24 February 2022

English only

Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a
Comprehensive International Convention
on Countering the Use of Information and
Communications Technologies for
Criminal Purposes
First session
New York, 28 February–11 March 2022

Proposed roadmap and mode of work of the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes

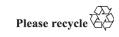
Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The present proposal was elaborated by the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes, and it presents a roadmap and the mode of work of the Ad Hoc Committee, following its first session held in New York from 28 February to 11 March 2022 until its concluding session expected to be held in 2024, with a view to facilitating the fulfilment of the Committee's mandate following a well-planned and organized way and transparent approach.

II. Proposed roadmap and mode of work of the Ad Hoc Committee

- 2. The proposed roadmap (see the table below) has been prepared within the timeframe set by the schedule for the negotiating and concluding sessions of the Committee which was circulated by the Chair on 12 October 2021, modified by General Assembly decision 76/552, to postpone the first session.
- 3. By taking into account the experience of the ad hoc committees to elaborate the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), and the interrelation among articles and logic flow in the text of a convention, it is proposed that a negotiating document, compiling Member States' proposals for a draft negotiating text of a convention on countering the use of ICTs for criminal purposes, will be prepared to serve as the basis for the work of the Ad Hoc Committee at its second and third sessions. At a later stage, a consolidated negotiating document will be prepared on the basis of the









outcomes of the second and third sessions and a draft text of the convention will be prepared on the basis of the outcomes of the fourth and fifth sessions. In this regard, the actions below will be taken:

- I. Ahead of the second and third sessions of the AHC, Member States will be requested to provide to the secretariat draft text of Chapters or provisions that will be examined by each of these two sessions, as indicated in the table below, no later than:
 - Friday, 8 April 2022¹ for the Chapters, which will be examined during the Second session;
 - Friday, 24 June 2022 for the Chapters, which will be examined during the third session:

Member States may also make submissions for the whole text of the convention if they so wish.

- The proposals shall be articulated around the chapters of the approved structure of the convention, as adopted in the first session of the Ad Hoc Committee.
- The proposals shall take the form of concrete drafting suggestions (not general expressions of national positions or policy guidance).
- II. The Chair, with the support of the secretariat, will prepare a negotiating document by compiling the proposals and contributions from Member States. The compilation will focus on the specific Chapters which will be examined, successively, during the second and third sessions.
- III. The compiled negotiating document, containing the relevant chapters to be examined by the AHC, will be circulated to Member States after its translation into the six UN official languages, ahead of the second and third sessions.
- IV. Before the fourth sessions, the Chair, with the support of the Secretariat, will prepare a consolidated negotiating document, based on the outcomes of the first reading of the draft chapters of the convention during the second and third sessions and informal consultations.
- V. The consolidated negotiating document will be circulated to Member States after its translation into the six UN official languages ahead of the fourth and fifth sessions.
- VI. Ahead of the sixth session, the Chair, with the support of the Secretariat, will prepare a draft text of the convention, based on the outcomes of the second reading of the draft chapters of the convention during the fourth and the fifth sessions and the informal consultations.
- VII. The draft text of the convention will be circulated to Member States after its translation into the six UN official languages ahead of the sixth session.
- 4. The readings of the compiled/consolidated negotiation document will be conducted chapter by chapter from the first to the sixth sessions of the Committee in a well-structured way, to allow the draft convention to be adopted by the Committee at the concluding session, for submission to the General Assembly.

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¹ The UN 10/4/6 rules on processing parliamentary documents requires the mandated pre-session documents for all secretariat and intergovernmental bodies to be submitted ten weeks before a meeting, processed in four weeks and issued six weeks before the meeting.

If Member States submit draft provisions by 8 April 2022, it is expected that the compiled text of Chapters or provisions in the six UN official languages is available before the second session of the Committee. Please note that the secretariat fully understands the importance and specificities of the process and will spare no efforts in making the documents available as early as practical.

- 5. The preparation of the negotiating document and the collection of proposals and contributions from Member States between sessions would be without prejudice to the right of all delegations to submit proposals as they deem appropriate during the negotiation process for consideration and action by the Committee.
- 6. In addition to the formal meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee, it would remain the prerogative of Member States or the Chair to meet and consult on the elaboration of the convention informally between sessions in their efforts to reach consensus on matters related to the text of the convention.
- 7. Pursuant to paragraph 10 of its resolution 75/282, the General Assembly encouraged the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee to host intersessional consultations to solicit inputs from a diverse range of stakeholders on the elaboration of the draft convention. These intersessional consultations will be scheduled between sessions of the Committee, bearing in mind that participation in the work of the Committee by multi-stakeholders does not entail negotiation and drafting roles, which are the exclusive prerogative of Member States (please see below Part III for the proposed organizational arrangements for the intersessional consultations).

Roadmap for the delivery of the Ad Hoc Committee's mandate: from the first session to the concluding session

| Session | Venue | Meeting dates | Calendar days between sessions | Comments |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| First session | New York | 28 February– 11 March 2022 | | Substantive agenda: Objectives and scope of the Convention, Structure of the Convention, Preliminary exchange of views on key elements of the Convention, The mode of work of the Committee. Expected outcome: Agreement on objectives, scope and structure of the Convention and the mode of work of the Committee |
| Intersessional consultation with multi-stakeholders | Vienna, hybrid at Microsoft TEAM | Two days in the period of 21 March to 1 April 2022 ² | | Proposed agenda: Soliciting inputs on the items to be discussed at the second session of the AHC |
| 8 April 2022: Deadli Criminalization, Prod | | | | provisions, provisions on |
| Second session | Vienna | 30 May- 10 June 2022 | 11 weeks between the first and second sessions | Substantive agenda items: 1. First reading of the preamble and general provisions 2. First reading of the provisions on criminalization 3. First reading of the provisions on |

procedural measures and law

enforcement.

