
First Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

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English only

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Information for participation by non-governmental organizations

The present document contains information for non-governmental organization participants in the first Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Documentation and other information will be posted, as it becomes available, on the website of the Meeting of States Parties (<https://meetings.unoda.org/meeting/tpnw-msp-1-2022/>).



I. Dates and venue

1. The first Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons will be held in Vienna from 21 to 23 June 2022.
2. The opening meeting will begin at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 21 June, and will be held in the “D” hall of the Austria Centre Vienna. Entry into the venue will be conducted through a connection tunnel from the Vienna International Centre.¹ Following entry into the Vienna International Centre, participants will access the Austria Centre Vienna via the “M” building.

II. Modalities of participation of non-governmental organizations

3. Attendance by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) other than the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons at the Meeting of States Parties is governed by rule 1, paragraphs 3 and 4, and by rule 53, paragraph 2, of the provisional rules of procedure of the Meeting of States Parties. Paragraphs 3 and 4 of rule 1 are reproduced below:

3. Other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations whose purpose and activities are consistent with the object and purpose of the Treaty may attend the Meeting of States Parties as observers. Such organizations or institutions shall inform the President of their interest to participate in the Meeting no later than 30 days prior to the beginning of the Meeting or 15 days prior to the beginning of an extraordinary Meeting. Said interest shall be accompanied by information on the organization’s purpose, programmes and activities in areas relevant to the scope of the Meeting.

4. Any of the organizations or institutions referred to in rule 1, paragraph 3, that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in accordance with the provisions of Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 may attend the meetings as observers. For any organizations that do not have consultative status with the Council, the President of the Meeting will circulate to all States parties a list of new applications received from relevant organizations or institutions referred to in rule 1, paragraph 3, that have expressed an interest in participating in the Meeting pursuant to rule 45, taking into consideration criteria such as whether the purpose, programmes and activities of the organizations or institutions are consistent with the object and purpose of the Treaty, no less than 10 days before the Meeting on a non-objection basis. The participation of these organizations or institutions is ultimately subject to the final approval of the Meeting.

Paragraph 2 of rule 53 is reproduced below:

2. The observers that are not signatory States or organizations and entities referred to in rule 1, paragraph 2:
 - (a) May make oral statements in accordance with rule 20;

¹ Owing to construction work on the U1 line, the “Kaisermühlen/VIC” stop will be closed in the direction of Leopoldau from 25 April to 7 August 2022. This means that trains will not stop at the Vienna International Centre. As an alternative, passengers can travel one stop further to “Alte Donau” and then take the train back one stop to “Kaisermühlen/VIC”.

(b) May submit written statements and documents, which shall be distributed electronically by the secretariat to all delegations in the quantities and in the language in which the statements are made available to it, provided that a statement submitted is related to the work of the Meeting of States Parties. Written statements and documents shall not be made available at the expense of the Meeting of States Parties and shall not be issued as official documents;

(c) May receive official documents;

(d) May not participate in decision-making;

(e) May not make, or be among the speakers called on to speak in favour of or against, any procedural motion or request, raise points of order or appeal against a ruling of the President.

III. Restrictions related to the coronavirus disease pandemic

4. Owing to the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, a number of restrictions are in place at both the Vienna International Centre and the Austria Centre Vienna in order to ensure the health of all delegates and staff. The following information was correct as of the issuance of the present document but may subsequently change. Participants are encouraged to consult the following web page, which contains the latest COVID-19-related updates from the Vienna International Centre: <https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/covid19/SitePages/Home.aspx>.

5. Those entering the Vienna International Centre and areas of the Austria Centre Vienna allocated for the Meeting of States Parties no longer need to have proof of low epidemiological risk (i.e. proof of vaccination or recovery, or a negative polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test). Participants are strongly recommended to wear FFP2 masks when indoors in common areas at the Vienna International Centre and Austria Centre Vienna, including in meeting rooms (for a list of specific facilities that require the wearing of FFP2 masks, please consult the link above). Participants are strongly encouraged to keep a minimum distance of one metre from others when on the premises of the Vienna International Centre and the Austria Centre Vienna.

6. All participants, including vaccinated participants, are encouraged to take all feasible precautions to ensure the safe conduct of the Meeting of the States Parties. Participants are therefore strongly encouraged to take a COVID-19 test prior to attending the Meeting. PCR testing will be possible on site during the afternoon of each day of the Meeting. Participants can also make use of the free *Alles gurgelt* testing programme at various locations in Vienna. Participants should not attend the Meeting in person if they feel ill or have respiratory or other symptoms. Participants must also not come to the Meeting venue if they have tested positive within 10 days prior to the Meeting or have been placed under quarantine by the local health authorities. If the above applies to any person, they are encouraged to follow the Meeting remotely.

7. In addition, participants are strongly encouraged to consult official Austrian sources for the restrictions currently in place in the host country and host city, including those that apply to travellers entering Austria, available at the following web page: <https://www.austria.info/en/service-and-facts/coronavirus-information>.

