closure of the closing debate. On the advice of the House Committee Parliament may determine a shorter deadline for the introduction of amendments to proposed amendments. These rules shall not apply to the proposed amendments determined in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 107.

(2) Proposed amendments shall be handed over by the Speaker to the designated committee for it to take a position on them.

(3) The designated committee shall assess the proposed amendments and take a position on whether it supports them or not. The committee shall submit to Parliament the proposed amendments in its recommendation preparing the debate in detail.

(4) Amendments to proposed amendments shall be handed over by the Speaker to the designated committee for its opinion. The committee shall inform Parliament - in the manner defined in paragraph (3) - of the introduced amendments to proposed amendments in a supplementary recommendation.

(5) The committee designated on the first place will take position in respect of all of the proposed amendments (amendment to a proposed amendment).

Standing Order No. 103

(1) The proposer may withdraw his bill at any time until the beginning of the closing vote; after the closure of the debate in detail, however, the consent of Parliament shall be required to do so. A bill shall be regarded withdrawn if it has been replaced by the proposer with another version. To the bill submitted in a new version the provisions related to newly submitted proposals shall be applied.

(2) The proposer may ask for the return of the proposal for revision in accordance with the rules laid down in paragraph (1). The revised and re-introduced bill shall be proceeded with urgently if Parliament has begun proceedings with it, and if the proposer introduced the revised bill within three months from asking for the return.

(3) The proposer of the proposed amendment (amendment to a proposed amendment) may change his proposed amendment until the closure of the debate in detail and may withdraw it any time until the beginning of voting. Such withdrawal shall not affect the validity of a proposed amendment to the amendment withdrawn. If the withdrawn proposed amendment is taken over by another Member as his own proposal, and he announces it after the withdrawal, the proposal may be proceeded with further.

(4) For changing the proposed amendment (amendment to a proposed amendment) the rules governing its introduction shall be authoritative.

Standing Order No. 104

(1) After the closure of the general debate Parliament shall decide whether to admit the bill to the debate in detail.

(2) If no proposed amendment has been introduced to the bill until the closure of the general debate, the Speaker shall warn Parliament that there shall be no debate in detail. If no one asks for leave to speak after the warning, then - following the closure of the general debate - Parliament shall decide whether to pass the bill.

(3) If Parliament does not admit the bill to the debate in detail, the proposer may introduce, within thirty days, a revised version of it. On expiry of this time limit the bill shall be considered as withdrawn.

Standing Order No. 105

(1) The debate in detail shall consist of debating the provisions of the bill which are affected by amendments and the recommendation of the committee(s).

(2) The debate shall be opened and closed - by adhering to the numerical order of succession of the provisions - in respect of each independent provision, then in respect of the preamble and of the title.

(3) During the debate in detail Members shall speak exclusively on the proposed amendment or on the part of the bill in connection with the proposed amendment.

(4) During the debate Parliament may change the previously determined order of debate; it may order the joining the debates of several partial provisions, or it may separate the debates of different proposed amendments on the same subject.

Standing Order No. 106

(1) After the closure of the debate in detail the voting on proposed amendments shall follow. Only those proposed amendments (amendments to a proposed amendment) shall be voted on

- a. with which the proposer agrees, or
- b. which have obtained the support of one third of the designated committee or, in the case of several designated committees, of any committee, or
- c. which have been introduced by the designated committee, or
- d. on which the faction leader requested that they be voted on, or

- e. which has been submitted by an independent Member, and where the voting has been requested by the independent Member and such request has been supported by not less than the number of Members specified in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15.

(2) The leader of a faction may make use of his right referred to in point d) of paragraph (1), and an independent Member may make use of his right referred to in point e) of paragraph (1) at most on three occasions during the voting of the same motion for decision. Voting may be requested with a written submission handed over to the Speaker one hour before the opening of the session at the latest, where the orders of the day of includes the voting on the proposed amendments (amendments to the proposed amendments) submitted to the given bill.

(3) Proposed amendments (amendments to proposed amendments) with which the Government agrees shall be voted on in one vote. The leader of any faction and the government - provided that the proposer is not the government - may request in writing that Parliament vote separately on not more than three amendments (amendment to a proposed amendment).

(4) The proposer will inform the leaders of the factions and the government - provided that the proposer is not the government - on the proposed amendments (amendment to a proposed amendment) which he agrees on. This information should be submitted on the second workday before the session at the latest, where the orders of the day includes voting on the proposed amendments (amendment to a proposed amendment) to the given bill. The standpoint of the proposer should be made accessible for the Members with the same deadline. The leader of any faction or the government - if the proposer is not the government - may request in writing submitted to the Speaker within one day from the receipt of the information of the proposer the separate voting on a proposed amendment (amendment to a proposed amendment).

(5) If the closing vote takes place within five days of the closing of voting after the debate in detail, the Government shall inform Parliament orally at the closure of the debate in detail of with which proposed amendments (amendments to proposed amendments) it agrees. Immediately after the information of the Government the leader of any faction may request that Parliament vote separately on a certain proposed amendment (amendment to a proposed amendment). In the course of the proceedings the provisions of Standing Order No. 56 shall be applied, with the exception that the Speaker shall be required to order the break.

(6) If to a particular part of the bill several proposed amendments have been introduced, voting shall - as far as possible - proceed in the following order:

- amendments proposing to delete the part in question,
- amendments containing several proposed amendments,
- other proposed amendments.

(7) During voting on the provisions affected by amendments the original text of the bill shall not be voted upon.

(8) After the debate in detail and the voting on the provisions affected by amendments - at the earliest after five days of that voting - a closing vote shall be held on the bill as a whole. In the absence of an agreed proposed amendment (amendment to a proposed amendment), the closing vote could be performed after the voting on the proposed amendments.

(9) After the closure of the debate in detail - at the latest two days before the closing vote - the unified bill to be put to the closing vote - as certified by the proposer - shall be sent to the faction leaders and to the Constitutional Committee and be made available to Members.

Standing Order No. 107

(1) Before the beginning of the closing vote a proposed amendment may be introduced in writing to any provision voted on in the debate in detail for such reason that the provision voted on is not in compliance with the Constitution or any other Act, with a provision of the bill already voted on or with any provision of the bill not affected by amendments. The proposer may also introduce a proposed amendment before the closing vote. Proposed amendment could be submitted before the closing vote one hour before the opening of the sitting at the latest, where the orders of the day includes the closing vote on the given bill.

(2) The proposed amendment introduced before the closing vote shall be handed over by the Speaker to the Constitutional Committee. The proposed amendment submitted before the closing vote on the bill of the budget, supplementary budget, final account or budget amendment will be handed over by the Speaker to the Budget Committee.

(3) Before the beginning of the closing vote the designated committee or the Constitutional Committee may propose the postponement of the closing vote if it wants to introduce a proposed amendment determined in paragraph (1). After hearing the reasons of the proposer - Parliament shall vote without debate on the postponement of the closing vote.

(4) The closing debate of the bill shall consist of debating the proposed amendments in accordance with paragraph (1). To the proceedings, debate and voting the provisions of Standing Orders Nos. 105 to 106 shall be appropriately applied, with the proviso that if the Government is not the proposer it shall declare whether or not it agrees with the passing of the bill. In the event of such proposed amendments the closing vote may take place only after the closing debate of the bill.

(5) If during the closing ballot a decision requesting qualified majority vote is necessary, the closing ballot should be performed in two parts where the decision requesting qualified majority vote should be made first. In the absence of the necessary majority, the provisions of Standing Order No. 56 should be applied save that the Speaker will be obliged to order break.

Standing Order No. 107/A

The closing vote may not be repeated and the closing vote can be postponed at most for one occasion for reason specified in paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 107. After the deadline specified in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 107 new proposed amendments may not be submitted.

Standing Order No. 107/B

[cancelled]

Standing Order No. 108

(1) The bill passed by Parliament shall be signed within fifteen days by the Speaker of Parliament and sent forthwith to the President of the Republic.

(2) Parliament may ask the Speaker of Parliament to request the urgent promulgation of the bill of the President of the Republic. Parliament shall decide on this matter without debate.

