COVID-19 safety measures

Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes, Second session
30 May to 10 June 2022
M- Building, Vienna International Centre (VIC)
Status 26 May 2022

Based on the “Guidance for organizing in-person meetings at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), Issued 23 May 2022”

1. Specific safety measures at the session

The session takes place in a hybrid format, which enables in-person participation (physical presence) as well as remote participation through an online platform as approved by the Committee.

The Vienna International Centre Joint Medical Service has prepared a COVID-19 Quick Guide which participants are asked to review and a video (available on the webpage of the Committee) to inform meeting participants about general safety precautions will be shown at the beginning of the meeting.

In addition, a set of health and safety measures - outlined below in more detail - has been put in place as COVID-19 risk mitigation measures during the meeting, in particular: measures to manage the flow of participants, measures to record in-person attendance, specific hygiene measures, and procedures in case of COVID-19 infections or symptoms.

Measures to manage the flow of participants

The in-person meeting will be held in the Plenary Hall, on the first floor of the M-Building at the Vienna International Centre (VIC). Conference Room M3, on the first floor of the M-Building will be made available as an overflow room for viewing the session.

The maximum seating capacity in the conference rooms must not be exceeded.

Measures to record in-person attendance

QR codes will be placed at the desks for all meetings of the session. Delegates are kindly requested to scan the QR code for every meeting to enable the requested record and facilitate contact tracing. This information will be processed in accordance with the UN Personal Data Privacy Policy, kept for 28 days and destroyed thereafter.

Specific Hygiene Measures

FFP2 masks are generally recommended at the VIC, including in meeting rooms and especially indoors in crowded situations.

Masks are mandatory at the VIC Medical Centre, pharmacy, Commissary, banks, and the post office. From 1 June 2022, masks will no longer be mandatory in the banks, post office and Commissary but stay compulsory at the VIC Medical Centre and pharmacy.
All participants are encouraged to follow general COVID-19 preventive measures, such as washing hands. Hand sanitizers are available in restrooms and corridors of the VIC, including right outside of the conference room.

Delegates are encouraged to bring their own earphones to follow interpretation.

Procedures in case of COVID-19 symptoms or infections

Delegates are requested to not attend the meeting if they feel unwell. If a participant has acute symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 such as fever, cough, loss of sense of smell or taste, during a conference or in the meeting room: participants are required to contact the VIC Medical Services (ext. 22222) or call Security Emergency Operations Centre (ext. 99). A specific response protocol will be activated.

For assistance after meeting hours:
- For symptoms related to COVID-19, call the Vienna Health telephone on 1450 (German and English);  
- For emergencies, call the Vienna emergency number 144;  
- For all other medical issues, seek out an urgent care clinic (example: Akutversorgung Privatklinik Döbling, Heiligenstädter Straße 55-63, 1190 Vienna: +43 1 360 66-5599) or go to an emergency department of any general Vienna hospital.

Should any of the participants be confirmed by health authorities to have COVID-19 or to have been placed in quarantine within 14 days of the meeting, the participant is requested to immediately inform the VIC Medical Service (medical-admin.contact-point@iaea.org) so that necessary contact tracing in association with a COVID-19 case may be carried out.

2. Overview of COVID-19 general preventive measures within the VIC

a) FFP2 masks
   FFP2 masks are generally recommended at the VIC, including in meeting rooms and especially indoors in crowded situations. Masks are mandatory at the VIC Medical Centre, pharmacy, Commissary, banks, and the post office.

   From 1 June 2022, masks will no longer be mandatory in the banks, post office and Commissary but stay compulsory at the VIC Medical Centre and pharmacy.

b) Entering and exiting the VIC
   All persons entering/exiting the VIC are encouraged to wear FFP2 masks when accessing/exiting security checkpoints (pedestrian and vehicular).

c) Doors
   Delegates are advised to limit the touching of doorknobs, e.g. using elbows, etc.

d) Hallways
   Hallways in the VIC are wide enough to maintain a distance of one meter for two directional flow. Narrower hallways are marked for flow in one direction only.
c) Distance Markings and Signage

Distance markings of floors in common areas have been prepared. Delegates may use markings to maintain physical distancing.

3. Sources for local measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic

All delegates are kindly requested to closely monitor and check the alerts on the COVID-19 situation in the Republic of Austria, and specifically in the city of Vienna. All relevant information in English is available here. The official dashboard reflecting the latest data on COVID-19 is available both in English and German. This page is frequently updated by the host country authorities. Regular COVID19 updates are issued by the Vienna-based organizations, informing of latest measures and data - accessible online here.