

# Journal

17 December 2020

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**INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT  
RESUMED NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATES PARTIES  
NEW YORK, 17 – 23 DECEMBER 2020**

Due to inclement weather and upcoming major snowstorm in New York, the UNHQ Complex might be closed and all physical meetings might be cancelled. Delegates are kindly requested to watch for further updates on the UNHQ website.

## Forthcoming official meetings

**Thursday, 17 December 2020**

### **Fifth plenary meeting**

**- Election of six judges**

10:00 – 13:00.....General Assembly Hall

### **Fifth plenary meeting (continuation)**

**- Election of six members of the Committee on Budget and Finance**

**- Election of the Prosecutor**

**- Election of the President of the Assembly and election of two Vice-Presidents and 18 members of the Bureau for ASP20-ASP22**

**- Election of six judges**

15:00 – 18:00.....General Assembly Hall

**Friday, 18 December 2020**

### **Fifth plenary meeting(continuation)**

**- Other matters**

**- Election of six judges**

10:00 – 13:00..... General Assembly Hall

### **Fifth plenary meeting(continuation)**

**- Election of six judges**

15:00 – 18:00.....General Assembly Hall

**Monday, 21 December 2020**

- Election of six judges (via secret ballot without a plenary)  
10:00 – 13:00.....Trusteeship Chamber

- Election of six judges (via secret ballot without a plenary)  
15:00 – 18:00.....Trusteeship Chamber

**Tuesday, 22 December 2020**

- Election of six judges (via secret ballot without a plenary)  
10:00 – 13:00.....Trusteeship Chamber

- Election of six judges (via secret ballot without a plenary)  
15:00 – 18:00.....Trusteeship Chamber

**Wednesday, 23 December 2020**

- Election of six judges (via secret ballot without a plenary)  
10:00 – 13:00.....Trusteeship Chamber

- Election of six judges (via secret ballot without a plenary)  
15:00 – 18:00.....Trusteeship Chamber

**Other forthcoming meetings<sup>1</sup>****Friday, 18 December 2020**

**Assessing the Independent Expert Review (IER) Report's Findings and Recommendations on Victims' Rights: The Perspectives of NGOs *A Tribute to the Legacy of Dr. Felipe Michelini* (co-hosted by Italy, International Center for Multigenerational Legacies of Trauma, International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Parliamentarians for Global Action, Redress and Victims' Rights Group)**  
13:15 – 14:45 New York/ 19:15 – 20:45 The Hague.....via Zoom

**Meeting Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84831738478?pwd=UGI4RjU1SmtCb0RGbEg0d0wxbHhGQT09#success>

<sup>1</sup> All side events are held virtually.

## Announcements

**COVID-19:** The World Health Organization has declared the 2019 novel coronavirus outbreak as a pandemic. For any in-person meetings taking place at United Nations Headquarters during Phase II of the United Nations reintegration plan, participants are encouraged to:

- \*Minimize the number of participants in the room at any given time;
- \*Refrain from shaking hands;
- \*Leave empty seats between them and other participants, if the room allows it;
- \*Strictly not attend a meeting if they are unwell, have a fever, cough or respiratory symptoms;
- \*Contact the medical service at United Nations Headquarters by telephone if they are unwell, and;
- \*Undertake regular preventive measures such as cough etiquette and regular handwashing.

For further information please visit: <https://www.un.int/pm/coronavirus-precautions-and-other-preventativemeasures> and <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>.

**Nineteenth session documentation, including daily updated ASP Journal can be found on the website of the Assembly at: [https://asp.icc-cpi.int/en\\_menus/asp/sessions/documentation/19th%20session/Pages/default.aspx](https://asp.icc-cpi.int/en_menus/asp/sessions/documentation/19th%20session/Pages/default.aspx)**

### **Guidelines for the preparation and conduct of sessions of the Assembly**

The Guidelines adopted by the Bureau of the Assembly of States Parties on 15 November 2018 regarding side events, general debate and documents can be found on the website of the Assembly at the following link:

[https://asp.icc-cpi.int/iccdocs/asp\\_docs/ASP17/Guidelines%20preparation%20and%20conduct%20of%20ASP%2029Nov2018.1200.pdf](https://asp.icc-cpi.int/iccdocs/asp_docs/ASP17/Guidelines%20preparation%20and%20conduct%20of%20ASP%2029Nov2018.1200.pdf).