Please note that the dates of all the consultations will be subject to consultation with conference management services.

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² In order to ensure that multi-stakeholders are in a position to make informative contributions to the consultations, and that their inputs are made available for the next session of the Committee, the main deciding factors for the date of a consultation are the intervals between relevant sessions and the availability of the report of a previous session, which is expected to be published 6 weeks after the conclusion of a session, in a desirable scenario.

| Intersessional | V ': | T 1 : | | Duon and anonday Calibiting in outside | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| consultation with | Vienna, | Two days in the week 13 | | Proposed agenda: Soliciting inputs on the items to be discussed at the third | | | |
| multi-stakeholders | hybrid at Microsoft | to 17 June | | session of the AHC | | | |
| muiti-stakenoiders | TEAM | 2022 | | session of the AHC | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| <u>24 June 2022:</u> Deadline to submit contributions on provisions on international cooperation, technical assistance, prevention measures, mechanism of implementation and final measures. | | | | | | | |
| Third session | New York | 29 August– | 11 weeks | Substantive agenda items: | | | |
| | | 9 September 2022 (9-day meeting slot) | between the second and third sessions | First reading of the provisions on international cooperation | | | |
| | | | | First reading of the provisions on technical assistance | | | |
| | | | | First reading of the provisions on prevention measures | | | |
| | | | | 4. First reading of the provisions on a mechanism of implementation and final provisions. | | | |
| Intersessional consultation with multi-stakeholders | Vienna, hybrid at Microsoft TEAM | Two days in the week of 31 October to 11 November 2022 | | Proposed agenda: Soliciting inputs on the items to be discussed at the fourth session of the AHC | | | |
| Fourth session | Vienna | 9–20 January | 17 weeks | Substantive agenda items: | | | |
| Fourth session | Vicinia | 2023 | between the third and fourth sessions | Second reading of the preamble, general provisions, provisions on criminalization and law enforcement. At this stage, the Committee may consider the establishment of an openended group of experts with UN official languages skill that will be tasked, towards the end of the session, to ensure consistency of the whole text of the convention and in all official languages of the United Nations. | | | |
| Intersessional consultation with multi-stakeholders | Vienna, hybrid at Microsoft TEAM | Two days in the week of 6–10 March 2023 | | Proposed agenda: Soliciting inputs on the items to be discussed at the fifth session of the AHC | | | |
| Fifth session | Vienna | 11–21 April | 11 weeks | Substantive agenda items: | | | |
| | | 2023 (9-day meeting slot) | between the fourth and fifth sessions | Second reading of: provisions on international cooperation, prevention, technical assistance, mechanism of implementation and final provisions. | | | |
| Intersessional consultation with multi-stakeholders | Vienna, hybrid at Microsoft TEAM | Two days in the week of 12–23 June 2023 | | Proposed agenda: Soliciting inputs on the items to be discussed at the sixth session of the AHC | | | |

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| Sixth session | New York | 21 August– 1 September 2023 | 17 weeks between the fifth and sixth sessions | Substantive agenda items: Third reading of the draft text of the convention At this stage of the elaboration of the convention, the Committee may invite Member States to consider the arrangement of a high-level political signing conference for the convention. |
|--|----------|--|--|--|
| Concluding session (meeting dates and duration will be decided at a later stage) | New York | Any dates from 29 January to 9 February 2024 | 21 weeks between the sixth and concluding sessions | Finalization and approval of the draft text of the convention, discussion and approval of a draft resolution, to which the text of the draft convention will be annexed, for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session in 2024. |

III. Organizational arrangements for the intersessional consultations indicated in operative paragraph 10 of the General Assembly resolution 75/282

- 8. The schedule of intersessional consultations is proposed in the above roadmap table.
- 9. The secretariat will make a call on the website of the Ad Hoc Committee for registration by multi-stakeholders indicated in operative paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of General Assembly resolution 75/282 for participation in each intersessional consultation at least 30 days before its commencement. The multi-stakeholders wishing to attend the consultation shall confirm their attendance no later than 10 days prior to the commencement of the meeting and the list of participants will be published on the website of the Committee.
- 10. The multi-stakeholders may provide in writing their contribution on the elaboration of the new convention prior to a given consultation and the contribution will be uploaded to the website of the Committee.
- 11. The intersessional consultations shall also be open to Member States and observer non-Member States.
- 12. Meetings should take place in Vienna, and be hybrid, with both in-person (to the best extent possible), and online components, to ensure the participation to be as wide as possible.
- 13. The secretariat will prepare a programme for the consultation to facilitate the engagement of participants.
- 14. The agenda for each consultation should align with the themes of the upcoming formal meeting of the Committee. Each meeting should last two days and have a series of (3 to 4) panels.
- 15. The intersessional meetings should be introduced by expert panels, with respect for geographical and gender balance among speakers.
- 16. The Chair, with the support of the secretariat, will prepare a report for each intersessional consultation. The reports should be published, in English, on the website of the Ad Hoc Committee and be circulated ahead of the next formal meeting of the Committee. Translation of such reports into other UN official languages is subject to the availability of documentation entitlements allocated to the Committee.
- 17. The Chair will briefly present the Chair's report of an intersessional consultation at the beginning of the following session of the Committee.

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