

Virtual Briefing

for Member States of the United Nations and organizations with permanent observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Wednesday, 1 March 2023, 14:00-15:00 CET



UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs



COVID-19: Current Situation

Vienna International Centre (VIC):

- General safety measures:
 - The maximum seating capacity in the respective room must not be exceeded.
 - FFP2 masks are generally recommended at the VIC (including in meeting rooms) and mandatory at the VIC Medical Centre and the pharmacy.
 - Organizers should facilitate contact tracing by recording participants' contact details.
- At present, no minimum distance requirements at the VIC.

Worldwide

- Travel restrictions are still in place in some countries.

Useful links:

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



Organizational Considerations

- 2023 COPUOS cycle: 60th session of STSC (6-17 February 2023), 62nd session of the Legal Subcommittee (20-31 March 2023), 66th session of COPUOS (31 May – 9 June 2023)
- In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the associated restrictions in the world, 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 does not set a precedent.**



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, Interprefy - digital platform for UN official meetings - limited to 2 x 2 hours per day).
- Plenary statements to be limited to five minutes.
- Technical presentation to be limited to ten minutes (No interpretation, but can be delivered in any of the six Official UN Languages, however, there will be no interpretation, MS Teams).
- 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. Attendance mode (in-person or virtual) should be clearly specified for each participant.



LSC: Schedule of Meetings (Vienna time)

1 st week of LSC	[20-26 March]	Central European Time (UTC+1)
2 nd week of LSC	[27-31 March]	Central European Summer Time (UTC+2)
9:45 - 10:45	Technical Presentations [MS Teams]	
11:00 - 13:00	LSC Morning Session with Interpretation [Interprefy]	
13:00 - 15:00	Lunch Break	
15:00 - 17:00	LSC Afternoon Session with Interpretation [Interprefy]	
17:15 - 18:15	Technical Presentations [MS Teams]	



LSC: Plenary and Working Group Meetings

- Hybrid format: Boardroom-D, attendance in accordance with the Host Country COVID-19 regulation (currently no restrictions).
- 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 CET.
- Speaker links: 5 per delegation of COPUOS State members; 2 per observer.
- The links are connected to emails addresses received through accreditation.
- Each delegation is requested to clearly inform the Secretariat which delegates would be physically present at LSC, if under hybrid format, and which delegates would receive the speaker links on Interprefy.
- Written statements for interpretation are to be provided in advance, preferably two days before delivery.
- Symposium: part of plenary, with interpretation, hybrid.



Working Group Informals

- WG informals to be held according to the needs of the respective Working Groups.
- Modality: Hybrid (In-person + MS Teams).
- No interpretation provided.
- Information circular to provide links for joining the meetings.

Side meetings and side events

- Side meetings and side events may take place in a format chosen by organizers (in-person/ online/ hybrid). In-person events are subject to room availability.



Statements

- Plenary statements to be limited to five minutes.
- Delivery of prerecorded statements is possible.
- 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: 10 days before the session.



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. 10 minutes per presentation.
- Delivery mode: Hybrid (In-person + MS Teams).
- Pre-recorded presentations possible.
- As is customary, presentations in .pdf format will be uploaded to UNOOSA website.

Adoption of the report

- Adoption of Working Group reports is scheduled for Wednesday, the second week of Subcommittee sessions. Adoption of the Subcommittee/Committee report is scheduled for Thursday and Friday of second week.
- Delegations may provide language-related comments on language versions of the reports within one week after the session.



Deadlines:

- **Accreditations** - full composition of delegations (with email addresses and in Word format, in addition to the scanned document) - Monday, 6 March 2023.
- **Physical attendance** - names (with email addresses) of each accredited representative who will attend the session in person - Monday, 6 March 2023.
- **Email addresses for Interpretory** – up to 5 per State member of COPUOS, up to 2 per observers - Monday, 6 March 2023.
- **Inscriptions to the list of speakers** per agenda item - by Monday, 6 March 2023 (Text of statements to be provided 2 working days before delivery).
- **Pre-recorded statements** for sound quality check - by Monday, 6 March 2023.
- Information on the wish of delegations to deliver **technical presentation** (including the title of the presentation, the name and details of the presenter and agenda item under which that presentation is to be delivered) - by Monday, 6 March 2023.

THANK YOU



UNITED NATIONS
Office for Outer Space Affairs