

Proposal on rules of procedures

1. In accordance with rule 161 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, “[t]he rules relating to the procedure of committees of the General Assembly, as well as rules 45 and 60, shall apply to the procedure of any subsidiary organ unless the Assembly or the subsidiary organ decides otherwise”.
2. The Open-Ended Working Group may wish to decide to conduct its work in accordance with the rules of procedure of the committees of the General Assembly subject to the following provisions on decision-making:
 1. Every effort should be made to reach agreement on substantive matters by means of consensus. There should be no voting on such matters until all efforts to achieve consensus have been exhausted.
 2. If, notwithstanding the best efforts of delegates to achieve a consensus, a matter of substance comes up for voting, the Chair shall defer the vote for 48 hours and, during this period of deferment, shall make every effort to facilitate the achievement of general agreement, and shall report to the Open-Ended Working Group prior to end of the period.
 3. If by the end of the period of deferment the Open-Ended Working Group has not reached agreement, voting shall take place in accordance with rule following provisions.
 4. Decisions of the Open-Ended Working Group on all matters of substance shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting.
 5. Decisions of the Open-Ended Working Group on all matters of procedure shall be taken by a majority of the representatives present and voting.
 6. If the question arises as to whether a matter is one of procedure or of substance, the Chair shall rule on the question. An appeal against this ruling shall be put to the vote immediately, and the Chair’s ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting.
 7. If a vote is equally divided, the proposal or motion shall be regarded as rejected.

Annex B

Proposal on modalities of participation of international and non-governmental organizations

1. The Open-Ended Working Group may wish to decide [the below text is based on the decision adopted by the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (A/AC.278/2011/2, para. 8)]:

(a) To invite relevant intergovernmental organizations that have observer status with the General Assembly to participate in its work;

(b) That accreditation of non-governmental organizations to the Open-Ended Working Group shall be granted to all relevant non-governmental organizations enjoying consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

(c) That other relevant non-governmental organizations, not falling within the above categories, may apply to the Secretariat for such accreditation, and that their applications should contain all the information on the competence of the organization and the relevance of its activities to the work of the Open-Ended Working Group and in respect of those applications, also decides that:

(i) The Secretariat shall circulate to all States members of the Open-Ended Working Group a list of new applications for accreditation received from non-governmental organizations no less than four weeks prior to each session of the Working Group, on a non-objection basis, except for the first session of the Working Group, when circulation of the list will take place no later than two weeks prior to the session;

(ii) The Open-ended Working Group, at the beginning of each of its sessions, shall consider and take decisions on new applications against which a State member of the Working Group has raised an objection;

(d) To keep in mind the principle of equitable geographical participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Open-Ended Working Group;

(e) That the arrangements outlined above shall in no way create a precedent for other open-ended working groups of the General Assembly.

Logistical Note for virtual informal consultation

The virtual informal consultation will take place on **Tuesday, 1 February 2022 from 10.00am to 12.00pm** (New York local time), via Microsoft Teams.

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

Virtual informal consultations will take place via Microsoft Teams. Meeting invites, including the respective link to access the meeting, will be circulated to First Committee delegates through the UN's e-delegate mailing list. The link to the meeting can also be requested by emailing conventionalarms-unoda@un.org.

Participants can join the meeting by clicking on the link using one of the three options below:

1. Using a mobile device without MS Teams account

- For participants using mobile devices who do not have a MS Teams account, click *Join as guest*.
- Participants will be required to enter their name. Please use the following format: COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION - First Name Last Name [e.g. UNODA - Jane Public]
It is important that you include this information, particularly the name of the Delegation.
- Then click *Join Meeting*.

2. Using a computer without MS Teams account

- For participants using a computer who do not have a MS Teams account, click *Join on the Web instead*.
- Then click to allow the use of microphone and camera.
- Participants will be required to enter their name. Please use the following format: COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION - First Name Last Name [e.g. UNODA - Jane Public]
It is important that you include this information, particularly the name of the Delegation.
- Then click *Join Meeting*.

3. Joining with a MS Teams account

- For participants who have a MS Teams account, click on **Sign in and join**.

After following the respective steps above, participants will be admitted to a virtual lobby. The organizers will verify your identity and admit you to the meeting.

In order to start the meeting on time, all participants are requested to log in at least 5-10 minutes before the scheduled start of the meeting.

Language

Informal consultations are conducted without interpretation.

Conduct

Requesting the floor

Delegations wishing to request the floor to ask a question or make statement or a comment are asked to use the chat or the raise your hand function to request the floor.

(Please lower your hand after you have taken the floor.)

The mute button

To avoid distractions, interruptions or background noise, please always mute your microphone unless you have been given the floor.

Troubleshooting

If you lose sound or video, try refreshing the browser window or try to log out and reconnect to the meeting.

MS Teams Functionalities

Participants
mute/unmute

Chat

Raise/Lower hand

Video on/off

Microphone