### **Introduction**

The Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute (Assembly) will hold four in-person meetings during the resumption of its nineteenth session on 17 and 18 December 2020, as well as six meetings for voting via secret ballot without a plenary from 21 to 23 December 2020.

The four in-person meetings of the Assembly will be held from 10am to 1pm, and from 3pm to 6 pm in the General Assembly Hall on 17 and 18 December 2020. The voting via secret ballot without a plenary will be held from 10am to 1pm, and from 3pm to 6 pm in the Trusteeship Chamber from 21 to 23 December.

An entry and exit health and safety briefing will be provided to delegates either in writing or through a letter during the meeting to emphasize key health and safety measures.

The meetings on 17 and 18 December will have simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

All the meetings will be webcast by the United Nations.

### **Paper-less Assembly session**

Given the COVID-19 related risks, the Assembly will strive to have a paper-less approach. Written statements will not be distributed in the conference room.

**Access**

Access to the meetings will be restricted to delegates of States Parties to the Rome Statute, staff members of the United Nations Secretariat, and ICC staff.

It should be noted that, in order to limit the footprint and the number of people on United Nations premises, presence in the General Assembly Hall and the Trusteeship Chamber will be limited to one delegate per State Party. A Mission may however register more than one delegate with the Secretariat of the Assembly, in case there are different delegates attending on different dates.

**Entry and exit and movements*****Entry***

It is expected that delegates will start arriving on premises from 9:00 am. Delegates will be requested to maintain physical distancing of at least 2 meters while waiting to access the General Assembly Hall and the Trusteeship Chamber.

Information about how to enter the General Assembly building and how to access the General Assembly Hall and the Trusteeship Chamber is forthcoming.

***Exit***

The Chair or Secretary will actively manage the exit by calling each row for departure in a staggered manner.

Information about how to exit the General Assembly Hall and the Trusteeship Chamber is forthcoming.

**Seating and movement in the General Assembly Hall**

Delegates will proceed to their national seats in the General Assembly Hall and the Trusteeship Chamber. Seating arrangements will be pursuant to the alphabetical order of the 123 States Parties to the Rome Statute, announced and made available beforehand to enable the delegates to easily identify, and proceed directly to, their assigned seats upon entering the conference rooms. Delegates will assume their seats behind the nameplates of their respective countries. Delegates shall be reminded to remain in their seats at all times.

The seating plans of the General Assembly Hall and the Trusteeship Chamber have been revised to ensure adequate physical distancing. In this regard, in the General Assembly Hall, some delegates are not seated directly behind their name plates. If these delegates need to speak, they are to move their chairs closer to the microphone to speak.

**Podium**

While maintaining physical distance, two persons can be seated at the podium in the General Assembly Hall; and three persons can be seated at the podium in the Trusteeship Chamber. They will wear a face covering when not speaking, and limit where possible face to face discussion.

**Scenario for the meeting**

The meetings will be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute and its established practice in a manner consistent with the safety and health mitigating measures set out in this document.

The Chair will preside over the meeting from the podium. Delegations will deliver their statements from their seats, and requests for the floor will be made through the e-speakers platform or by pressing the microphone button in the room.

After closing the meeting, the Chair or Secretary will direct the delegates to exit in an orderly manner.

### **Scenarios for Elections**

In the scenarios below, election takes place at the end of the meetings and delegates will leave the conference rooms upon casting the votes.

Elections in the General Assembly Hall (17 and 18 December):

Delegates will be requested to remain in their seats until called. The Chair will call each delegation in turn to proceed to a point down the center aisle. Ballot boxes will be placed at the front of the General Assembly Hall where the five tellers will be able to observe the boxes and the casting of ballots.

Up to five pre-identified tellers will be allowed access to the General Assembly Hall and will be seated on the right (west) side of the podium at separation no less than two meters.

After balloting has been completed, a team of up to 12 people comprised of tellers and ICC staff involved in counting will move to the designated conference room to undertake the counting of the ballots in the same socially distanced manner in which ballots were counted in recent elections. Any two persons will be seated at least two meters apart. When exchanging/handing over papers, one person will place the ballot papers on a separate table, and the other person will approach that table to pick up the papers.