Standing Order No. 109

(1) The ratification by referendum of the Act passed by Parliament but not yet signed by the President of the Republic may be proposed in writing at the completion of the closing vote at the latest. The Parliament will decide on the ratification by referendum at the session following the closing vote, in accordance with the provisions related to the discussions of the proposed resolution (Standing Order No. 112).

(2) If Parliament has ordered the calling of a referendum on the Act, the Act shall be sent to the President of the Republic after it has been ratified by the referendum.

Standing Order No. 110

(1) If, before signing it, the President of the Republic sends back the Act - together with his observations - to Parliament for reconsideration, Parliament shall put it on the orders of the day within sixty days at the latest.

(2) The communication of the President of the Republic shall be handed over by the Speaker of Parliament to the Constitutional Committee and the designated committee. Following this, paragraphs (2) and (4) of Standing Order No. 107 shall be appropriately applied to the proceedings.

Standing Order No. 111

If the President of the Republic sends back the Act to Parliament because of a provision declared to be unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court, the Speaker of Parliament shall call upon the Constitutional Committee and the designated committee to introduce a proposed amendment in conformity with the resolution of the Constitutional Court. Following this, paragraphs (2) and (4) of Standing Order No. 107 shall be appropriately applied to the proceedings.

Proceedings with Proposed Resolutions

Standing Order No. 112

(1) To the proceedings with proposed resolutions Standing Orders Nos. 98 to 99 and 101 to 108 shall be appropriately applied, with the exceptions determined in paragraphs (2) to (3) hereof.

(2) Resolutions of Parliament shall be published in the official gazette. Resolutions shall be signed by the Speaker and the notaries on duty. The Speaker of Parliament shall see to the publication of such resolutions.

(3) On the publication of resolutions passed at sittings in camera Parliament shall decide on a case by case basis.

Proceedings with Draft Political Declarations

Standing Order No. 113

(1) To the proceedings with draft political declarations Standing Orders Nos. 98 to 99 and 101 to 108 shall be appropriately applied.

(2) On the manner of publishing political declarations Parliament shall decide on a case by case basis.

Proceedings with Reports

Standing Order No. 114

(1) To the proceedings with reports Standing Orders Nos. 98 to 99 and 101 to 103 shall be appropriately applied, with the exception that no amendment may be proposed to a submitted report. On the report there shall be only a general debate, which shall be conducted on whether or not the findings and measures are well founded.

(2) Parliament shall pass a resolution on the acceptance of the report.

Proceedings with Interpellations and Questions

Standing Order No. 115

(1) The person to whom an interpellation or question may be addressed shall be required to answer the interpellation or question in person, or exceptionally by his deputy.

(2) Interpellations shall be introduced to the Speaker of Parliament. The interpellation shall contain the facts and circumstances related thereto.

(3) At the hour indicated in the orders of the day of the sitting of Parliament each week at least ninety minutes shall be provided for proceedings with interpellations and questions. Interpellations and questions shall be put on the orders of the day chronologically as they have been introduced. It shall be ensured for each faction that at least one interpellation and question introduced by it be proceeded with. The House Committee will ensure the possibility of presenting interpellations and questions for the independent Members, taking their number into consideration.

(4) If the interpellation concerns the operation of the whole Government, the Prime Minister shall answer it, if it concerns several ministers or the person of the minister concerned is in doubt the Prime Minister shall appoint the minister to respond.

Standing Order No. 116

(1) Parliament may proceed only with that interpellation which has been introduced on a working day by twelve o'clock, at least four days before the sitting day.

(2) The Member may withdraw his interpellation at the latest by the time he has to deliver it. If the Member is not present at the expected hour of the interpellation as scheduled in the orders of the day and has not excused himself by justifying his absence in advance, the interpellation shall be considered as withdrawn. If the Member has previously excused himself the Speaker shall set another date for the interpellation.

(3) The interpellation may be presented in three minutes. There shall be four minutes for the answer, and another one minute to make a declaration whether or not to accept the answer. When these time limits are exceeded the Speaker shall cut off the person speaking, simultaneously giving reason.

(4) The interpellation shall not contain such new facts which have not been contained in the written text of the same. One can depart from the written text only with the consent of the person to whom the interpellation is addressed.

Standing Order No. 117

(1) All interpellations shall be answered at the sittings of Parliament. At the justified request of the person to whom the interpellation has been addressed Parliament may give leave - by voting without debate - to give a written answer within thirty days. In this case, the request and the answer shall be included in the minutes of Parliament.

(2) The written answer shall be sent to the Member who has made the interpellation and to the Speaker of Parliament. The Speaker of Parliament shall provide for sending the written answer to the Members. The interpellation shall be proceeded with at the sitting following the presentation of the written answer.

(3) Following the answer - also in the case written answers - the person having made the interpellation has the right to reply, which shall not go beyond evaluating the answer and justifying the evaluation. If the Member rejects the answer Parliament shall decide on the acceptance of the answer.

(4) If Parliament has rejected the answer the interpellation shall be handed over to the competent committee. The proceedings with the interpellation shall be put on the orders of the day of Parliament following the receipt of the report of the committee, and one of the following decisions shall be made on the basis of the proposal of the committee:

1. Parliament shall subsequently approve the answer;
2. Parliament shall accept the answer as complemented at the committee sitting by the person to whom the interpellation has been addressed; or
3. Parliament shall confirm its previous refusal of the answer and request the committee to work out a plan for proposed measures.

Standing Order No. 118

(1) To dealing with the introduction of and the answering to questions, the provisions of Standing Orders Nos. 115 and 117 shall be applied with the following exceptions:

- only that question may be proceeded with which has been introduced on a working day by twelve o'clock on a day preceding the sitting day;

- there shall be two minutes for asking the question and also for answering it;
- in the case of questions the Member has no right to reply, and Parliament shall not decide about the acceptance of the answer.

(2) On exceeding the time limit defined sub-paragraph b) of paragraph (1) hereof, the person speaking shall be cut off by the Speaker.

The Hour of Instantaneous Questions and Answers

Standing Order No. 119

(1) At the sitting of Parliament there shall be at least sixty minutes ensured per week, at the hour indicated in the orders of the day, for directly asking and answering questions (hour of instantaneous questions).

(2) On the day of the hour of instantaneous questions, at the latest one hour before the opening of the sitting day, the leader of any faction may request - with the indication of the subject matter - that the Member designated by him be given an opportunity to ask a question within the framework of the hour of instantaneous questions.

(3) During the hour of instantaneous questions, in the first round, the opposition factions may ask their questions in the order of their strength, whereas in the following rounds all factions may ask their questions in the same order.

(4) During the hour of instantaneous questions those who, according to the Constitution, are required to give answers shall be present in the chamber. If the person required to give answers must perform a pressing public duty he shall previously inform the Speaker of Parliament and designate the person authorized to give answers in his stead.

(5) If the Prime Minister or the Minister does not answer in person the Member may ask for an answer in person. In this case the person to whom the question has been addressed shall answer in person at the latest during the third next hour of instantaneous questions. Until this deadline the faction leader may rank the question on such place where the raising of the question is possible, otherwise the obligation of giving personal answer will cease.

(6) There shall be two minutes each for asking or answering a question. The Member and the person to whom the question has been addressed shall have the right to reply in one minute. The last word shall be due to the person asked. When the time limits are exceeded the Speaker shall cut off the person speaking.

(7) It shall be made possible for each faction that it be able to ask at least one question and receive an answer to it.

Chapter 4

SPECIAL PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings Related to the Bill on the Budget, Supplementary Budget and Final Account

Standing Order No. 120

(1) During the proceedings with and voting on the Bill on the Budget of the Republic of Hungary (hereinafter referred to as "Bill on the Budget"), and the bill on the Supplementary Budget and the Bill on the implementation of the budget (hereinafter referred to as "Final account") and during the decision making the general provisions of the Standing Orders shall be applied with the exceptions laid down in Standing Orders Nos. 120 to 121.

(2) Each committee shall give its opinion concerning the Bill on the State Budget, on the Supplementary Budget and the Bill on the Final accounts. The opinions of the committees shall be summarized and submitted to Parliament by the Budget Committee. The time allotted to both the Chairman (rapporteur) of the Budget Committee and the speaker expressing the minority opinion shall be five minutes each. Parliament may allot a longer time limit, upon the proposal of the House Committee.

