

Thirtieth regular session (17 to 21 May 2021)

Organizational arrangements

Status: 20 April 2021

A. Background

The thirtieth regular session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is scheduled for 17 to 21 May 2021. The provisional annotated agenda has been published on the website of the Commission and will be updated according to the present arrangements as appropriate.¹ Additionally, the Commission decided to hold a ceremonial opening segment in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Commission.

The present proposed organizational arrangements were drafted in response to the recent developments of the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into consideration the regulations by the host country, Austria, and the guidelines of the Vienna International Centre.

Subject to the developments of the global health situation and to changes to the regulations by the host Country Austria, the following arrangements may be revised closer to the session.

B. Organization

a. Format

The regular session will be conducted in a hybrid format, combining an in-person component with online participation.

The in-person participation will be limited to United Nations Member States, and a limited number of delegates from UN Entities, Institutes of the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (PNI), IGOs and NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC. The plenary meetings and the meetings of the Committee of the Whole (COW) will be held in the plenary room of the M-Building (Plenary/COW hall), the biggest room in the VIC, in a consecutive manner.²

The pre-session consultations will be held in a hybrid format on 14 May 2021, in the plenary/COW hall in the M-Building, from 12 noon to 2 pm. A technical test of the remote interpretation platform will be offered for delegates with speaker roles in the Plenary or the COW by conference services in connection with the pre-session consultations (14 May, 10-11:30 a.m. and 2-3 p.m.).

A workshop of the PNI will be held in a hybrid format on the theme of the thematic discussion during the first meeting of the Committee of the Whole, prior to its consideration of draft resolutions (Monday, 17 May, 6-8 p.m.).

There will be in the plenary/COW room one seat reserved for in-person participation for each United Nations Member State. In addition, there will be eight seats for UN Entities, eight seats for PNI, eight seats for IGOs and eight seats for NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC reserved in the

¹ <https://undocs.org/E/CN.15/2021/1>.

² Details on meeting times will be contained in the updated proposed organization of work contained in document E/CN.7/2021/1.

Plenary/COW hall, which will be assigned on a “first come first served”-basis. The in-person slots for NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC will be determined through the Civil Society Unit of UNODC and the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

In light of the COVID-19 developments, journalists will be requested to follow the session online.

Informal consultations, accessible for Member States only, can be arranged by sponsors of resolutions in a hybrid or “podium-only” format, subject to the availability of rooms in which COVID-19 prevention measures can be implemented. “Podium-only” means that only the Chair and the Secretariat are present in the respective conference room.

b. In person participation

Access to each meeting room is limited to **one delegate** per Member State, entity or organization at any given time under the conditions mentioned below.

Each Member State may appoint up to five delegates for in-person participation, in order to allow for different delegates to cover various agenda items and informal consultations. Delegates are encouraged to only come to the VIC for the time that they are representing their delegation in the meeting rooms.

Floating badges

The Secretariat will issue two types of badges to delegates who have been registered as in-person participant to the Conference:

1) Individual badges for in-person registered participants

2) Floating delegation badges without individual participants names (1 per delegation for plenary/COW room, 1 per Member State’s delegation for each additional room used for informal consultations, as appropriate).

Additional floating badges can be provided for Chairs of plenary/COW, sponsors of resolutions for informal consultations and in-person panellists for the thematic discussion.

In order to allow for sufficient physical distance between delegates, only participants with both the individual main badge and the floating badge are allowed into the meeting rooms. Floating badges do not show individual participants’ names and can be exchanged within the delegation.

They will be handed out together with the individual badges at the registration desk at Gate 1. A note verbal with the name of the person who will pick up the badges (individual badges and floating badges) should be sent to the Secretariat (unodc-sgb@un.org) in advance. The badges can be picked up on Friday, 14 May, prior to the pre-session consultations, at Gate 1 from 11 am to 1 pm, as well as Monday, 17 May, 7:30 am-10 am. The floating badges must be passed on within the delegation. Delegations are required to exchange floating badges outside of the VIC premises.

c. Online access

i) Member States

Member States may appoint up to ten delegates as speakers for the plenary and up to ten delegates as speakers for the Committee of the Whole. The same delegate may be registered as speaker for both the

plenary and the Committee of the Whole (in such cases, that speaker will use one speaker slot for the plenary and one for the Committee of the Whole).

In-person Member States participants are encouraged to register also for an online speaker's role, in case they need to take the floor virtually (as only one delegate can be present in the Plenary/COW hall at a given time).

Speakers will receive a speaker link that technically enables them to request the floor. It is possible that more speakers use the speaker link jointly from the same device.

The proceedings of the plenary and the PNI workshop can be followed on the webcast. The consultations on draft resolutions in the COW, including the pre-session informal consultations, will not be webcast.

ii) UN Entities, IGOs, PNI and NGOs with ECOSOC status

UN Entities, PNI and IGOs may appoint one virtual speaker for the plenary.

UN Entities, PNI, IGO and NGO representatives nominated to participate in-person who want to have also an additional online speaker's role for the plenary proceedings need to be also registered as online speaker in the official letter.