Additional information is forthcoming.

*Election in the Trusteeship Chamber (21 to 23 December):*

- a) Delegates will be requested to remain in their seats until called. The Chair will call each delegation in turn to proceed to a point down the center aisle. Ballot boxes will be placed at the front of the conference room where the tellers will be able to observe the boxes and the casting of ballots.
- b) After balloting has been completed, the team of up to 12 people will remain in the Trusteeship Chamber to undertake the counting of the ballots in the same socially distanced manner in which ballots were counted in recent elections. Any two persons will be seated at least two meters apart. When exchanging/handing over papers, one person will place the ballot papers on a separate table, and the other person will approach that table to pick up the papers.

### **Use of restrooms**

Delegates should use only restrooms located in the back of the General Assembly Hall and in the proximity of the Trusteeship Chamber. Delegates waiting their turn outside the restroom should maintain physical distancing of no less than 2 meters at all times.

**Secretariat staff**

A limited number of Secretariat staff and ICC staff supporting the meeting will be seated at their designated desks in the General Assembly Hall and in the Trusteeship Chamber. All staff will have face coverings. Communication between the Secretariat staff and the Secretary at the podium will be through text messages, such as WhatsApp, or phone calls.

Distribution of all documents will be by electronic means. No hard copy documents will be provided.

In accordance with the paperless approach of the nineteenth session, electoral material may not be placed nor distributed in the conference rooms.

**Interpretation**

Simultaneous interpretation will take place on 17 and 18 December 2020.

**General points**

Delegates will be urged to check that their badges have not expired. If they have expired delegates will be encouraged to renew them prior to 16 December 2020 to avoid crowding and checkpoints.

Details on obtaining a pass are available at <https://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/passes.htm>.

Delegates without a valid ground pass will not be admitted to the UN campus. By swiping their United Nations issued ID card on entry, all delegates and support staff will declare as a condition of their entry that they:

- a) Have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days;
- b) Have not had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days; and
- c) Have not had close contact with someone with COVID-19 or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

Delegates shall also be reminded of the need to complete quarantine if in the last 14 days they have arrived from a country or US state that is considered elevated risk.

All delegates will be required to wear face coverings at all times except for when addressing the meeting. All UN staff will be required to wear face coverings at all times.

All delegates will be requested to maintain social distancing of at least 2 meters at all times, to refrain from physical contact including handshakes and other physical contact during the meetings in recognition of the physical distancing requirements. All delegates and UN staff will be reminded that they should exercise COVID-19 hand sanitizing and contact precautions. Hand-sanitizing stations are available on campus, namely by the entrance to the Secretariat Building. Note that physical distancing is the primary requirement, and the use of a face covering is an additional measure for when this distance is inadvertently breached, not a measure to allow face-to-face discussions.

No food or drink will be provided or allowed in the General Assembly Hall and the Trusteeship Chamber.

**Changes to the risk assessment**

Delegations will be requested to strictly adhere to the safety and health mitigating measures set up in this document. Delegations will be informed that any non-adherence may lead to a

reclassification of the meeting at a higher risk level, which would have an impact on the continuation of the proceedings and on their resumption. Consequently, the Chair will oversee their implementation in the course of the proceedings. The Chair may, if at any moment it appears that the guidelines are not being strictly observed, be requested to draw the attention of delegates to these guidelines and suspend the meeting as needed.

**Requests for side events**

There will be no in-person side events. The side events will be held only in virtual form.

Each organizer of a side event will be required to organize its own event and use conferencing platforms they have available. Side events co-hosted by at least one State Party will be included in the ASP Journal.

Organizers will need to submit to the Secretariat the information on side events: title, date, time (The Hague & New York), list of hosts/sponsors (including at least one State Party), a contact point with an email address for each event and a link as well as any other necessary login credentials to the event.

Please kindly note that the Secretariat does not send invitations to side events. The invitations should be sent by organizers for their respective side event.

**Subscription to ASP emails**

Delegations who wish to subscribe to ASP mailing list should convey their contact information to the following email: [asp@icc-cpi.int](mailto:asp@icc-cpi.int). The official ASP emails will be distributed from the following email address only: [asp@icc-cpi.int](mailto:asp@icc-cpi.int).

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