(3) On the amounts and the grand total of revenues and expenditures of the central budgetary chapters, on the extent of the deficit or surplus, as well as on the general reserves of the central budget only the Budget Committee may introduce proposed amendments.

(4) Paragraph (5) of Standing Order No. 94 shall not be applied to the proposed amendments, which can be introduced in the debate before voting according to paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 121 and in the debate over the bill of the supplementary budget.

(5) In the proposed amendment (amendment to a proposed amendment) regarding changes in the revenue and expenditure projections of the public finances and determination of new projections, it should be indicated whether such revenues and expenditures are ordinary or extraordinary.

(6) In the detailed debate of the bills on the budget, supplementary budget and the final account the provisions stated in paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 105 regarding the sequence of the instructions should not be applied.

(7) The quantification of the proposed amendments related to regrouping between the ordinary and extraordinary revenue and expenditure projections approved in respect of certain revenue and expenditure projections of the central budget is stated in a unified proposal (paragraph (9) of Standing Order No. 106) except for the projections affected by the normative subsidies that are subjected to the provisions of Standing Order No. 107.

Standing Order No. 121

(1) Urgent proceedings with the Bill on the Budget may not be requested.

(2) The Budget Committee - before the voting of Parliament by 30 November on the grand total of revenues and expenditures of the central budgetary chapters, on the extent of the deficit or surplus of the next year's Bill on the Budget - shall present in its recommendation preparing the debate in detail and in Part I of its supplementary recommendation those proposed amendments and committee recommendations which affect the amounts by chapters and the grand total of revenues and expenditures of the central budget, as well as the budgetary deficit or surplus of the Bill on the Budget. Proposed amendments not affecting these matters shall be indicated - without textual presentation - in Part II of the recommendation.

(3) Parliament shall decide by 30 November about the proposed amendments according to paragraph (2) contained in Part I of the recommendation as well as about the chapter amounts; it shall not be required to decide about the proposed amendments listed in Part II of the recommendation.

(4) In the course of the voting according to paragraph (3) hereof, following the decisions about the proposed amendments and taking them into account - or as a result of them - the Budget Committee shall make a proposed amendment on the amount of the general reserves of the budget, then on the amounts by chapters of the revenues and expenditures, the grand total, as well as the deficit or surplus of the central budget and on covering the deficit (disposing of the surplus). Parliament shall forthwith pass a resolution on this proposal without debate.

(5) The proposed amendment mentioned in paragraph (4) includes the quantification in accordance with the aspects stated in paragraph (7) of Standing Order No. 120.

(6) Within three days of voting, the Budget Committee shall inform Parliament of those parts of the Bill on the Budget upon which Parliament has already decided.

(7) Following the information according to paragraph (6) hereof the debate in detail shall be re-opened. Within eight days of the information amendments to proposed amendments not affecting the main amounts of the revenues and expenditures of the chapters or the extent of the deficit or surplus may be introduced.

(8) After the closure of the re-opened debate in detail, the Budget Committee shall make a new recommendation, which shall include the proposed amendments not affected by the decision of the Parliament pursuant to paragraph (4) and the proposed amendments received after the re-opening of the debate in detail (amendment to a proposed amendment).

Proceedings with International Treaties Belonging to the Competence of Parliament

Standing Order No. 122

(1) In the course of proceedings with international treaties belonging to the competence of Parliament (hereinafter referred to as "international treaties") the general provisions of the Standing Orders shall be applied with the exceptions laid down in Standing Orders Nos. 122 to 123.

(2) Before the signing of an international treaty the committees dealing with foreign affairs - requesting the standpoint of the committee(s) the competence of which is affected by the international treaty - shall take a position on the Government's request concerning the signing of the treaty.

(3) The proposed resolution on the ratification of an international treaty, on the joining of it or its acceptance, on the amendment of an international treaty, as well as on joining or quitting an international organization shall be submitted by the Government, with the text of the treaty or of the statutes of the international organization attached.

(4) The committee competent according to the object of the treaty shall make a recommendation to the proposed resolution.

(5) No proposed amendment shall be introduced to that part of a proposed resolution which contains the text of the signed international treaty.

Standing Order No. 123

(1) A bill on the promulgation of an international treaty - which includes the concluded treaty - shall be submitted by the Government.

(2) The committee(s) competent according to the object of the treaty shall make a recommendation to the bill.

(3) No proposed amendment shall be introduced to that part of the bill which contains the text of the concluded international treaty.

The Extraordinary Procedure

Standing Order No. 124

(1) At the introduction of a bill or proposed resolution (hereinafter referred to under this title jointly as "bill") the proposer may request the application of extraordinary procedure to the proceedings.

(2) No extraordinary procedure shall be requested if, according to the Constitution, the vote of two thirds of the Members, or of the Members present, is required for passing the Act, nor at the proceedings with the Bill on the Annual Budget of the Republic of Hungary or on the amendment or implementation of the same, and in the discussions over the bill on the supplementary budget.

(3) If during the proceedings in extraordinary procedure with a bill submitted by the Government the Government proposes that the voting on the submission be a vote of confidence at the same time, the extraordinary procedure shall be interrupted forthwith and the proceedings with the bill shall be re-started according to the general provisions or to Standing Order No. 134.

(4) In the course of the extraordinary procedure the general provisions governing the introduction of and proceedings with the bill shall be applied with the exceptions made in Standing Orders Nos. 124 to 128.

Standing Order No. 125

(1) On whether to proceed in extraordinary procedure - after the possible speech of the proposer - Parliament shall decide without debate. To the acceptance of proceedings in extraordinary procedure the vote of four fifths of the Members present shall be required.

(2) Urgent proceedings with a bill to be proceeded with in extraordinary procedure shall be requested at the introduction of the bill. To the voting on urgency paragraph (1) shall be authoritative.

(3) After extraordinary procedure has been ordered the Speaker of Parliament shall forthwith designate the committee which shall hold the debate on the bill.

Standing Order No. 126

- (1) Proposed amendments may be submitted within twenty-one days of the resolution ordering extraordinary procedure.
- (2) In the case of urgent proceedings the deadline for submitting proposed amendments shall be eight days from the passing of the parliamentary resolution on urgency.
- (3) After expiry of the deadline determined for proposed amendments only amendments to proposed amendments introduced earlier may be introduced until the closure of the committee debate. This provision shall not be applied to the designated committee.

Standing Order No. 127

- (1) The designated committee shall give its opinion on the bill and decide about whether to support the proposed amendments.
- (2) The Members may speak at the sitting of the committee.

Standing Order No. 128

- (1) In the event of extraordinary and urgent proceedings over the bill the designated committee will perform debates after the passing of the thirty-day deadline open for the submission of proposed amendments. On the sitting following the closure of the debate the bill will be put on the orders of the day of the Parliament.
- (2) In the course of the proceedings at the sitting first the proposer of the bill, and then - if the bill has not been submitted by the Government - the representative of the Government shall speak. Thereafter the representative of the designated committee shall set forth the recommendation of the committee. One Member from each faction may put forward the standpoint of his faction. From among the independent Members the one first requesting leave to speak may express his opinion. The proposer shall have the right to reply before voting.
- (3) Following the speeches referred to in paragraph (2) the Parliament shall vote on the proposed amendments supported by the designated committee as a whole.
- (4) In the event of extraordinary procedure, the five-day deadline pursuant to paragraph (8) of Standing Order No. 106 and the provisions of Standing Order No. 107 should be applied only if the Constitutional Committee so requested.

Political Debates

Standing Order No. 129

- (1) Parliament shall - on the motion of the Government or of at least one fifth of the Members - hold a debate on the comprehensive political topic indicated in the motion. Such motions may be introduced and discussed exclusively at an ordinary session. Each Member may support, per session, at most two motions which are aimed at holding a political debate.

(2) The political debate shall be held by Parliament fourteen days after and within twenty-eight days of the introduction of the motion.

(3) For proceedings with a political debate a time frame shall be determined with the application of Standing Order No. 53; the time frame shall not be shorter than four hours. The political debate shall open with the declaration of the Government and come to an end with the reply of the Government.

