COVID-19 Guidelines for in-person participants CCPCJ 31st session

Status: 14.4.2022
Based on “Guidance for organizing in-person meetings at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), Status 21 April 2022”

1. COVID-19 PREVENTIVE MEASURES - SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING

The hybrid format enables limited in-person participation (physical presence) as well as remote participation through an online platform as per the organizational arrangements decided by the Commission.

The Vienna International Centre Joint Medical Service (VIC JMS) has prepared a COVID-19 Quick Guide (on the Commission websites) which participants are required to review.

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 meetings, in particular: measures to manage the flow of participants, measures to record in-person attendance, specific hygienic measures, and procedures in case of COVID-19 infections or symptoms.

Measures to manage the flow of participants at the VIC premises
The meetings will be organized in a hybrid format from 16-20 May 2022.

In meeting room for the plenary, two seats will be reserved for in-person participation for each United Nations Member State. In addition, there will be 10 seats for UN Entities, 10 seats for IGOs and 10 seats for NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC reserved in the plenary Hall, which will be assigned on a “first come first served”-basis. In the meeting room for the COW (Boardroom-A), two delegates per Member State can participate in person on a “first come, first served” basis. 5 seats will be reserved for observers. All others can join online. In light of the COVID-19 developments, journalists will be requested to follow the plenary sessions online.

Delegates should keep physical distance of at least one meter to others. They must not shake hands or engage in any other physical contact;

Delegates should avoid meeting in groups between sessions (e.g. lunch breaks);

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

Measures to record in-person attendance
In line with the requirements set by Austrian authorities, the meeting organisers are required to keep a record of attendance. To this end, 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.

Specific Hygiene Measures
FFP2 masks are generally recommended at the VIC (including in meeting rooms) and mandatory at the VIC Medical Centre, Commissary, banks, pharmacy and the post office.
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.
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. 22224) 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) Physical distancing in the VIC

Physical distancing measures must be followed in the VIC. Individuals must keep a distance of a minimum of one meter from other individuals at all times and avoid shaking hands or engaging in any other physical contact.

b) Entering and Exiting the VIC

All persons entering/exiting the VIC must adhere to physical distancing measures and 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 will be marked for flow in one direction only.

e) Stairwells

Staff and delegates must make the necessary room to a maintain physical distance of 1 meter and must pass as quickly as possible.

f) Services

Physical distancing and wearing of FFP2 masks must be followed when queuing for and availing of service such as the Pharmacy, Commissary and other VIC commercial services.

g) Distance Markings and Signage

Distance markings of floors in common areas have been prepared. Delegates should pay attention to 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 COVID-19 updates are issued by the Vienna-based organizations, informing of latest measures and data - accessible online here.