Agenda item 25

Any other business: Procedure for the selection of a new Secretary General

**Action requested:** The Standing Committee is requested to review its Decision 24-4 on this matter and to consider the proposed course of action in paragraph 4.

1. If the Standing Committee adopts the proposal to hold COP8 in November 2002, this will have an implication in relation to Standing Committee Decision SC24-4: “The SC agreed to develop for consideration by COP8 a procedure for the selection of a new Secretary General.”

2. To wait until November 2002 to adopt the procedure will be too late, since the new Secretary General should be on Board on 1 August 2003. The selection process should be organized in such a way that the post could be offered to the successful candidate six months in advance of 1 August 2003, so as to allow her/him to give notice, if necessary, to his/her employer and to organize the move to Switzerland, if recruited from another country.

3. To this, the vacancy announcement should be made not later than 31 March 2002, with a deadline for applications not later than 31 July 2002.

4. The Secretary General submits to the Standing Committee the following course of action:
   a) at its 26th Meeting in late 2001 the Standing Committee adopts the procedure and the calendar for selecting the new Secretary General, and instructs the Bureau to put it in motion;
   b) the SC communicates to COP8 the procedure adopted by the Standing Committee for selecting a new Secretary General and invites the COP to consider and adopt it as the formal procedure for future occasions.