

Virtual Briefing: LSC Preparations

61st session of the Legal Subcommittee [LSC]
of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space [COPUOS]
[28 March – 8 April 2022]

Monday, 14 March 2022, 14:00-15:00 CET



UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs



COVID-19: Current Situation

Vienna International Centre (VIC):

- Physical distancing requirement is **one metre**.
- **FFP2 masks** mandatory.
- Seating diagram and sign-in sheets with contact information for contact tracing.
- Receptions are discouraged.
- Attendees are reminded to stay home if they feel ill or have respiratory symptoms, and are encouraged to continue to make use of the testing programmes provided, including the free Alles Gurgelt programme with collection points at the VIC.

Useful links:

- COVID-19 [Dashboard](#); [Regulations in Austria](#); [VIC](#) COVID-19 Information.



LSC: Organizational Considerations

- The sixty-first session of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is scheduled to be held from 28 March - 8 April 2022, in Vienna, Austria.
- In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the associated restrictions, the session will be held in a hybrid format.
- In this regard, consideration needs to be given to:
 - the exceptional circumstances posed by the pandemic;
 - the high level of unpredictability as to how the situation will evolve in the coming months;
 - the current health and safety measures, including travel restrictions and minimum distancing requirements; and
 - the conference room capacities at the VIC.
- The meeting format will be of an exceptional and temporary nature and will not set a precedent.



LSC: Summary of Organizational Arrangements

- Hybrid format. Open plenary meetings and technical presentations to be webcast.
- LSC plenary meetings and formal Working Group meetings (Interpretation into official UN languages, Interpretrefy - digital platform for UN official meetings - limited to 2 x 2 hours per day).
- Plenary statements to be limited to seven minutes.
- Technical presentation to be limited to twelve minutes (No interpretation, but can be delivered in any of the six Official UN Languages, however, there will be no interpretation, MS Teams, fully virtual).
- Working Group Informals (No interpretation, MS Teams).
- List of participants to be finalized within the week after the session (corrections by delegations reflecting full virtual and physical attendance submitted to the Secretariat).

IMPORTANT: Accreditation details (names, email addresses, etc.) are to be provided in editable format (deadline Wed, 16 March 2022)



LSC: Schedule of Meetings

Vienna (CEST)	
9:45 - 10:45	Technical Presentations [MS Teams only, no screening in BR-D]
11:00 - 13:00	LSC Morning Session with Interpretation [Interprefy]
13:00 - 13:30	Technical Break / Room Disinfection
13:30 - 14:45	Informal Meetings of Working Groups [MS Teams and in BR-D]
15:00 - 17:00	LSC Afternoon Session with Interpretation [Interprefy]
17:15 - 18:15	Technical Presentations [MS Teams only, no screening in BR-D]



LSC: Plenary and Working Group Meetings

- Hybrid format: Boardroom D for in-person component. VIC Board Room D has a physical capacity of 83 at desk + additional 80 under the 1-meter distance requirement.
- For LSC Plenary and Formal Working Group Meetings, interpretation into the 6 official UN languages will be provided through an online platform [Interprefy].
- Interpretation will be provided from 11:00 to 13:00 and 15:00 - 17:00 CEST.
- Speaker links: 5 per delegation of COPUOS State members; 2 per observer.
- The links are connected to email addresses received through accreditation.
- Each delegation is requested to clearly inform the Secretariat which delegates would be physically present at LSC, and which delegates would receive the speaker links on Interprefy.
- Written statements for interpretation are to be provided two days before delivery.



LSC: Working Group Informals and Side events

- Working Groups of the Legal Subcommittee:
 - Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space;
 - Working Group established under the agenda item on general exchange of views on potential legal models for activities in the exploration, exploitation and utilization of space resources.
- Time allocation for Informals: from 13:30 to 14:45 Vienna time.
- Modality: Virtual, via MS Teams, BR-D connected.
- No interpretation provided.
- Information circular to provide links for joining the meetings.
- Any side events will take place in an online format only.



Statements

- Plenary statements to be limited to seven minutes
- Deadline for list of speakers inscription: **Wed, 16 March 2022**
- Delivery of prerecorded statements is possible, **sound quality important**
- All participants delivering statements are to be accredited to the session
- Statements for interpretation should be provided **2 days before delivery.**
 - File names to follow the format: Agendaltem_CountryName (e.g. 3_ Argentina.doc).
 - Top of statement mention: Country name and Agenda Item (e.g. Argentina, Item 3)
- Technical Requirements for live statements:
 - use an **Ethernet cable** to connect the computer to the router;
 - use a **Headset** rather than a computer's built-in microphone;
 - participate from a quiet room;
 - turn on the **Camera** for interpretation.
- Technical Requirements for pre-recorded statements - on session website
- Deadline for sending video files for sound check: **Wed, 16 March 2022**



Technical Presentations

- As an overall interpretation time is decreased, technical presentations to be delivered without interpretation.
- Technical Presentations can be delivered in any of the six Official UN Languages, however, there will be no interpretation.
- Time Allocation: 9:45 - 10:45 and 17:15 - 18:15 Vienna time
- Duration: max. 12 minutes per presentation.
- Delivery mode: **virtual only**, via MS Teams, no connection to BR-D.
- Pre-recorded presentations possible.
- As is customary, presentations in .pdf format will be uploaded to UNOOSA website.

Adoption of the report

- Adoption of the Subcommittee report and Working Group reports is scheduled for the full 3 days of the session.
- Delegations may provide language-related comments on language versions of the reports within one week after the Subcommittee session.

THANK YOU



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