

# Virtual Briefing: COPUOS

64th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space  
to be held from 25 August to 3 September 2021

Wednesday, 30 June 2021, 14:00-15:00



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# Background



## COVID-19: Current Situation in Austria

- “3G rule”: Access only for those vaccinated, tested or recovered
- The COVID-19 curfew hour (24:00) will be removed from 1 July 2021
- Minimal distancing reduced to one metre from the two metres as of 10 June 2021.
- All those entering Austria from high-risk areas need to complete an [online pre-clearance form](#) in English or German, regardless of whether they have diplomatic status.
- Depending on traveler’s country, PCR Test, Antigen Test and Quarantine may be required. The Austrian Government’s measures related to entering Austria at all borders, including land borders.

### Official Sources:

- COVID-19 Dashboard: <https://covid19-dashboard.ages.at/?l=en>
- Regulations on entry to Austria <https://www.sozialministerium.at/Informationen-zum-Coronavirus/Coronavirus---Haeufig-gestellte-Fragen/FAQ--Reisen-und-Tourismus.html>



## COVID-19: Vienna International Centre (VIC)

- From 3 November 2020, CTBTO, UNIDO, UNOV/UNODC, UNOOSA have switched to **full-time telecommuting**
- Gradual return to offices at VIC commencing 1 June 2021.
- At the VIC, Medical Service encourages to conduct meetings virtually as the main form of interaction and in-person meetings should be held **only if absolutely necessary**.
- In case in-person meetings are necessary for continuation of the business, the number of participants should be as low as possible.
- All participants should wear masks at all times throughout the meeting and have assigned seating.
- Personnel must adhere to the physical distancing rule in all common areas of the VIC at all times, including when meeting at the coffee corners.
- **Potential COVID-19 case at the 58<sup>th</sup> session of STSC**
- <https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/covid19/SitePages/Home.aspx>



## COVID-19 Prevention Focal Point at VIC

- Crisis Management Team requires the Secretariat of each substantive body organising an in-person or hybrid meeting at the VIC to appoint a **COVID-19 prevention focal point**.
- Participants must provide up-to-date **contact information** for contact tracing (full name, email, telephone number and address).
- Inform and remind all to **wear a face-covering mask** inside and around conference rooms.
- Inform and remind in-person participants to **use only their assigned seat**. Require participants to record their full name, contact information (email, telephone number, address), and the **date and time period they occupied that seat**.
- Retain the seating diagram and the sign-in sheets for 28 days for possible tracing of close contacts, and full contact information. Documents containing personal details are to be treated as highly sensitive information.



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# 64th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

25 August - 3 September 2021



# COPUOS: Organisational Considerations

1. The 64th session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is scheduled to be held from 25 August to 3 September 2021, in Vienna, Austria.
2. In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the associated restrictions, the session will be held in a hybrid format.
3. 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.
4. The meeting format will be of an exceptional and temporary nature and will not set a precedent.



# COPUOS: Summary of Organizational Arrangements

1. Hybrid format. Open plenary meetings and technical presentations to be webcast.
2. COPUOS Plenary meetings and formal Working Group meetings (Interpretation into official UN languages, Interpretify - digital platform for UN official meetings - limited to 2 x 2 hours per day).
3. Plenary statements to be limited to seven minutes.
4. Technical Presentations 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).
5. Working Group Informals: WG Space2030, STSC WG on LTS, STSC WG on NPS, LSC WG on space resources (No interpretation, MS Teams).
6. 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).





# COPUOS: Proposed Schedule of Meetings

Tokyo	Beijing	Vienna (CET)		Brasilia	NYC
17:00	16:00	9:45 - 10:45	Technical Presentations [MS Teams]	05:00	04:00
18:00	17:00	11:00 - 13:00	COPUOS Morning Session with Interpretation [Interprefy]	06:00	05:00
19:00	18:00			07:00	06:00
20:00	19:00	13:00 - 13:30	Technical Break / Disinfection of M-Plenary	08:00	07:00
21:00	20:00	13:30 - 14:45	Informal Meetings of Working Groups [MS Teams]	09:00	08:00
22:00	21:00	15:00 - 17:00	COPUOS Afternoon Session with Interpretation [Interprefy]	10:00	09:00
23:00	22:00			11:00	10:00
00:00	23:00	17:15 - 18:15	Technical Presentations [MS Teams]	12:00	11:00
01:00	00:00			13:00	12:00



## COPUOS: Hybrid Format

- Conference room: M-Plenary, VIC
- Potential COVID-19 case at the 58th session of STSC
- Information on physical attendance to be provided closer to the session
- Plenary meetings and formal WG meetings - **Interprefy**
- Number of links per delegation for virtual attendance:
  - 5 per State member of COPUOS, 2 per observers.
  - Deadline: **Mon, 16 August 2021** for accreditation  
**Fri, 20 Aug 2021** for inscription on the list of speakers
- Informal Working Group meetings – **MS Teams**
- No overlap between informal WG meetings
- Information circular to provide links for joining the meetings
- Side events may take place in an online format.

**IMPORTANT: Accreditation details (names, email addresses, etc.)  
are to be provided in editable format**



# Statements

- Plenary statements to be limited to **seven** 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:
  - Audio-video requirements for pre-recorded statements available on the LSC website
  - Deadline for sending video files for sound check: **Wed, 18 August 2021**



## 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 to 10:45 and 17:15 to 18:15 Vienna time
- Duration: max. 12 minutes per presentation.
- Delivery mode: virtual, via MS Teams. Pre-recorded presentations possible.
- As is customary, presentations in .pdf format will be uploaded to UNOOSA website.
- Deadlines:
  - **Mon, 16 August 2021** for accreditation of presenters
  - **Fri, 20 Aug 2021** to provide final title, agenda item, presenter's details

# THANK YOU



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