



COMPREHENSIVE  
NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN  
TREATY ORGANIZATION

Distr.: LIMITED  
CTBT/WGA-65/INF.2  
2 May 2024

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Working Group A, Sixty-Fifth Session  
Vienna, 27-28 May 2024

---

## DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION OF WORKING GROUP A

---

This draft annotated agenda for the Sixty-Fifth Session of Working Group A (WGA) is based on the provisional draft agenda contained in the report of WGA and adopted by the Preparatory Commission at its Sixty-First Session ([CTBT/PC-61/WGA/1](#), Annex II).

Draft Agenda Item	Comments
1. Adoption of the agenda	The draft agenda ( <a href="#">CTBT/WGA-65/INF.1</a> ) will be presented for adoption at the opening of the Sixty-Fifth Session of WGA.
2. Report of the Executive Secretary	Three written reports have been distributed in advance of the session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Report of the Executive Secretary on verification related activities for the period July to December 2023 (<a href="#">CTBT/ES/2023/4</a>);</li><li>• Annual Report 2023 (<a href="#">CTBT/ES/2023/5</a>);</li><li>• Report of the Executive Secretary on non-verification-related activities for the period September 2023 to March 2024 (<a href="#">CTBT/ES/2024/1</a>).</li></ul> The Executive Secretary will also make an opening statement highlighting certain issues.
3. Review of Advisory Group recommendations	The Advisory Group will hold its Sixty-Second Session from 6 to 10 May 2024 with the following agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review of the implementation of recommendations contained in the Report of the Sixty-First Session of the Advisory Group and outstanding recommendations contained in previous Advisory Group reports;</li></ul>

Draft Agenda Item	Comments
3. Review of Advisory Group recommendations (cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of the 2023 financial statements of the Commission, including the report of the External Auditor;</li> <li>• 2023 annual report of Internal Audit to the Commission;</li> <li>• Carry-forward of the 2023 Capital Investment Fund and multiyear funds balances;</li> <li>• Final 2023 budgetary transfers;</li> <li>• 2022-2023 Programme and Budget Performance Report;</li> <li>• Budget implementation as at 30 April 2024;</li> <li>• 2025 Budget update proposals;</li> <li>• Long term sustainment and recapitalization requirements;</li> <li>• Discussion on method of work including oversight mechanisms and composition of the Advisory Group;</li> <li>• Agenda for the next session;</li> <li>• Any other business.</li> </ul> <p>WGA will consider the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Group (to be issued as CTBT/AG-62/1) and decide whether to take note of the recommendations contained therein and take other appropriate action.</p>
4. 2023 Financial statements of the Preparatory Commission, including the report of the External Auditor	<p>In accordance with Financial Regulation 13.10, the reports of the External Auditor and the audited financial statements are transmitted to the Commission through the Advisory Group and WGA. The 2023 report of the External Auditor and the audited financial statements is to be issued as CTBT/PTS/INF.1702.</p> <p>A representative of the External Auditor will introduce the report to WGA. WGA is expected to examine the audited financial statements, the report and the recommendations contained therein and to formulate comments, as appropriate. WGA may then wish to recommend to the Commission that it formally accept the 2023 audited financial statements.</p>
5. 2022-2023 Programme and Budget Performance Report	<p>In accordance with Financial Rule 4.5.02, the 2022-2023 Programme and Budget Performance Report (PBPR) has been issued (<a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.1696-Volume 1</a> and <a href="#">Volume 2</a>). The Advisory Group will examine the PBPR at its Sixty-Second Session. WGA will examine the PBPR and formulate appropriate comments and recommendations.</p>
6. 2025 Budget update proposals	<p>In accordance with Financial Regulation 4.3(b), the PTS has issued the 2025 Budget Update Proposals: Initial Draft as <a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.1695</a> and <a href="#">Corr.1</a>.</p> <p>The Advisory Group will review the proposals at its Sixty-Second Session.</p> <p>WGA may wish to comment on the initial draft of the Budget update proposals.</p>

