

Journal

22 December 2020

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

Forthcoming official meetings

Tuesday, 22 December 2020

Elections by secret ballot without a plenary meeting (Group I)
10:00 – 10:30.....Trusteeship Chamber

Elections by secret ballot without a plenary meeting (Group II)
11:30 – 12:00.....Conference Room 2

Announcement of the elections results via webcast
13:00 – 13:05.....Conference Room 2

Elections by secret ballot without a plenary meeting (Group I)
15:00 – 15:30.....Trusteeship Chamber

Elections by secret ballot without a plenary meeting (Group II)
16:30 – 17:00.....Conference Room 2

Announcement of the elections results via webcast
18:00 – 18:05.....Conference Room 2

Wednesday, 23 December 2020

Elections by secret ballot without a plenary meeting (Group I)
10:00 – 10:30.....Trusteeship Chamber

Elections by secret ballot without a plenary meeting (Group II)
11:30 – 12:00.....Conference Room 2

Announcement of the elections results via webcast
13:00 – 13:05.....Conference Room 2

Elections by secret ballot without a plenary meeting (Group I)
15:00 – 15:30.....Trusteeship Chamber

Elections by secret ballot without a plenary meeting (Group II)

16:30 – 17:00.....Conference Room 2

Announcement of the elections results via webcast

18:00 – 18:05.....Conference Room 2

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 for the resumed session 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

Introduction

The Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute (Assembly) will hold four meetings for voting via secret ballot without a plenary from 22 to 23 December 2020.

All the meetings will be webcast by the United Nations at the following link: <http://webtv.un.org/>

Paper-less Assembly session

Given the COVID-19 related risks, the Assembly will strive to have a paper-less approach.

Access

Physical 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 Trusteeship Chamber and Conference Room 2 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 Group I delegates will start arriving to Trusteeship Chamber from 9:30 and Group II delegates to Conference Room 2 from 11:00 for the morning meetings. For the afternoon meetings, it is expected that Group I delegates will start arriving to Trusteeship Chamber from 14:30 and Group II delegates to Conference Room 2 from 16:00. Delegates will be requested to maintain physical distancing of at least 2 meters while waiting to access the Trusteeship Chamber and via the South door and the Conference Room 2, where a registration desk will be located and where the ballots will be picked up.

Exit

The Chair or Secretary will actively manage the exit by calling each row for departure in a staggered manner. Delegates will exit via the North door from the Trusteeship Chamber.

Seating and movement in the Trusteeship Chamber

Delegates will proceed to their national seats in the Trusteeship Chamber and Conference Room 2. Due to social distancing measures, there is a need to have the delegations cast ballots in two separate groups and in two different rooms, allowing for the cleaning for the meetings in the afternoon or the next day as per medical advice by the United Nations. 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 within their group 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 Trusteeship Chamber and Conference Room 2 have been revised to ensure adequate physical distancing.

Podium

While maintaining physical distance, three persons can be seated at the podium in the Trusteeship Chamber and Conference Room 2. 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.

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

Scenarios for Elections

In the election scenario below, the delegates will leave the conference rooms upon casting the votes.

Election in the Trusteeship Chamber and Conference Room 2 (22 to 23 December):

- a) Delegates will arrive in two separate groups and two separate conference rooms due to seating limitations and social distancing measures. The United Nations will require one hour and a half to clean the rooms. The timeslots were conveyed by the Secretariat of the Assembly. 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 by the two groups in two separate rooms during different arrival time slots has been completed, the team of up to 12 people will remain in the Conference Room 2 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 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 Trusteeship Chamber and the Conference Room 2. 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.

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 21 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 Trusteeship Chamber and Conference Room 2.

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. The official ASP emails will be distributed from the following email address only: asp@icc-cpi.int

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