

# Virtual Briefing: STSC Preparations

59th session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee [STSC]  
of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space [COPUOS]  
[7-18 February 2022]

Tuesday, 30 November 2021, 14:00-15:00 CET



UNITED NATIONS  
Office for Outer Space Affairs



# COVID-19: Current Situation

## Austria, as of 25 November 2021:

- Nation-wide lockdown from 22 November. Duration TBC, at least 10 days.

## Vienna International Centre (VIC):

- Physical distancing requirement is two metres.
- FFP2 masks mandatory.
- 3G rule to enter VIC.
- Seating diagram and sign-in sheets with contact information for contact tracing.

## Useful links:

- COVID-19 Dashboard: <https://covid19-dashboard.ages.at/?l=en>
- Regulations in Austria <https://www.sozialministerium.at/Informationen-zum-Coronavirus/Coronavirus---Aktuelle-Ma%C3%9Fnahmen.html>
- VIC COVID-19 Information <https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/covid19/SitePages/Home.aspx>



## STSC: Organisational Considerations

- The fifty-ninth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is scheduled to be held from 7 - 18 February 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.



# STSC: Summary of Organizational Arrangements

- Hybrid format. Open plenary meetings and technical presentations to be webcast.
- STSC 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).
- 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**



# STSC: Proposed Schedule of Meetings

Tokyo	Beijing	Vienna (CET)		Brasilia	NYC
17:00	16:00	<b>9:45 - 10:45</b>	<b>Technical Presentations [MS Teams]</b>	05:00	03:00
18:00	17:00	<b>11:00 - 13:00</b>	<b>STSC Morning Session with Interpretation [Interprefy]</b>	06:00	04:00
19:00	18:00			07:00	05:00
20:00	19:00	<b>13:00 - 13:30</b>	<b>Technical Break / Room Disinfection</b>	08:00	06:00
21:00	20:00	<b>13:30 - 14:45</b>	<b>Informal Meetings of Working Groups [MS Teams]</b>	09:00	07:00
22:00	21:00	<b>15:00 - 17:00</b>	<b>STSC Afternoon Session with Interpretation [Interprefy]</b>	10:00	08:00
23:00	22:00			11:00	09:00
00:00	23:00	<b>17:15 - 18:15</b>	<b>Technical Presentations [MS Teams]</b>	12:00	10:00
01:00	00:00			13:00	11:00



## STSC: Plenary and Working Group Meetings

- Hybrid format: Boardroom D for in-person component. VIC Board Room D has a physical capacity of 71 at desk + additional 71 in the second row under the 1-meter distance requirement. No capacity numbers are available for 2-meter distance requirement.
- For STSC 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 STSC, 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.



## STSC: Working Group Informals and Side events

- Working Groups of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee:
  - Working Group of the Whole – no informals envisaged;
  - Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;
  - Working Group on Space and Global Health;
  - Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities.
- Time allocation for Informals: from 13:00 to 15:00 Vienna time.
- Modality: Virtual, via MS Teams.
- No interpretation provided.
- Information circular to provide links for joining the meetings.
- Side events may take place in an online 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 - 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. 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.

## Adoption of the report

- Adoption of the 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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