Draft Agenda Item	Comments
7. Consideration of financial and budgetary decisions	<p>WGA will consider the financial and budgetary matters listed below and may wish to make recommendations to the Sixty-Second Session of the Commission.</p> <p>(1) <i>Final 2023 budgetary transfers and 2024 transfers</i></p> <p>In accordance with Financial Regulation 5.5 and Financial Rule 5.5.02, budgetary transfers have to be reported to the Commission. The Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS) has issued an Information Paper on Final 2023 Budgetary Transfers in document <a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.1700</a>.</p> <p>Any 2024 budgetary transfers will be reported as applicable.</p> <p>This issue will be considered first by the Advisory Group, then by WGA and subsequently by the Commission.</p> <p>(2) <i>Capital Investment Fund (CIF) and multiyear fund (MYF) unspent balances as of 31 December 2023</i></p> <p>The Commission approves the carry-forward of the CIF balance in two stages (<a href="#">CTBT/PC-22/1/Annex I</a> and <a href="#">Corr.1</a>, paragraph 52). The last session of the Commission each year considers authorizing the PTS to allot the CIF unspent balance that is backed by cash as of 31 December of that year as soon as it is final and audited. The first session of the Commission of the following year considers approving the carry-forward of that part of the unspent CIF balance that is not backed by cash.</p> <p>At its Forty-Fourth Session, the Commission approved the establishment of the multiyear funding modality and adopted a new Financial Regulation 7.3 and Financial Rules 7.3.01, 7.3.02 and 7.3.03. At its Forty-Fifth Session, the Commission established four multiyear funds and relevant guidelines. As the modalities for the MYFs were modelled on those for the CIF, the PTS will follow the same two stage approach for the carry-forward of the MYF balances.</p> <p>At its Sixty-First Session, the Commission approved the carry-forward of the unspent balances of the CIF and MYFs backed by cash as of 31 December 2023 to financial period 2024 as soon as they are final and audited (<a href="#">CTBT/PC-61/2</a>, Annex I).</p> <p>The PTS will issue an Information Paper for the second stage of this approval process, describing the status of the CIF and the MYFs as of 31 December 2023 and presenting a draft decision on the carry-forward of the unspent balances of the CIF and MYFs (<a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.1699*</a>).</p> <p>WGA may wish to take into account any recommendation by the Advisory Group and recommend to the Commission that it adopt the draft decision presented by the PTS.</p>

Draft Agenda Item	Comments
7. Consideration of financial and budgetary decisions (cont.)	<p>(3) <i>Scale of assessments for contributions of States Signatories for 2025</i></p> <p>The Commission approves annually the scale of assessments for the following year.</p> <p>The PTS has issued an Information Paper setting out the scale of assessments for the Commission for 2025 based on the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted to take into account differences in membership between the United Nations and the Commission (<a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.1697</a>).</p> <p>WGA will consider recommending to the Commission that it approve the scale.</p>
8. 2023 Report on human resources management and equal employment opportunities	<p>The consolidated report of the PTS on human resources management, containing statistical information on the composition of the PTS staff, information related to recruitment, and on the implementation of the decision of the Commission on equal employment opportunities – women in the PTS for 2023 will be issued as CTBT/PTS/INF.1701.</p> <p>WGA may wish to consider the report and to make comments and recommendations, as appropriate.</p>
9. Summary of internal audit activities in 2023	<p>The report on internal audit activities undertaken in 2023 has been issued as <a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.1698</a>. The report is intended to enhance transparency and provide detailed information on internal audit activities, in accordance with the Internal Audit Charter.</p>
10. Legal procedures for dealing with alternative site locations and station names and codes	<p>(1) <i>Legal procedures for dealing with alternative site locations and station names and codes</i></p> <p>At its Tenth Session, the Commission adopted the legal procedures outlined in recommendation 1 of the Report of WGA to the Tenth Session of the Commission (<a href="#">CTBT/PC-10/1/Annex I</a>, section 3.6 and <a href="#">CTBT/PC-10/1</a>) for dealing with alternative site locations and station names and codes in Annex 1 to the Protocol to the Treaty and agreed that work on such stations can continue.</p> <p>The PTS maintains a provisional list of changes and corrections that should be made to Annex 1 to the Protocol (<a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.211/Rev.20</a>). At its Sixty-First Session, the Preparatory Commission approved changes to coordinates, codes or names of four International Monitoring System (IMS) facilities (<a href="#">CTBT/PC-61/2</a>, para. 25).</p>