Managing matters Concerning Immunity

Standing Order No. 130

(1) In the course of managing matters concerning the immunity of Members the general provisions of the Standing Orders shall be applied with the exceptions laid down in Standing Orders Nos. 130 to 131.

(2) The Speaker of Parliament shall hand over the motion on suspending parliamentary immunity (subsections (2) to (3) of Section 5 of Act LV of 1990 on the Legal Status of Members of Parliament - hereinafter referred to as "Act on Legal Status"), the announcement objecting to a violation of parliamentary immunity (subsection (2) of Section 6 of the Act on Legal Status), to the standing committee of Parliament dealing with matters of immunity and incompatibility (hereinafter referred to as "Committee on Immunity"), and shall inform Parliament and the Member referred to in the procedure. If Parliament is not in session the Speaker of Parliament shall decide whether it is necessary to call together Parliament in order to pass a judgement on the matter of immunity.

(3) The chairman of the Committee on Immunity shall notify the Member and the ex-Member concerned on the proceedings, date, and place of the matter of immunity. If the Member and the ex-Member appears, he/she shall be heard at his/her request, but otherwise - with the exception of a sitting held on the violation of parliamentary immunity - he/she may not be present at the sitting of the Committee on Immunity.

(4) The Committee on Immunity shall proceed in camera with matters of immunity.

(5) The Committee on Immunity shall, within thirty days of receiving the matter

- a. make a proposal to the Speaker of Parliament in the matter of the violation of parliamentary immunity;
- b. make a proposed resolution to Parliament on the subject of the motion on suspending parliamentary immunity.

(6) To the proposed resolution in matters of immunity other committees may not introduce recommendations.

Standing Order No. 131

(1) Parliament shall proceed with urgency with the proposed resolution on matters of immunity of the Member and the ex-Member.

(2) No proposed amendment shall be made to the proposed resolution; Parliament shall pass a resolution thereon without debate. The Member may take the floor before voting.

(3) The votes of two thirds of the Members present shall be required to pass a resolution on suspending parliamentary immunity.

Managing Matters Concerning Incompatibility Cases

Standing Order No. 131/A

(1) In the course of the management of the incompatibility cases of Members, the provisions of the Standing Orders should be applied with the alterations stated in Standing Orders 131/A to 131/E.

(2)

- a. The Speaker of Parliament will hand over to the Committee on Immunity for investigation the Member's initiative requesting the declaration of incompatibility (subsection (2) of Section 20 of the Act on Legal Status), the report on the non-appealable judgment or a non-appealable resolution on incompatibility specified in Section 17 of Act on Legal Status (subsection (3) of Section 20 of the Act on Legal Status), the Member's initiative on the starting of procedure on a Member's incompatibility (subsection (4) of Section 20 of the Act on Legal Status), and the notification on a Member's incompatibility (subsection (5) of Section 20 of the Act on Legal Status), and will inform the Parliament on the same - observing the provisions stated in point b) - and inform the Member concerned. If the Parliament is not in sitting, the Speaker of Parliament will decide whether or not the assessment of the incompatibility case requests the convening of the extraordinary session or extraordinary sitting.
- b. The Speaker will inform the Parliament on the notification regarding a Member's incompatibility only if the notification is in compliance with the syntactical and content conditions stated in subsection (5) of Section 20 of the Act on Legal Status. This will be stated by the chairman of the Committee on Immunity who will inform the Speaker of Parliament and the members of the Committee on Immunity without delay.

(3) The chairman of the Committee on Immunity following the receipt of a non-appealable judgment or a non-appealable resolution on the incompatibility specified in Section 17 of Act on Legal Status, initiates by submitting the proposed resolution and requests forthwith the starting of the incompatibility procedure. The proposed resolution should state that the statement of incompatibility would terminate the Membership assignment simultaneously. The withdrawal of the proposed resolution shall be conditional upon the consent of the Committee on Immunity.

(4)

1. In the event of a Member's motion regarding the statement of incompatibility, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity shall forthwith request the initiation of the incompatibility procedure by submitting the proposed resolution. The withdrawal of

the proposed resolution shall be conditional upon the consent of the Committee on Immunity.

2. If the Member concerned debates the existence of his incompatibility, paragraphs (3) to (7) of Standing Order 131/B and Standing Order 131/C should be appropriately applied.

(5) In the case of a Member's motion regarding the initiation of the statement of a Member's incompatibility, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity will call upon the Member concerned to make a declaration within 5 days on the existence of his/her incompatibility and/or initiate the termination of such incompatibility. If the Member informed the chairman of the Committee on Immunity on the completion of this latter, the chairman will not request the starting of the incompatibility procedure and informs the Speaker of Parliament accordingly.

(6) If the Member debates the existence of his incompatibility or does not inform the chairman of the Committee on Immunity on the fact that the termination of such incompatibility has been completed or started, or if the incompatibility cannot be terminated, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity shall request forthwith the starting of the incompatibility procedure.

(7) In the case of receipt of notification referring to a Member's incompatibility, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity will investigate whether such notification complies with the syntactical requirements stated in subsection (5) of Section 20 of Act on Legal Status. If the notification complies with the requirements, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity will initiate the starting of the incompatibility procedure. The procedure afterwards will be subjected to paragraphs (5) to (6) of Standing Order 130/A, as appropriate.

(8) In the event of incomplete notification, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity in one case calls upon the notifier to remedy such incompleteness with the indication of the appropriate deadline.

(9) If the notification is materially incomplete or the notifier did not comply with the call for rectification, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity will not initiate the starting of the incompatibility procedure, although will inform the Committee on Immunity on the notification.

(10) In procedures started under subsections (2) and (3) of Section 15 of Act on Legal Status or under subsection (1) of Section 16 of Act on Legal Status, the proposed resolution can only be aimed exclusively at the statement of incompatibility. The procedure shall be subjected to the provisions of paragraphs (3) to (7) of Standing Order 131/B, and Standing Order 131/C, as appropriate.

Standing Order No. 131/B

(1) In incompatibility procedures started under subsections (2) and (3) of Section 20 of Act on Legal Status (paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 131/A, point a) of paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 131/A) the Committee on Immunity submits a recommendation to the Parliament for a proposed resolution on the issuance of a declaration of incompatibility within ten days from the receipt of the case.

(2) In incompatibility procedures started under subsections (2), (4) and (5) of Section 20 of Act on Legal Status (point b) of paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 131/A, paragraphs (6)-(7) of Standing Order No. 131/A) the Committee on Immunity submits a proposed resolution on incompatibility to the Parliament within thirty days calculated from the day when the case was received.

(3) In incompatibility procedures started under subsections (2), (4) and (5) of Section 20 of Act on Legal Status (point b) of paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 131/A, paragraphs (6)-(7) of Standing Order No. 131/A) the Committee on Immunity forms a three member committee of investigation by drawing lots from among its members. The chairman of the Committee on Immunity may not be the member of the committee of investigation. A deputy chairman of the Committee on Immunity fulfils the function of chairman in the committee of investigation. The Member concerned by the given case may have an objection against a member of the committee of investigation in one instance. The detailed rules of drawing are stated by the Committee on Immunity in its rules of procedure.

(4) The case of incompatibility is discussed by the committee of investigation in a sitting in camera.

(5) The committee of investigation may ask for data to be submitted and is free to give anyone a hearing.

(6) The chairman of the committee of investigation is obliged to notify the Member concerned about the discussion of the case of incompatibility, its date and site. If the Member comes to attend the meeting he/she has to be heard upon his/her own request and has to be given the opportunity to present his/her evidence, however he/she is not allowed to attend the meeting of the committee of investigation.

(7) A draft recommendation regarding a proposed text of a resolution is prepared by the committee of investigation for the Committee on Immunity.

Standing Order No. 131/C

(1) The Committee on Immunity discusses the incompatibility cases in a sitting in camera.

(2) The Committee on Immunity may collect data and invite anybody for hearing.

(3) In the event of incompatibility procedure started pursuant to subsections (2) and (3) of Section 20 of the Act on Legal Status (paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 131/A, point a) of paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 131/A), the Committee on Immunity submits a recommendation to the Parliament.

