

Methodology for conducting the work of the Ad Hoc Committee at its reconvened concluding session, proposed by the Chair

Status: 2 July 2024

Introduction

1. In accordance with General Assembly decision [78/549](#), as well as General Assembly resolution [75/282](#) and the [road map and mode of work](#) approved at its first session, the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes (Ad Hoc Committee) is expected to fulfil its mandate over ten working days at its reconvened concluding session, to be held in New York from 29 July to 9 August 2024. For this purpose, the Ad Hoc Committee is expected to approve and recommend to the General Assembly for adoption the draft text of the convention, a related draft resolution, and to adopt the procedural report of the reconvened concluding session. The procedural report would contain the above-mentioned draft resolution to which the draft convention would be annexed. In addition, to facilitate reaching consensus on specific contentious articles of the convention, interpretative notes are expected to be considered and agreed upon by the Ad Hoc Committee for subsequent inclusion in the above-mentioned procedural report as an annex.
2. The current document prepared by the Committee Chair, with the support of the secretariat, seeks to offer a mode of work to enable the Ad Hoc Committee to approve the above-mentioned documents in the six official languages of the United Nations before the last meeting of the reconvened concluding session, taking into consideration relevant factors, such as the timeline for processing and translating documents. To achieve this goal, **the Committee is expected to reach agreement *ad referendum* on all pending provisions of the draft text of the convention and related interpretative notes during the first week of the session. Consideration of the draft General Assembly resolution is also expected to begin in the first week of the session.** The present document remains indicative in nature and may thus be adapted, as needed, based on progress of the work of the Committee during the session.
3. Continuing with the practice of previous Ad Hoc Committee sessions, the Chair has revised the draft text of the convention and the draft General Assembly resolution, and prepared the interpretative notes, with the support of the secretariat, on the basis of the discussions held during the concluding session, the open-ended informal consultations held in April 2024, and other consultations held by the Chair. The advance edited version of the updated draft text of the convention (hereinafter 'UDTC') together with the interpretative notes and the revised draft resolution for consideration by the General Assembly were made available in English on 14 June 2024 on the website of the reconvened concluding session. The three documents in all official languages of the United Nations, with the symbols A/AC.291/22/Rev.3, A/AC.291/27 and A/AC.291/25/Rev.1 respectively, were published in the United Nations Official Document System (ODS) and on the Committee website on 1 July 2024.

Organization of work

4. As mentioned, the Committee is expected to consider the UDTC in its entirety and the interpretative notes during the first week of the session, with a focus on all provisions not yet agreed *ad referendum*, so as to allow for further action during the second week. Delegations are reminded that no meetings after 6 p.m. will be held due to the austerity measures currently in place at UNHQ in New York.
5. At the beginning of the reconvened concluding session, the Chair will resume the work of the Plenary in conference room 3 with a presentation of the new elements of the UDTC, of the

interpretative notes, and of the draft General Assembly resolution. In addition, the coordinator of the group tasked with ensuring the consistency of the text of the convention in the six official languages of the United Nations (Consistency Group) will be invited to brief the Ad Hoc Committee on the status of the group's work since the concluding session and on the work planned for the reconvened concluding session. The Chair will then open the floor for concrete feedback on the referenced new elements, without engaging in an on-screen editing exercise.

6. As a result of the above-mentioned presentation and exchange of views, the Chair will seek to identify, before the end of the first day, provisions of the UDTC, the related interpretative notes, and paragraphs of the draft resolution requiring small group consultations. She will then ask that interested delegations conduct consultations, as needed, in order to find compromise solutions. The Chair will encourage the concerned delegations to conduct such consultations, which will be held in parallel or at the margins of the Plenary, as needed. **There will be a strict deadline of 9 a.m., New York time, of Wednesday, 31 July 2024 for the conclusion of those consultations.**
7. The outcome of and possible solutions emerging from those consultations will be brought to an open-ended informal meeting to be held on Wednesday, 31 July 2024, in parallel to the Plenary in conference room 1. At the open-ended informal meeting, delegations having met informally will have the opportunity to present their proposed solutions to all delegations for an exchange of views, before bringing them to Plenary for the consideration and possible agreement *ad referendum* by the Ad Hoc Committee. The secretariat will provide support to the officer chairing these open-ended informal meeting, as needed, and will make any relevant documentation available on the website of the reconvened concluding session as appropriate. Additional open-ended informal meetings may be convened on an as-needed basis and the secretariat will inform delegations accordingly.
8. In the meantime, the Plenary will continue to consider the UDTC and interpretative notes in their entirety, with a focus on provisions not yet agreed *ad referendum*. The Plenary may also start considering excerpts of the draft General Assembly resolution. The secretariat will project the relevant documents on a screen and the Chair will invite the Plenary to agree *ad referendum* on the text of the draft convention, paragraph by paragraph. If no agreement on a paragraph can be reached, the Chair will designate a Vice-Chair to coordinate with the concerned delegations with a view to reaching an agreement and bringing the proposed solution back to the Plenary for consideration within an established timeline. In addition, the Chair may ask Vice-Chairs to support her work during the discussions at the Plenary, as needed.
9. The Consistency Group will work in a continuous manner throughout the session to review and ensure the consistency of articles that are agreed upon *ad referendum*. The Chair may invite, as necessary, the Group's coordinator to address the Plenary on specific issues that may require further consideration by the Group or the Ad Hoc Committee.
10. The Chair expects all open issues, including those discussed at informal meetings, to return to Plenary by Thursday, 1 August 2024. This deadline will allow the Ad Hoc Committee sufficient time to address those issues before the end of the first week.
11. After the conclusion of the afternoon meeting on Friday, 2 August, the Chair plans to finalize the draft text of the convention and the interpretative notes. These documents will then be made available in the six official languages of the United Nations on Wednesday, 7 August 2024. It is expected that the advance unedited English version of the documents will be circulated to delegations on Monday of the second week.
12. The consideration of the draft resolution may be continued and finalized on Monday and Tuesday in the second week. The agreed *ad referendum* text of the draft resolution is expected