Draft Agenda Item	Comments
<p>10. Legal procedures for dealing with alternative site locations and station names and codes (cont.)</p>	<p>(2) <i>Procedure for changing responsibility for an International Monitoring System station from one State Signatory to another</i></p> <p>At its Twenty-Eighth Session, WGB considered a procedure for the changing of responsibility for an IMS station from one State Signatory to another (as contained in <a href="#">CTBT/WGB/TL-1/50/Rev.1</a>). WGB also considered the legal aspects of such a move (as contained in <a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.866</a>). WGB noted that the procedure was not a technical verification related issue and requested that the Commission consider the matter (<a href="#">CTBT/PC-28/1/Annex II</a>, paragraph 64).</p> <p>At its Twenty-Eighth Session, the Commission asked WGA to consider the matter at its Thirty-Second Session (<a href="#">CTBT/PC-28/1</a>, paragraph 21).</p> <p>The Chairpersons of WGA and WGB prepared a joint informal paper on this matter for the Thirty-Fourth Session of WGA (<a href="#">CTBT/WGA-34/INF.5</a>). The WGA Chairperson decided to consult further on the issue.</p> <p>At its Sixty-Third Session, WGA requested its Chairperson to continue consultations on this issue with interested delegations and report to WGA on the results thereof. It also decided to revert to this agenda item at its Sixty-Fifth Session.</p>
<p>11. Status of on-site inspection inspectors and inspection assistants</p>	<p>At its Thirty-Sixth Session, WGA took note of model arrangements for future inspectors and inspection assistants (<a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.1036</a>) and decided to continue its consideration of the issue.</p> <p>WGA further considered the model arrangements at its Thirty-Seventh Session. WGB, at its Fortieth Session, discussed the issue and agreed on an adjusted version of the draft model exchange of letters (<a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.1036/Amend.1</a>). WGA noted this at its Forty-Third Session and that there was a need to address additional issues, such as the method of payment and the level of the salary of inspectors and inspection assistants, the scope of health insurance and the extension of the liability period for damage to health.</p> <p>WGA at its Sixty-Third Session requested its Chairperson to continue with informal consultations on the model arrangements. It also decided to revert to this issue at its Sixty-Fifth Session.</p>
<p>12. Conclusion of cooperation agreements between the Preparatory Commission and other international organizations</p>	<p>This item has been included regularly in the WGA agenda since its Fifty-Second session. WGA considers any updates. At the present session, there are no proposed cooperation agreements for consideration by the WGA.</p>

Draft Agenda Item	Comments
13. Multilingualism in the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization	The report on multilingualism at the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization ( <a href="#">CTBT/PTS/INF.1704</a> ).
14. Draft procedure for the appointment of the Chairperson of the Advisory Group	At the Sixty-Fourth Session of WGA, the Russian Federation presented a revised proposal of a draft procedure for the appointment of the Chairperson of the Advisory Group. WGA asked the Russian Federation to continue its consultations on the draft proposal and decided that this item will be considered at the next session of WGA.
15. Provisional draft agenda for the next session of Working Group A	A provisional draft agenda for the next session of WGA will be distributed during its Sixty-Fifth Session.
16. Any other business	No other business is foreseen at this time.
17. Adoption of the Report	