(4) In the event of incompatibility procedure started under subsections (2), (4) and (5) of Section 20 of Act on Legal Status (point b) of paragraph (4) and paragraphs (6) to (7) of Standing Order No. 131/A), the Committee on Immunity makes a decision regarding the approval of the proposed resolution. In the event of approval it will submit the appropriate proposed resolution to the Parliament.

(5) If the Committee on Immunity is unable to make a decision in the incompatibility case, on the basis of the data and evidences in its possession, it will call upon the investigation committee to collect further data and evidences.

(6) The chairman of the Committee on Immunity shall be obliged to inform the Member concerned, on the discussion of the incompatibility case, its time and venue. If the Member appears, he should be heard on his request but he may not be present on the sitting of the Committee on Immunity otherwise.

Standing Order No. 131/D

(1) The resolution in respect of the incompatibility case will be discussed by the Parliament in an urgency procedure.

(2) To the proposed resolution submitted regarding an incompatibility case, no other committee may submit proposals but the Committee on Immunity.

(3) No proposed amendment might be submitted to the proposed resolution, the Parliament will pass its decision without debate. Prior to voting the Member may speak.

(4) Under subsections (2) and (3) of Section 15 and subsection (1) of Section 16 of Act on Legal Status, only a statement of incompatibility can be made.

Standing Order No. 131/E

(1) If the Parliament did not state incompatibility, against the same Member no other incompatibility procedure may be initiated on the basis of the same facts.

(2) Simultaneously with the statement of incompatibility - except for cases described in paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 131/D - the Parliament will call upon the Member to terminate or initiate the termination of incompatibility and report this fact to the Speaker of Parliament within five days. The Parliament will concurrently declare that should the Member not terminate or initiate the termination of incompatibility or not report same to the Speaker of Parliament, his Membership assignment will be terminated by virtue of this resolution after five days from the statement of incompatibility. After five days the chairman of the committee involved in the examination of mandates will announce the termination of incompatibility or its initiation, or its failure in which case the Membership assignment of the Member is terminated after five days from the statement of incompatibility.

(3) If pursuant to the resolution passed by the Parliament the assignment of the Member has been terminated, the Member will be obliged to return to the Parliament his remuneration for the period between the raising of incompatibility and the termination of his assignment.

(4) The assignment of the Member will not be terminated if the Parliament stated incompatibility in accordance with subsections (2) and (3) of Section 15 and subsection (1) of Section 16 of Act on Legal Status, however, the Parliament will publicise the fact that incompatibility is stated.

Procedure concerning the Statement on property, income and economic interests

Standing Order No. 131/F

(1) Procedure concerning the Statement on property, income and economic interests (hereinafter referred to as property statement) can be initiated at the Speaker of Parliament by anybody.

(2) The purpose of the procedure concerning property statement is the verification of the contents of the property statement.

(3) In the event a procedure concerning property statement, is initiated the Speaker of Parliament hands over the case to the Committee on Immunity for investigation.

(4) Procedure concerning property statement is adequate when there is a representation a statement of facts referring to the concrete contents of the property statement. If the initiative related to the procedure did not indicate concretely the debated part or contents of the property statement, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity will call upon the initiator to rectify same. If the initiator did not comply with such call or if the initiation is obviously ungrounded, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity will refuse the initiation without performing the procedure.

(5) In the event of initiation regarding property statement, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity calls upon the Member concerned to make a declaration in respect of such initiative within five days, or - should same be found to be appropriately grounded - to correct the data debated in the initiation. If the Member corrects the data debated, the chairman will not request the starting of the procedure concerning property statement and will inform the Speaker of Parliament and the initiator appropriately.

(6) If the Member does not meet with the call, or opposes the contents of the initiative, the chairman of the Committee on Immunity will request the starting of the procedure concerning property statement. In the course of the procedure the members of the committee may inspect the property statements of the Member's spouse or partner in life and child(ren) living together with him.

(7) In the course of the procedure, in response to the call of the Committee on Immunity, the Member will be obliged to report in writing forthwith the identifying data related to the property, income and economic interest of his spouse or partner in life and child(ren) living together with him. Such identifying data may be inspected only by the members of the Committee on Immunity, and will be deleted from the records on the thirtieth day following the closure of the procedure.

(8) The performance of the procedure concerning property statement should otherwise be subjected to paragraphs (1), (2) and (6) of Standing Order No. 131/C, with the following supplements:

1. the Committee on Immunity will verify the contents of the property statement,
2. the Member will be obliged to prepare an information on the result of the verification within thirty days from the day when he was called upon to make a declaration pursuant to paragraph (4),
3. and inform the Speaker of Parliament on the same.

(9) The Speaker of Parliament will inform the Parliament on the fact found by the Committee on Immunity on the next sitting of the Parliament.

(10) The procedure concerning property statement could repeatedly take place in respect of the same property statement if the relevant initiative contains new representations (data). Repeated initiative related to the procedure concerning property statement - without new representations, statement of facts - will be refused by the chairman of the Committee on Immunity without further investigation.

Standing Order No. 131/G

(1) The Committee on Immunity of the newly elected Parliament on its first sitting after the deadline specified in subsection (1) of Section 19 of the Act on Legal Status, will compile a list of those ex-Members who did not meet their obligation to make a closing property statement.

(2) The Speaker of Parliament will publicise this list.

(3) The chairman of the Committee on Immunity will call upon the ex-Members to make the property statement without delay. In this call he will warn the ex-Member on the consequences of their default (subsection (2) of Section 19 of the Act on Legal Status).

(4) [cancelled]

(5) [cancelled]

The Election of the Holders of Important Offices in the Public Law Sphere

Standing Order No. 132

(1) In the course of electing the holders of important offices in the public law sphere the general provisions of the Standing Orders shall be applied with the exceptions laid down in this Standing Order.

(2) Parliament shall elect, in accordance with the rules laid down in the Constitution or in separate Acts, the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, the members of the Constitutional Court, the President of the Supreme Court, the Chief Public Prosecutor, the Ombudsmen, as well as the Head and Deputy Heads of the State Audit Office. The election shall be held by secret ballot, except for the election of the Prime Minister.

(3) If - before the election or appointment of an office holder - an Act prescribes the hearing of the nominee by a parliamentary committee, the competent committee shall hear the nominee and give an opinion on the nomination. The committee will make its decision regarding the appointment of the nominee to Minister in open ballot.

(4) In the case of office holders elected by Parliament, the opinion of the committee shall be set forth by its rapporteur at the sitting of Parliament. On other nominees the opinion of the committee shall be sent by its chairman to the Speaker of Parliament who will pass same to the person exercising the right of advice and the right of appointment.

(5) The persons listed in paragraph (2) hereof after their election, and the ministers after their appointment - if the rules relating to them do not prescribe a different oath - shall take an oath before Parliament according to Schedule 4 to the Standing Orders, and sign the oath document. In the case of failure to take the oath, paragraph (4) of Standing Order No. 8 shall be appropriately applied.

(6) In the absence of any alternative provision, to the election of persons to positions specified in separate Laws, the stipulations of this Standing Order should be applied.

Procedural Rules Pertaining to the Cessation of the Commission of the President of the Republic and to Substituting for the President of the Republic

Standing Order No. 133

(1) If in exercising his duties a reason for incompatibility is raised in respect of the President of the Republic, the provisions for dealing with matters of incompatibility of Members of Parliament shall be applied as laid down in the Standing Orders, with the following exceptions:

- a. the Constitutional Committee shall proceed as designated committee;
- b. the resolution shall be passed by a two thirds majority of the Members; and
- c. the ballot shall be secret.

(2) If the President of the Republic resigns his office with a declaration addressed to Parliament, to his declaration the rules relating to proposed resolutions shall be applied with the following exceptions:

- a. the debate and voting on the declaration to resign shall be held within fifteen days of receipt of the declaration to resign; if Parliament is not in session at the time mentioned, an extraordinary session or extraordinary sitting shall be called together;
- b. the declaration to resign shall not be handed over for preparation in committee;
- c. no proposed amendment shall be introduced to the declaration to resign, but any faction or at least ten Members may propose in writing - at the latest on the day before the beginning of proceedings with this order or the day - that Parliament request the President of the Republic to reconsider his decision; if there is such a proposal, it shall be voted on first;
- d. if the President of the Republic informs Parliament of upholding his original decision, proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with sub-paragraphs a) to c), but no debate shall be opened, and Parliament may not refuse to acknowledge the resignation.