to be submitted for translation by end of Tuesday in the second week to enable its six official languages versions to be available by Thursday in the second week of the reconvened concluding session.

13. Every effort should be made for consensus on all provisions to be reached in a timely manner. **If consensus on all provisions is not reached by the end of the first week, the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee will consult the Bureau and the Plenary on the way forward.**

Further considerations

14. Delegations are strongly encouraged to focus on the improvement of the UDTC with the primary objective of reaching consensus and to abstain from introducing proposals on new language or concepts which have not been discussed up to this point, as well as to exercise flexibility and make efforts to find compromises to the greatest extent possible.
15. In view of the limited time available to the Committee to finalize its work, general statements or repetition of positions are also strongly discouraged. If necessary, delegations may wish to avail themselves of the possibility of sending statements of positions to the secretariat at cybercrimeAHC@un.org, for publication on the webpage of the reconvened concluding session.
16. Furthermore, delegations should avoid making observations on editorial matters as well as on translation. These will be addressed by the Consistency Group. Comments on translation or of an editorial nature should be sent to the secretariat through the above-mentioned email address, clearly indicating the matter in the email's subject line.
17. Delegations may submit proposals (draft resolutions and decisions or amendments to draft decisions/resolutions) through e-deleGATE. After their submission in e-deleGATE, proposals not exceeding 300 words can usually be circulated in the official languages of the United Nations on the following day. Given the specific circumstances of the reconvened concluding session and the time needed to have the proposals translated into the official languages, proposals submitted through e-deleGATE after noon of Wednesday, 7 August 2024 can only be circulated as received. More information on the submission and co-sponsorship of proposals is available on the [webpage](#) of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Interventions by multi-stakeholders

18. As per the modalities for their participation, the Chair will allow interventions by multi-stakeholders on the UDTC, bearing in mind the limited time available. As time is of the essence, considering the Committee's negotiation work, and in order to give all participants the same opportunity, each multi-stakeholder intervention will be for a maximum duration of 3 minutes. Multi-stakeholders are encouraged to submit their statements in writing to the Committee, through the secretariat at cybercrimeAHC@un.org, in order to provide further detail on their perspectives.

Role of the Bureau

19. In line with General Assembly resolution 75/282, the Chair will convene regular Bureau meetings to assess progress in the negotiations and seek advice on future actions to help reach consensus on all issues. The Bureau will be briefed by the Chair and the Vice-Chairs on any progress made and outcomes of the work of the Committee.

Indicative timeline

20. The following is an indicative timeline of the actions of the Ad Hoc Committee during its reconvened session as presented in the current document, and the timeframe required for the

Committee to be able to fulfil its mandate, for the reference of delegations. Variations in the timeframe should be expected based on the time of submission and the actual number of words to be processed. All efforts will be made to make documents available as soon as feasible.

<i>Action</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>
Consideration of the UDTC, the interpretative notes and draft General Assembly resolution by the Committee, with a focus on reaching agreement <i>ad referendum</i> on all provisions of the UDTC and interpretative notes	By the end of the first week
Preparation of the final version of the draft text of the convention and the interpretative notes by the Chair, to be submitted for processing and translation, for consideration of the Committee during the second week	After the conclusion of the first week
Advanced unedited version of the UDTC and interpretative notes in English made available	Monday, 5 August 2024
Consideration of all paragraphs of the draft General Assembly resolution, to be submitted for processing and translation	By Tuesday, 6 August 2024
Publication of the final draft text of the convention and interpretative notes in the six official languages of the United Nations, for consideration by the Committee	Wednesday, 7 August 2024
Publication of the final version of the draft General Assembly resolution in the six official languages of the United Nations, for consideration by the Committee	Thursday, 8 August 2024
Publication of the in-session draft report of the reconvened concluding session for consideration and adoption by the Committee; approval of all above-mentioned documents by the Committee, with recommendation to the General Assembly for the adoption of the draft resolution and annexed draft text of the convention.	Friday, 9 August 2024