IV. Practical arrangements for accreditation, registration and issuance of grounds passes

Accreditation

8. The deadline for requests for accreditation by organizations has expired.

9. Those NGOs that have requested accreditation will be informed by the secretariat by email by 30 May 2022 of the outcome of their request. Relevant NGOs in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with the provision of Council resolution 1996/31, will be accredited to the Meeting of States Parties. All other approved NGOs will be provisionally accredited to the Meeting, pending the decision of the Meeting on the list of such organizations. NGOs that have not provided information on the purpose, programmes and activities of their organization in areas relevant to the scope of the Meeting must do so before 2 June 2022. For questions relating to accreditation, please contact Diane Barnes (diane.barnes@un.org).

Registration

10. Incomplete registrations and registrations received after the deadline will not be processed.

11. Online registration will be available from 30 May to 14 June 2022 to representatives of NGOs whose accreditation has been approved.

12. Attendees must complete the registration form on the online Indico system at <https://indico.un.org/event/1000611/registrations/> and follow the process described therein. Once a participant is registered in the system, the profile will remain valid and will only have to be updated if needed. Online registrations must include: (a) the accreditation request letter, including the name of the participant; and (b) the passport nationality and email address of the participant. If the requested documents are not attached, the system will reject the application.

13. Once their registrations have been approved in Indico, representatives of NGOs will receive a confirmation email. They will receive a second email requesting them to submit a photograph, which is needed to issue a pre-printed conference pass and which will therefore shorten the time needed to issue an access pass on the day of registration.

14. Identification passes will be issued at Gate One of the Vienna International Centre. Representatives of NGOs who have uploaded their picture in advance will be able to collect their pass from the area marked “Pre-printed conference passes”. Representatives who have not uploaded their picture in advance will be able to collect their pass from the Pass Office. Both places are located to the right after the entrance to Gate One. Representatives of NGOs will be able to collect their passes on 20 June from 8 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Passes can continue to be collected until the end of the Meeting of States Parties on 23 June. The Pass Office will be open from 8 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. from Monday to Friday. Participants will need their passport in order to collect their pass.

V. General debate

15. Representatives of NGOs interested in addressing the general debate are invited to contact the NGO point of contact and coordinator, Christina Hawley, who will coordinate the list of NGO speakers. Ms. Hawley’s contact details are provided below.

16. NGO representatives are kindly requested to email electronic versions of their statements to tpnw@un.org, as early as possible, for posting on the website of the Meeting of States Parties. The name of the NGO and the title of the meeting should be indicated in the subject line of the email. The statements will be uploaded to the website of the Meeting after delivery. The secretariat kindly requests that NGOs provide only 25 hard copies of official statements for the interpretation services. The United Nations does not provide photocopying or printing services.

VI. Documentation

17. All documents and statements for the first session will be available on the website of the Meeting of States Parties (<https://meetings.unoda.org/meeting/tpnw-msp-1-2022/>).

18. NGOs may submit material in writing, which shall be circulated in its original language. NGOs are kindly requested to limit such submissions to five single-spaced pages (2,675 words). Submissions should utilize the template available from the NGO point of contact and coordinator and should be emailed to tpnw-1msp@icanw.org.

19. NGOs may be allowed to display documents and other information materials on a designated table. One copy of each document should be provided to the Meeting secretariat through the NGO point of contact and coordinator prior to public display.

VII. Side events and exhibitions

20. The deadline for requests to hold side events or exhibitions in connection with the Meeting of States Parties has passed and all available space has been allocated. Organizers of side events and exhibitions are reminded that any additional costs generated by such activities will need to be borne by the organizing NGO.

21. The holding of receptions in connection with side events and exhibitions is discouraged in accordance with the restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic in place at the Vienna International Centre.

VIII. Taking action on harassment, including sexual harassment

22. The organizations of the United Nations system are committed to enabling events at which everyone can participate in an inclusive, respectful and safe environment. All conferences and events taking place on United Nations system premises are guided by the highest ethical and professional standards, and all participants are expected to behave with integrity and respect towards all participants attending or involved with any United Nations system event. To that end, the Code of Conduct to Prevent Harassment, Including Sexual Harassment, at United Nations System Events will apply to all persons involved in the Meeting of States Parties. The text of the Code of Conduct and further information thereon are available online (www.un.org/en/content/codeofconduct/).

23. If you feel you have been a victim of, or a witness to, harassment, including sexual harassment at the United Nations Office at Vienna during the Meeting of States Parties, you are encouraged to contact the United Nations Secretariat. The “Speak up” helpline and email address (+1 917 367 8910 and speakup@un.org) are available to provide confidential support about what to do and where to go for help.

IX. Letters of invitation and visas

24. The United Nations is not in a position to provide letters of invitation or letters to consulates requesting that NGO representatives be provided visas for travelling to Austria in order to attend the Meeting of States Parties. It is the full responsibility of NGO representatives to make arrangements for visas, travel and related costs. It is advisable that NGO representatives make visa and travel arrangements at their earliest possible convenience.

X. Point of contact

25. The secretariat has been informed that the designated NGO point of contact in connection with participation by NGOs in the Meeting of States Parties is as follows:

Christina Hawley
 Civil Society Coordinator
 International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons
 Email: tpnw-1msp@icanw.org
 Telephone: +41 22 788 20 63

<i>Checklist for representatives of non-governmental organizations</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
Notification by email from the secretariat to representatives informing them of the status of their request	30 May 2022
Request for representative registration	14 June 2022