(3) In the event of a motion for impeaching the President of the Republic violating the Constitution or another Act in the course of exercising his office, the rules governing the proceedings with a proposed resolution shall be applied with the following exceptions:

- a. the Constitutional Committee shall proceed as designated committee;
- b. no proposed amendment shall be introduced to the proposed resolution;
- c. for passing the resolution the votes of two thirds of the Members shall be required; and
- d. the ballot shall be secret.

(4) If the President of the Republic is temporarily unable to attend to his tasks, Parliament shall pass a resolution simultaneously on establishing the same and on appointing a Deputy Speaker to perform the tasks of the Speaker of Parliament substituting for the President of the Republic. Proposed resolutions may be introduced by the President of the Republic, the Government and any Member of Parliament.

(5) If a Member introduces a proposed resolution on establishing that the President of the Republic is in a condition which makes it impossible for him to attend to his tasks, the rules governing the proceedings with proposed resolutions shall be applied with the exception laid down in paragraph (3) hereof.

The Motion of Censure and the Vote of Confidence

Standing Order No. 134

(1) To the motion of censure introduced against the Prime Minister and the proposal of the Government for a vote of confidence (hereinafter jointly referred to as "motion of censure") the rules on proposed resolutions and proceedings therewith shall be applied with the following exceptions:

- a. the debate and voting over the motion of censure shall be held at the earliest three days but at the latest within eight days of its introduction; if Parliament is not in session at the said time, an extraordinary session or extraordinary sitting shall be called together,
- b. the motion of censure shall not be handed over for committee preparation; and
- c. no proposed amendment shall be introduced to the motion of censure.

(2) If, on behalf of the Government, the Prime Minister proposes that the vote on the submission introduced by it be at the same time a vote of confidence, the proposal may be submitted orally as well at the sitting of Parliament at the latest before the closing vote on the full text of the introduced submission.

Chapter 5

PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

Recording and making documents concerning the European Union available

Standing Order No. 134/A

(1) The Government shall send all drafts of the European Union specified in the act on the cooperation of the Parliament and the Government in European Union affairs (hereinafter called the Act), immediately after receipt to the European Union Committee.

(2) The records of the documents concerning the European Union kept by the European Union Committee shall include the documents set forth in paragraph (1), as well as other documents issued by other European Union institutions and received by the Parliament. The records shall be accessible for Members of Parliament, as well as the staff of parliamentary factions and the Office of the Parliament.

(3) In the cases specified in the Act, the Government shall forward its negotiating position it intends to adopt in the decision-making process of the Council to the Speaker of Parliament and the European Union Committee. These documents shall be handled in the procedure regulated in this chapter as confidential. The negotiating position may be made known to persons entitled to participate in the in camera meeting of the European Union Committee and to persons authorized by the chairman of the committee.

Procedure of consultation between the Parliament and the Government

Standing Order No. 134/B

- (1) The parliamentary discussion of the drafts of the European Union shall be the responsibility of the standing committees. Unless otherwise provided by the Act, the elaboration of a standpoint concerning the position proposed by the Government shall fall in the authority of the European Union Committee.
- (2) Taking into account paragraph (6) of Article 3 of the Act, the European Union Committee shall decide on the drafts of the European Union regarding which it intends to initiate consultation, based on the proposal of the chairman of the committee. The European Union Committee may ask the Government to submit an extended proposed position. The committee shall inform the Speaker of Parliament and the chairmen of standing committees on its decision.
- (3) The European Union Committee shall initiate consultation regarding the specified draft on the motion of two-fifths of its members. Such a motion may be proposed for consultation on not more than four drafts of the European Union in each ordinary session.
- (4) At the proposal of the European Union Committee, the Speaker of Parliament shall ask the appropriate standing committee to develop an opinion on the drafts of the European Union, with the indication of the deadline. A standing committee may ask to be nominated for the development of the opinion. In this case, it is obligatory to nominate the committee. The Speaker of Parliament shall inform the Meeting of Committee Chairmen on the nomination of standing committees.
- (5) Standing committees may invite representatives of the national interest representations and social organisations specified in paragraph (2) of article 81 to its open sittings.
- (6) The European Union Committee shall develop its standpoint concerning the draft of the European Union in an in camera meeting, with knowledge of the opinion of the standing committee, by the deadline required by the decision-making schedule of the European Union. Beside the persons specified under paragraph (3) of Article 69, the chairman of the committee requested to develop an opinion and an expert on behalf of each parliamentary group may also participate at the sitting in camera.
- (7) The European Union Committee shall examine the drafts of the European Union and the relevant negotiating positions in the scope of a verbal procedure. In the case specified in paragraph (3) of Article 4 of the Act, the responsible minister or secretary-of-state, otherwise a person authorized to make substantial declarations on behalf of the Government shall be present at the discussion of the proposed negotiating position. When developing its

standpoint, the committee shall take account of the opinions of other standing committees participating in the parliamentary proceeding.

(8) If a decision by the Council is required in several rounds for the adoption of a draft of the European Union, the European Union Committee shall decide whether to ask the opinion of the standing committee requested anteriorly for the new readings or not.

(9) The European Union Committee may adopt a standpoint concerning the draft even in the absence of an opinion of the standing committee.

(10) The standpoint of the European Union Committee is a summary by the chairman included in the minutes that the Speaker of Parliament and the Government receive in writing within twenty-four hours following the committee meeting.

(11) The Government shall give the information set forth in Article 6 of the Act to the European Union Committee. The committee shall decide on the acceptance of the justification in the cases set forth in the Act.

Hearing by the Committee

Standing Order No. 134/C

If the Government makes a proposal for filling a position in the European Union as defined in paragraph (1) of Article 8 of the Act, the European Union Committee and the responsible standing committee may hear the candidate.

Enforcement of the principle of subsidiarity

Standing Order No. 134/D

(1) The European Union Committee may examine the enforcement of the principle of subsidiarity in the draft legislations of the European Commission in accordance with the provisions of legislation of the Union.

(2) If the European Union Committee presumes any breach of the principle of subsidiarity, it shall inform the Speaker of Parliament thereof. The Parliament shall decide on the motion of the committee within fifteen days. The provisions of paragraph (1) of Article 114 shall be applicable on the discussion of the motion, as appropriate.

PART V

CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

Chapter 1

THE BUDGET OF PARLIAMENT

The Preparation, Adoption, and Implementation of the Budget of Parliament

Standing Order No. 135

(1) Parliament shall determine the budget of the Office of Parliament as part of the central budget.

(2) The budget plan of the Office of Parliament shall be drawn up under the guidance of the Speaker of Parliament by the financial director general, and - with the consent of the House Committee and after hearing the advice of the Budget Committee - the Speaker of Parliament shall put it at the disposal of the Government for the drawing up of the Bill on the Budget.

(3) For the implementation of the budget of Parliament the financial director general shall be responsible.

(4) The implementation of the budget of Office of Parliament shall be controlled by the State Audit Office.

Chapter 2

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Petitions Received by Parliament

Standing Order No. 136

(1) Petitions sent to Parliament shall be handed over by the Speaker of Parliament - according to their subject - to the competent committee or office organ for taking the necessary measures.

(2) A register shall be kept on the petitions received by Parliament, in which register the data concerning the measures taken shall be indicated. These petitions may be inspected by the Members at any time.

(3) The Members, the factions and the committees shall independently process the petitions they receive, and shall settle them by also taking into account the provisions of the legal rule on petitions, proposals and complaints in the public interest.

Deadlines

Standing Order No. 137

(1) Deadlines shall be counted in hours or days, except when the Standing Orders mention sitting days.

(2) The starting day shall not be included in the deadline. The starting day shall be the day on which the act or other circumstance giving a reason for starting the deadline occurs.

(3) If the last day of the deadline is a non-working day, the deadline shall expire on the next working day.

(4) The deadline shall expire at the end of the last day.