In line with the Rules of Procedure of the Functional Commissions of ECOSOC, NGOs with consultative status with ECOSOC may participate in the session of the Commission. A fixed number of online speaking slots for the plenary meetings will be assigned to participating NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC. In line with past practice, in which NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC could follow proceedings of the COW as observers, NGOs in consultative status with the ECOSOC will receive a limited number of observer roles for the COW.

d. Language

Simultaneous interpretation in all official United Nations languages will be provided for the Plenary and the Committee of the Whole.

e. Meeting Times

As the Plenary and the Committee of the Whole will both be held in the plenary/COW hall to allow for in-person participation, the meeting times had to be adjusted, taking into account time for disinfection:³

Opening day, Monday, 17 May:

9 – 11 am (Vienna time) Plenary (ceremonial opening segment)

12 noon – 2 pm (Vienna time) Plenary

3 – 5 pm (Vienna time) Plenary

6 – 8 pm (Vienna time) Committee of the Whole: PNI Workshop

³ Details on meeting times will be contained in the updated proposed organization of work contained in document E/CN.7/2021/1

Tuesday, 18 May through Friday, 21 May:

9 – 11 am (Vienna time) Committee of the Whole

12 noon – 2 pm (Vienna time) Plenary

3 – 5 pm (Vienna time) Plenary

6 – 8 pm (Vienna time) Committee of the Whole (with the exception of Friday 21 May)

f. Registration

Registration will open on 26 April 2021, and close on 12 May 2021.

Participants have to register through INDICO using the link that will be provided to them. The Permanent Mission's note verbale/organization's official letter confirming the participant's participation, will have to be uploaded together with the registration form in INDICO. Only registration applications submitted together with the corresponding note verbale/official letter in INDICO will be reviewed and approved by the Secretariat. Participants are kindly requested to align their job titles and functions on the note verbal/organization's official letter and in their INDICO registration, with a view to facilitating the creation of the participants list. The Secretariat can be contacted at unodc-sgb@un.org in case of questions.

g. Statements during the Plenary

With a view to keeping the session within the available timeframe, all statements of Member States and other stakeholders during the general debate shall be **limited to three minutes**. Statements by regional groups are limited to five minutes. In line with past practice, statements made shared with the Secretariat, including longer versions, can be posted on the website of the Commission upon request.

The list of speakers for the general debate will be established on a “first come, first served” basis, differentiating only between ministers and other high-level speakers. The registration period for the general debate starts on 29 April and closes on 13 May (unodc-sgb@un.org, cc: zsoka.williams@un.org).

Delegations intending to deliver a statement under other agenda items, may inform the Secretariat starting from 29 April 2021, by indicating the agenda item as well as the representative who will deliver the statement. These statements should also be limited to three minutes. The list of speakers for other agenda items will also be established on a “first come, first served” basis.

UN Entities, IGOs and up to three NGOs per agenda item may make statements during the regular session, time permitting.

Instead of delivering a statement “live”, Member States, UN Entities, IGOs and NGOs may submit pre-recorded video statements for the general debate. The statements have to comply with the time limitation. The videos need to be transmitted to unov-conference.statements@un.org by 11 May 2021. For the technical details, please consult the guide on video statements published on the website of the Commissions.⁴

⁴ https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND_Sessions/CND_64/Audio-Video_Requirements_for_Pre-Recorded_Statements_17_March_2021_Rev.1.pdf.

h. Documentation

Pre-session documentation is only issued electronically. In-person participants who wish to use printed versions of the pre-session documents are requested to bring their own copies. In-session documentation (i.e. the parts of the report for adoption) will be made available in paper form to delegates who are physically present. In addition, it will be made available electronically on the dedicated website.⁵

i. Adoption of resolutions/decisions/the report of the meeting

Given that all Member States will have the possibility of physically attending the 30th regular session, resolutions and decisions, as well as the report on its meeting will be adopted in-session. In accordance with past practice, those parts of the report that reflect the last day of the session will be compiled and finalized by the Chair with the assistance of the Rapporteur.

j. Side events

Side events will be held online only. The organization of the side events and the responsibility for the participation in the events is entirely up to the organizers. The Secretariat will not be in a position to control the access to such events nor provide assistance with trouble shooting. The links to the side events will be provided by the organizers and posted on the Commission's website with a respective disclaimer. Further information is available on the website of the Commission.⁶

k. Rooms for bilateral and regional group meetings

Due to the social distancing measures in place, no meeting rooms are available for bilateral or group meetings.

The Secretariat will assist with arranging informal consultations on draft resolutions.

l. COVID-19 preventive measures

Participants intending to travel from abroad should familiarize themselves, before planning their travel, with the special measures in place relating to the entry into Austria⁷:

Before entering the VIC, all in-person participants must have a negative COVID (PCR or rapid antigen) test. The test must not older than 72 hours (PCR test) or 48 hours (rapid antigen test).⁸

⁵ https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/session/30_Session_2021/session-30-of-the-ccpcj.html

⁶ https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND-and-CCPCJ_Side-Events.html.

⁷ https://www.oesterreich.gv.at/en/themen/coronavirus_in_oesterreich/pre-travel-clearance.html

⁸ Information on testing options in Vienna can be found here: <https://www.integrationsfonds.at/coronainfo/en/>. Participants who join the 30th session in person can, for example, take a COVID-19 rapid test at Austria Center (U1 Kaisermuehlen and Drive-In) before entering the VIC. Tests are free of charge and available for everybody, also persons without health insurance in Austria. Please register and make an appointment online <https://www.acv.at/en/rapid-testing/> and bring a photo ID.

All in-person participants are required to observe the COVID-19-related sanitary measures during the whole session. The most recent version will be published on the website of the Commission. In particular participants may not attend the meeting if they show symptoms associated with COVID-19.

In line with the system used in the UN headquarters building in New York, participants automatically declare, by swiping their badge on entry to the VIC, as a condition of their entry that they:

- (1) Have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days;
- (2) Have not had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days; and
- (3) Have not had close contact with someone with COVID-19 or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- (4) Agree to assume any health risks related to their attendance.
- (5) Are familiar with and will adhere to the provisions set out in the “Guidance for in-person participants”, in particular, fill in the contact tracing sheets provided for in-person participants.