

# **Rules and Regulations Governing the Advisory Committee to His Holiness, Pope Alexander VI**

## Format of the Committee:

1. All meetings of this committee shall be Chaired by his Holiness, Pope Alexander the VI, or a representative he has appointed. All actions of the committee are taken in his name and by his authority.
2. Delegation shall represent the Papal advisor they have been assigned, unless they receive specific information otherwise from the Chair or Crisis Director.

## General Rules of Courtly Conduct:

1. Advisors are expected to maintain behavior appropriate to their rank and station at all time.
2. All advisors are expected to dress in Western Business Attire while the committee is in session, unless they have received prior written permission from the Holy See.
3. English is the working language of this council. If another language is used, an accurate and complete translation must be immediately provided.
4. Roll will be called at the beginning of every session, when the Chair determines a sufficient portion of the body is present to constitute a quorum. All late arrivals must notify the chair. Until the Advisor has receive recognition from the chair, either by taking part in roll, or by acceptance of notification, he may not participate in the work of the committee, whether through spoken debate, voting, or the production of written materials

## Membership of the Committee:

1. All substitutions and/or additions to the position of an advisor must have written approval from the Chair
2. The Holy See retains the right to remove any advisor from his service, at any time. In such cases the party (ies) will be informed of the decision of the Chair and allowed 15 minutes to prepare himself. After this period the Chair will present his reasoning the assembled advisors, and the guilty party will be allowed to speak in his defense for a maximum of 3 minutes. The Committee will then vote on the matter, however a 3/4s majority in favor of retaining the councilor is necessary to overturn the decision of the Chair.
3. If at anytime the committee feels a fellow member has violated the trust of the Holy See a Petition for Removal, included a written accusation and the signatures of a minimum of five members of the committee, may be privately submitted to his Holiness for review. Should he accept the validity of the accusation, the accused will be notified of the charges and allow 15 min to prepare. After this period a representative of the accusers will present his reasoning the assembled advisors, and the accused party will be allowed to speak in his defense for a maximum of 3 minutes each. The Committee will then vote on the matter with 2/3 of the committee and the vote of Chair being necessary for removal.

## Appropriate Format of Debate

1. Debate will take the form of a continuous moderated caucus, unless otherwise

- designated.
2. No one may address the committee without recognition by the Chair.
  3. Advisors may address the committee on any topic he feels is relevant, however the chair reserves the right to call the speaker to order or end his speaking time should he feel the comments are inappropriate to debate.
  4. There is no limit to the length of time an advisor may address the committee, however the Chair may call the speaker to order or end his speaking time should he feel the comments are inappropriate to debate.
  5. The following Point and Motions (in order of preference) may be made during debate when a recognized speaker is not addressing the committee. The Chair will choose which points or motions to entertain.
    - a. Motion to Close the Advisors' Committee: If fewer than 15 minutes remain for the Committee to meet, a motion to close the Committee can be made, ending debate until the cabinet is reconvened by the Chair.
    - b. Point of Personal Privilege: Advisors may raise the point of personal privilege if the advisor feels that there is an outside factor affecting the ability to participate. Points of Personal Privilege can be made when another advisor is speaking. It is requested that members only use the Point of Personal Privilege to interrupt another speaker if the member is having difficulty hearing or concentrating on the speaker at the time. Other concerns (temperature of Cabinet, water requests, etc.) should be made when there is no recognized speaker.
    - c. Point of Order: An Advisor may raise a Point of Order to clarify any concerns regarding adherence to these Rules.
    - d. Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: An Advisor may rise to this point in order to ask about procedure or these Rules.
    - e. Motion for an Unmoderated Caucus: An Advisor may motion for an Unmoderated Caucus of a specified amount of time to allow the Advisors to engage in informal discussion without the constraints of Parliamentary procedure. A procedural vote follows and requires a simple majority to pass.
    - f. Motion to Vote: An advisor may motion to vote on any specific written document(s) that is before the committee for debate.
  6. Any advisor may appeal to the Right of Reply after the speaker has ended his remarks if the remarks constituted an unwarranted attack on the character of the Advisor. The chair may allow this at his own discretion.

Actions available to the Advisors and the Committee:

1. The committee may issue Directives to alter the policy of the Papacy on matters relating to the administration of the Curia, general religious practice, church dogma, relations with foreign governing bodies (whether secular or religious in nature), or the secular administration of Papal States. A directive must have at least three public sponsors, and requires a simple majority to implement.
2. The committee may issue Papal Bulls which publicly announce Papal policy on an issue. A bull requires at least five public sponsors, and a 2/3 majority to pass.
3. Friendly amendments may be submitted to any public document under the signature of all original sponsors by informing the Chair in writing of the changes.
4. Unfriendly amendments may be submitted to any public document. An unfriendly amendment can also be used to convert a Directive to a Bull and visa versa.

Unfriendly amendments require the same number of sponsors, and the same portion of the body's vote, as the original type of document. Amendments to change the type of document always require 3 sponsors and a 2/3 majority.

5. All advisors also may undertake the following Private Actions by passing writing instructions to the Chair; however they may be deemed a matter of public interest, requiring the vote of the committee, at the Chair's discretion.
  - a. Request information specific to the advisor's portfolio, investigating the activities of a fellow advisor, or relevant to the general administration of the curia and vicarages.
  - b. Change policy relating to the Advisor's portfolios, as outlined by the position list. Vicars affect the territory they hold, members of the curia can direct their departments and legates can communicate with the Court they are attached to. Actions requiring the participation of multiple members may be attempted, however they may only call on the resources of the participants.

#### Voting on Public Documents

1. Voting on any matter before the committee may only take place if the Chair declares a quorum to be present in the room.
2. All advisors have the right to vote or abstain on the matter before the committee, providing that they are recognized as being present in session.
3. In the case of a motion to vote being made for multiple documents, voting on all unfriendly resolutions will occur, followed by voting on the documents in the order in which they were submitted