Accounting for Absences

Standing Order No. 138

- (1) Where the Standing Orders provide a possibility for accounting for absences, the certificate on the absence shall be filed with the person by whom the missed act has to be made up for. If the act is to be performed with Parliament, the certificate on the absence shall be filed with the Speaker of Parliament.
- (2) Beyond handing in the certificate, the Member shall make up for the missed act, if possible.
- (3) The request for certifying the absence shall be judged by the person designated in paragraph (1). No appeal shall be lodged against his decision.

Guarding Secrets

Standing Order No. 139

- (1) Persons who learn about or get into the possession of state or service secrets in the course of the operation of Parliament shall guard them according to the general rules relating to secrecy.
- (2) For the qualification of a non-independent motion submitted to the qualified motion, the provisions of Standing Order No. 66/A should be applied.
- (3) The separate rules relating to secrecy in connection with the operation of the Office of Parliament shall be stated by the Speaker of Parliament including the administration and management related to the qualification and handling of the minutes and other documents of sittings in camera and the detailed rules of the handling and administration of qualified independent and non-independent motions.

Departing from the Standing Orders

Standing Order No. 140

- (1) In exceptional cases, on the motion of the House Committee, Parliament - with the votes of four-fifths of the Members present and following the speeches of not more than one Member from each faction and the independent Member first indicating the intent to take the floor - may pass a resolution in the course of its proceedings with a certain matter that it will depart from the provisions of the Standing Orders. Contributions under this paragraph shall not exceed five minutes.
- (2) The provisions of paragraph (1) shall not be applied when this violates the Constitution or any other Act or when proceeding with the Constitution or the Standing Orders.

The Registration of National Interest Groups and Social Organizations

Standing Order No. 141

- (1) The Secretary-General of Parliament shall keep a register on the registered national interest groups and social organizations which request to be put on the register.

(2) In the request for registration the following data shall be given on the interest group or social organization:

- name, seat, address;
- field of operation (purpose);
- administrative and representative organ; and
- persons authorized to represent it, and their addresses.

(3) The list of interest groups and social organizations put on the register shall be published each year in an official gazette by the Speaker of Parliament.

Interpretative Provisions

Standing Order No. 142

In the application of the Standing Orders

1. Procedural motion: A motion related to the chairing or order of the plenary or committee sitting - not substantially affecting the order of the day proceeded with - which concerns a matter of procedure and requires a decision.
2. Order book: The sum total of all independent motions and other matters requiring proceedings and/or decision - not including matters on procedure - (hereinafter referred to in this Standing Order as "matter") which may be put automatically or on the basis of a separate decision on the order of the day of a plenary and/or committee sitting.
3. Putting a motion on the order book: A motion to put a matter on the order book which matter is not automatically put there.
4. Orders of the day: All the matters proceeded with at a particular sitting from among the matters on the order book.
5. Proposal on the orders of the day: A proposal for selecting from among the matters on the order book the orders of the day of a particular sitting.
6. Order of the day: A matter on the order book which constitutes an independent item in the orders of the day.
7. Proposed amendment: A written submission relating to a particular passage of the text of a bill, proposed resolution or draft political declaration expressing an intention to depart therefrom.
8. Amendment to a proposed amendment: A proposed amendment - introduced during the debate in detail - which relates to a provision of the motion for decision affected by a proposed amendment or connected therewith; according to its contents it is a further development of the primary proposed amendment.
9. Competent committee: The committee that is competent to proceed with a particular matter.
10. Designated committee: The committee which has been asked by the Speaker of Parliament to proceed with a particular matter.

The Interpretation of the Standing Orders

Standing Order No. 143

(1) In controversial points arising during the sittings of Parliament about the interpretation of the Standing Orders, in individual cases the Speaker shall decide.

(2) If a controversial point arises at the sitting of a committee about the interpretation of the Standing Orders, the chairman of the committee shall refer it to the committee responsible for interpreting the Standing Orders.

(3) The standing committee designated to interpret the Standing Orders shall take a position at the request of an elected officer of Parliament as well as of any faction, committee or independent Member, in the latter case if the request has been supported by not less than the number of Members specified in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15. The standing committee designated to interpret the Standing Orders - at its own discretion - will take general or case-by-case positions. The general position taken by the committee shall be announced by the Speaker of Parliament. The standing committee designated to interpret the Standing Orders will publicise its case-by-case positions in writing.

(4) Within fifteen days from the announcement of the general position or from the publicising of the case-by-case position, any of the factions or any independent Member, provided he is supported by not less than the number of Members specified in paragraph (1) of Standing Order No. 15, may request the decision of the Parliament. Such request may call for the refusal or maintenance of the said position. The discussion over the request shall be included in the orders of the day of the Parliament within thirty days from its receipt at the latest.

(5) In the course of the discussions in the plenary sitting the Member belonging to the faction requesting Parliament's decision, or the independent Member requesting decision will speak first. Afterwards the rapporteur of the committee designated to interpret the Standing Orders will announce the position of the committee and the reasons behind it. The positions of the factions will be expressed by one Member from each faction, and the independent Member first indicating the intent to take the floor. The speeches referred to in this paragraph may not exceed five minutes.

(6) Following the clarification of the positions of all factions and the independent Member first indicating the intent to take the floor, at most one Member from each faction and the independent Member first indicating the intent to take the floor may contribute for three minutes each.

(7) Following the speeches described in paragraphs (5) and (6), the Member of the faction or independent Member initiating the decision to be made by the Parliament and then the rapporteur of the committee designated to interpret the Standing Orders will speak for five minutes.

(8) The Parliament will make its decision on the request for position after the speeches pursuant to paragraphs (5) to (7).

(9) Until the decision of the Parliament to the contrary, the standpoint of the committee designated to interpret the Standing Orders shall be applied.

Chapter 3

THE OFFICE ORGANS OF PARLIAMENT AND THE LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT

The Office of Parliament

Standing Order No. 144

(1) The Office of Parliament (hereinafter referred to as "Office") shall be the work organization of Parliament. Its duty shall be to guarantee the continuous operation of Parliament and to help the Members and the officers of Parliament in their activities.

(2) The office organs of Parliament shall be the Secretary-General's Office, the Financial General Directorate, the Office for Foreign Relations, the Library of Parliament, as well as the other organs defined in the Organisational and Operational Regulations.

Standing Order No. 145

(1) The Office - within the framework of preparing and conducting the sessions, sittings, and committee sittings of Parliament - shall

- a. provide legal and professional help for the committees in the making of motions and recommendations;
- b. make professional remarks for the designated committee on the introduced bill, proposed resolutions and proposed amendments thereto, from the point of view whether they are in compliance with the requirements defined in Standing Order No. 95;
- c. assign a permanent group for codification to the Constitutional Committee and help the codification-related work of the other committees as determined in the Organizational and Operational Regulations;
- d. provide for the preparation of sittings, the copying of motions, forward to the Members and participants of the sittings the matters to be proceeded with and other information materials;
- e. participate in guaranteeing the undisturbed course of the sittings of Parliament, provide legal and professional assistance for the Speaker, or Deputy Speaker, when they chair the sittings;
- f. see to the editing and publishing of the minutes of Parliament and to the publishing of the Parliamentary Journal;
- g. edit and prepare for promulgation the Acts and resolutions of Parliament;
- h. prepare the sittings of the House Committee and of the meeting of committee chairmen following the directions of the Speaker of Parliament, and provide for the taking of the minutes of the sittings;
- i. participate in the preparation of the sittings of the committees of Parliament, see to the forwarding of invitations and matters to be proceeded with, and provide for the administration of the committees;
- j. provide for the information of Members and for the operation of the information system serving that purpose;
- k. send the Acts, Parliamentary Resolutions and other decisions passed and signed by the proposer to the Speaker of Parliament within three workdays from their having been passed and ensures their availability in the information system of the Parliament;
- l. execute the instructions from the Speaker of Parliament on the maintenance of the order in the chamber, ensure that at the sittings of the Parliament and the committees unauthorised persons are not presented;

- m. perform tasks related to the confidential administrative and official management related to the operation of the Parliament, the Parliamentary committees and of its own.

