

**CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE AMENDMENT TO THE CONVENTION ON
THE PHYSICAL PROTECTION OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL**

Vienna, 28 March to 1 April 2022

Report of the Meetings of the Preparatory Committee

7-11 December 2020 and 1 February 2021

1. The Preparatory Committee (hereinafter “PrepCom”) for the Conference of the Parties to the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (hereinafter “the Conference”) convened virtually¹ from 7 to 11 December 2020 and again on 1 February 2021. The PrepCom undertook formal preparations for the Conference which, as foreseen in Article 16.1 of the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) as amended, is meant to “review the implementation of this Convention and its adequacy as concerns the preamble, the whole of the operative part and the annexes in the light of the then prevailing situation”. The Agenda of the PrepCom is provided in **Annex A**.
2. The PrepCom was convened pursuant to the Provisional Roadmap towards the Conference, as agreed by the Parties to the Amendment participating in an informal meeting held at IAEA Headquarters from 10 to 11 December 2018, and followed on two meetings of legal and technical experts held at IAEA Headquarters from 22 to 26 July and from 12 to 15 November 2019. In their deliberations, the Parties took note of the Co-Chairs’ report of the two meetings of legal and technical experts, which is provided in **Annex B**.
3. The PrepCom was chaired by Mr Vilmos Cserveny (Hungary) and Mr Robert Floyd (Australia) and was attended by more than 240 representatives from the following Parties to the Amendment to the CPPNM and to the CPPNM only: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen and EURATOM.
4. The main topics of discussion were the draft provisional Agenda for the Conference and the draft Rules of Procedure for the Conference.
5. Following the meeting of the PrepCom from 7 to 11 December 2020, two issues in the draft Rules of Procedure remained unresolved, namely regarding (1) participation of Parties to the CPPNM but not to the Amendment and (2) decision-making. Parties agreed to reconvene for a one-day virtual session of the PrepCom on 1 February 2021 to discuss further these two outstanding issues. To facilitate the further discussion, Parties agreed that the Co-Chairs would conduct consultations in January 2021 in order to gather views on the prospects for agreement on the two outstanding issues.

¹ The PrepCom was originally planned to be held at IAEA Headquarters in Vienna from 29 June to 3 July 2020. However, due to international travel restrictions put in place to limit the spread of the virus causing COVID-19, the meeting was postponed and convened virtually.

6. With the meeting on 1 February 2021, the PrepCom reached agreement on all issues except for the issue of decision-making in the draft Rules of Procedure. The PrepCom agreed to reflect two possible options for decision-making as proposed by Parties in the draft Rules of Procedure: (1) that all decisions on matters of substance shall be taken by consensus, or (2) if efforts to reach consensus on matters of substance are exhausted, decisions shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of Parties present and voting, except in the case of the adoption of the outcome document of the Conference, which shall require consensus, and as otherwise provided in the CPPNM as amended.
7. The PrepCom agreed to transmit, as integral parts of this report, the draft Agenda for the Conference and the draft Rules of Procedure to the Conference (contained in **Annex C** and **Annex D**, respectively).
8. The PrepCom further proposed that, in the lead-up to the Conference, the designated Co-Presidents of the Conference, Nigeria and Switzerland, undertake, inter alia, the following:
 - a. Conduct consultations to seek a resolution on the issue of decision-making;
 - b. Establish a list of inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to be invited to the Conference as observers, for the agreement of the Parties by consensus prior to the Conference; and
 - c. Conduct consultations about the draft programme of the Conference.
9. Finally, considering the constraints related to the COVID-19 pandemic and in the interest of holding an in-person Conference, the PrepCom agreed to postpone the Conference to 2022 and to convene the Conference in-person in the week of 28 March 2022 in Vienna, Austria, if the international situation at that time permits.