

Management of technical presentations at sessions of the Committee and its subcommittees

Non-paper by the Chair of the Working Group of the Whole

1. There is an increased demand for technical presentations at sessions of the Committee and its subcommittees, driven by the growing number of States members and observers to the Committee. The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, which traditionally has the highest number of technical presentations, has seen an increase from 57 presentations delivered in 2022 to 74 in 2025. Similarly, the number of presentations at the Committee sessions has also risen, from 36 in 2021 to 56 in 2024. This non-paper was developed to facilitate discussions on the management of technical presentations.

2. The present paragraph contains agreements of the Committee and its subcommittees regarding the management of technical presentations:

(a) Length of technical presentations:

- Technical presentations should be limited to 10 minutes ([A/78/20](#), para. 81 and [A/AC.105/1279](#), para. 79 and Annex I, para. 5).
- Timekeeping device should be used for the delivery of presentations, that the Chair of each respective session should remind delegations when 1 minute remained and that the Chair should interrupt the delivery of the presentation when [time allocated to presentation]¹ had elapsed ([A/74/20](#), para. 321 (c)).

(b) Content:

- Presentations should be closely linked to the agenda items. ([A/AC.105/1088](#), para. 275(c)).

(c) List of presentations and deadlines:

- States members and observers of the Committee should communicate to the Secretariat no later than one week before each session of the Subcommittee their wish to make scientific and technical presentations; and the Secretariat would take the necessary decisions in the scheduling of presentations in the interest of the smooth running of the sessions ([A/AC.105/1138](#), para. 292).
- A list of presentations should be made available to all delegations on the first day of the session, in case there were minor amendments to be made to the title, agenda item or presenter of the presentations listed, that list should be closed by the adjournment of the last plenary meeting of that day, and the Secretariat should not allow additional requests for presentations after that day ([A/AC.105/1088](#), para. 275(f)).

* [A/AC.105/C.1/L.418](#).

¹ Original text of this agreement made in 2019 refers to 15 minutes. In 2023 the Committee agreed to 10-minute limit for technical presentations.



(d) Limit on the number of technical presentations per delegation:

- Member States and permanent observers should pay due attention to the need to keep the overall number of presentations in the session at a reasonable level. The Secretariat may, if necessary, and upon consultation with the member State or permanent observer concerned, reduce the number of presentations requested ([A/AC.105/1038](#), para. 242).
- When delegations request the scheduling of presentations, they are to indicate which of their presentations they wish to be given priority consideration, given that there may not be enough time at a session to accommodate all requests ([A/AC.105/1224](#), Annex I, para. 7 (b)).

(e) Limit on the number of technical presentations per meeting:

- The number of scientific and technical presentations should be limited to a maximum of three presentations per meeting ([A/AC.105/1088](#), para. 275(c)).

(f) Other matters:

- Speaking notes for scientific and technical presentations should be provided to facilitate simultaneous interpretation ([A/AC.105/1088](#), paras. 275(e)).
- Presentations by national delegations are to be made before presentations by permanent observers ([A/AC.105/1224](#), Annex I, para. 7 (c)).

3. At the second meeting of the Working Group of the Whole on 5 February 2025, the Working Group exchanged ideas on the management of technical presentations. Views were expressed on various aspects of organizing technical presentations, including, inter alia: grouping presentations by theme or date; organizing poster sessions; limiting the number of presentations per topic, per Member State, or per observer—while ensuring that unnecessary restrictions are not imposed on observer organizations; prioritizing presentations by national delegations over those by observers; establishing a programme committee for the selection of presentations; introducing selection criteria; and addressing concerns regarding promotional content in presentations.

4. Based on the deliberations, the following approach is proposed for trial implementation during the sessions of the Committee and its Subcommittees in 2025 and 2026. This approach includes:

3.1. Setting a limit on the number of technical presentations per session – a maximum of 60 technical presentations per session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and 45 technical presentations per session of the Committee. For the implementation of this provision,

- Member States and permanent observers should pay due attention to the need to keep the overall number of presentations in the session at a reasonable level. The Secretariat may, if necessary, and upon consultation with the member State or permanent observer concerned, reduce the number of presentations requested ([A/AC.105/1038](#), para. 242).
- When delegations request the scheduling of presentations, they are to indicate which of their presentations they wish to be given priority consideration, given that there may not be enough time at a session to accommodate all requests ([A/AC.105/1224](#), Annex I, para. 7 (b)).

3.2. Up to two full meetings per session of the Committee or its Subcommittees will be allocated for technical presentations, with presentations grouped by relevant agenda items. The dates of these meetings will be included in the indicative schedule of work within the Annotated provisional agenda to help delegations plan their participation accordingly. At the same time, flexibility in scheduling presentations during other meetings will be maintained to accommodate experts who may not be able to attend on the days dedicated to technical presentations.

3.3. At the session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in 2027, the Working Group of the Whole would consider and decide whether to retain that approach to technical presentations.