(2) The Office - within the framework of managing the financial, technical and general administrative matters of Parliament - shall

- a. work out and implement the budget of the Office of Parliament;
- b. manage the immovable and movable property of the Office of Parliament;
- c. perform the general administrative and management tasks related to the operation of Parliament;
- d. provide for the technical and technological conditions, and for the rooms necessary for the operation of Parliament;
- e. provide for the means to which the Members and factions are entitled;
- f. carry out the measures of the Speaker of Parliament aimed at maintaining the security of Parliament;
- g. establish in the chamber - in conformity with the traditions, after coordination with the faction leaders and the delegate of the independent Members - the place of the factions and the seating order of the Members;
- h. ensure the exclusion of unauthorised persons from the buildings managed by the Office of Parliament and the handing out of entrance tickets and parking tickets; and
- i. perform the personnel- and employment-related tasks of the Office of Parliament.

(3) The Office - within the framework of performing the secretarial tasks of the Speaker and Deputy Speakers of Parliament - shall

- a. manage the tasks pertaining to the petitions, proposals and complaints in the public interest received by Parliament or the Speaker of Parliament;
- b. take care of tasks related to the taking over and preparing for decision of initiatives for a referendum and of popular initiatives received by Parliament; and
- c. participate in the organization of the relations of the Speaker of Parliament with the parties not represented in Parliament, as well as with the interest groups and social organizations.

(4) The Office - in the course of discharging official functions related to the bilateral and multilateral international relations of Parliament - shall

- a. participate in the organization of the international relations of Parliament;
- b. ensure the preparation of delegations going abroad or receiving foreign delegations
- c. participate in the preparation and arrangement of international programmes; and
- d. maintain relations with the Members of the European Parliament.

(5) The Office - within the framework of performing the press activities related to Parliament - shall

- a. take care of forwarding the official press releases of Parliament to the mass media;
- b. organize the press publicity of the bodies, officers and programmes of Parliament; and
- c. ensure the information of press correspondents about the operation of Parliament.

(6) In the frames of providing the Parliament with information services related to the library and the professional literature:

- a. provides for the registration of the library documents - with special regard to the copyright deposit copies of journalistic products - and their entering and bibliographical processing,
- b. ensures the provision of the committees and the factions, the Members and their experts and the official organs of the Parliament with library documents,
- c. processes and makes available the professional literature acquired, ensures information and library services,
- d. in the interest of the information supply compiles computer-aided databases and mediates databases of external sources.

Standing Order No. 146

The experts and clerical staff helping the activities of the factions shall be employed by the director general at the proposal of the faction leader. The director general shall be required - with the exception of the violation of legal rules - to accept the proposals of the faction leader regarding employment or dismissal therefrom. The other rights of the employer in relation to these employees shall be exercised - in a delegated competence - by the faction leader.

Standing Order No. 146/A

The experts and clerical staff helping the activities of the groups of the Members of the European Parliament shall be employed by the Financial General Director at the proposal of the leaders of those groups. The Financial Director General shall - with the exception of the violation of legal rules - accept proposals of the leaders of groups of Members of the European Parliament regarding their employment and dismissal. The other employer's rights in relation to those employees shall be exercised - with a delegated competence - by leaders of the groups of Members of the European Parliament.

The Library of Parliament

Standing Order No. 147

(1) The Library of Parliament as a depositary library shall be a scientific, public special library covering civic and juridical sciences, political sciences, contemporary Hungarian and world history, managing the documents of the Hungarian Parliament, and serve as information centre with nationwide competence. Its outstanding task as a scientific special library with nationwide competence are the acquisition in full scope of the Hungarian and a selective acquisition of the foreign special literature, collection and processing of the publications of the parliaments in abroad, special organisations of UNO and the European integration organisations.

(2) The basic services of the Library of Parliament are free of charge, other services can be used for compensation.

Chapter 4

PROVISIONS ON PUTTING INTO FORCE

Entry into Force

Standing Order No. 148

(1) This resolution of Parliament - with the exception of paragraphs (2) to (3) of Standing Order No. 44 - shall enter into force on the eighth day following promulgation. Matters put on the orders of the day before the entry into force of this resolution shall - without special measures taken - be part of the order book. In matters on which the general debate has begun before the entry into force of this resolution, the provisions in force before the entry into force shall be applied regarding matters of procedure.

(2)

1. A separate Act shall provide for the entry into force of paragraphs (2) to (3) Standing Order No. 44 of this parliamentary resolution.
2. [cancelled]

(3) Simultaneously with the entry into force of this parliamentary resolution, Resolution 8/1989 (VI. 8.) OGY Amending the Standing Orders of Parliament and on its Integrated Text, as well as Resolutions 31/1990 (III. 25.) OGY, 74/1990 (X. 26.) OGY, 25/1991 (IV. 20.) OGY, 53/1991 (X. 5.) OGY, 69/1991 (XII. 14.) OGY, 51/1992 (IX. 11.) OGY, 65/1992 (X. 16.) OGY, 74/1992 (XI. 6.) OGY, and 75/1992 (XI. 6.) OGY amending the same shall cease to have effect.

Schedule 1

to Resolution 46/1994 (IX. 30.) OGY

The Text of the Oath

for the Taking of the Oath of Members of Parliament

"I,, as a Member of the Parliament of the Republic of Hungary, swear that I shall be faithful to my country, the Republic of Hungary, and to its people; that I shall observe the Constitution and the legal rules, and keep the secrets that come to my knowledge; that I shall - according to the will of my constituents and to my mandate - proceed conscientiously; and that I shall do my utmost to promote the development of the Republic of Hungary and the prosperity of its people.

(Depending on the faith of the Member)

As God is my witness, so help me God!"

Budapest, (date)

.....
(signature)

.....

Schedule 2

to Resolution 46/1994 (IX. 30.) OGY

Commission to Act as Proxy

Because of my absence I - in accordance with paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 37 of the Standing Orders - hereby give a commission to, Member of Parliament and member of the Committee on, to act as proxy at the sitting of(date) of the Committee on

Budapest, (date)

.....
person giving the commission to act as
proxy

.....
proxy

.....
member of the Committee on
*
.....

.....
member of the Committee on
*
.....

Schedule 3

to Resolution 46/1994 (IX. 30.) OGY

Visual broadcast of plenary sittings and committee sittings of Parliament

1. The purpose of visual broadcast of plenary sittings and committee sittings of Parliament is to provide unbiased, balanced, accurate and factual information on the activities of Parliament to the general public. In accordance with Parliament's activities, the televised broadcast is focussed on actual happenings and parliamentary work, in particular on the Speaker or Chairman chairing the sitting, the speakers taking the floor, the result of voting, the whole of the assembly hall and other events taking place in the assembly hall. Editing follows the proceedings in an objective and factual manner.
2. Broadcasting of the plenary and committee sittings of Parliament is done by means of the CCTV system created pursuant to subsection (1) of Section 138 of Act I of 1996 on Radio and Television Broadcast (RTB Act) and through the website of Parliament and relies on the equipment and staff of the television studio of the Office of Parliament.
3. Public committee hearings in matters of appointment and nomination as well as other committee sittings designated by the Speaker of Parliament in consultation with the House Committee are broadcast through the CCTV system created pursuant to subsection (1) of Section 138 of the RTB Act.

4. Public committee sittings that are not broadcast under point 3 may be broadcast or recorded by the electronic media. The technical preparation and implementation of such broadcasts or recordings must not disturb the sitting.

Schedule 4

to Resolution 46/1994 (IX. 30.) OGY

The Text of the Oath

for the Taking of the Oath before Parliament of Persons Holding Important Offices in the Public Law Sphere

"I, swear that I shall be faithful to my country, the Republic of Hungary, and to its people; that I shall observe the Constitution and the legal rules and have them observed; that I shall keep the secrets that come to my knowledge; and that I shall perform my duties as conscientiously and in order to promote the development of the Republic of Hungary and to have the Constitution prevail.

(Depending on the faith of the Member)

As God is my witness, so help me God!"

Budapest, (date)

.....
(signature)

* [The pronouns "he", "his", "him" and nouns such as "chairman" have been used throughout the translation with the meaning of "he/she", "his/her", "him/her", and "chairman/chairwoman", respectively.]

** According to paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 37 of the Standing Orders, a committee member, in the event of his absence, may give a commission to act as proxy only to a member of the same committee of which he is a member.