

Organizational arrangements – Regular Session

13-17 March 2023

A. Background

The sixty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs is scheduled for 13-17 March 2023. The provisional annotated agenda will be published on the website of the Commission. Please consult the website for updated details and deadlines.¹

The present proposed organizational arrangements were drafted taking into consideration the regulations of the host country, Austria, and the guidelines of the Vienna International Centre (VIC).

Based on the developments of the global health situation and on the regulations by the host country, Austria, and subject to change in this situation, the following arrangements are proposed.

B. Organization

Format

The session will be conducted in a hybrid format, in the M-building of the Vienna International Centre.

Delegations are encouraged to regularly check for updates pertaining to COVID-19 related measures for meetings at the VIC.

Meeting times will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For speakers who participate in person, interpretation into the six official languages will be available. For speakers who participate online, interpretation into the six official languages will be available for a total duration of up to 30 minutes during each 3-hour meeting, in line with the guidance on remote interpretation arrangements received from the United Nations Department for General Assembly and Conference Management. If more speakers ask for the floor to participate online after the 30 minutes are exhausted, those speakers will be given the floor during the next meeting.

Online access

The meetings will be held on an online conference platform. All meetings of the plenary, Committee of the Whole, including informal consultations, as well as side events can be

¹ https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/session/66_Session_2023/66CND_Main.html

accessed there. Registered participants will receive an access link to the online conference platform in due course.

Registration

Participants will be asked to register through the registration system “Indico”, uploading a note verbale containing the nomination of their delegations. The link to the registration system will be posted on the Commission website.

Statements

Statements by Member States and other stakeholders are **limited to three minutes**. Statements by regional groups are limited to **five minutes**.

IGOs and NGOs (coordinated by the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs) may make statements during the session, time permitting, in accordance with the rules of procedure.

Instead of delivering a statement “live”, Member States, UN Entities, IGOs and NGOs may submit pre-recorded video statements, in compliance with the time limitation and technical requirements. The **videos** need to be transmitted to unov-conference.statements@un.org. For the technical requirements, please consult the guide on video statements published on the website of the Commissions.

Adoption of resolutions/decisions/report of the meeting

Given that Member States will have the possibility of physically attending the session, resolutions and decisions, as well as the report on its meeting, will be adopted in-session.

In accordance with past practice, those parts of the report that reflect the last day of the session will be compiled and finalized by the Chair with the assistance of the Rapporteur.

Voting, e.g. on scheduling recommendations, is only possible in person.

Side event and exhibitions

Side events can be held in an in-person, hybrid or online format. Exhibitions can be held in-person and online. Further information is accessible on the webpage.²

² <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/side-events-and-exhibitions.html>