AIDE MEMOIRE FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER NON-GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES ("STAKEHOLDERS")

Open-ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021-2025 established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/240

Eighth substantive session

<u>Date</u>: 8 to 12 July 2024

Opening meeting: Monday, 8 July at 10:00 am

Place: United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 1

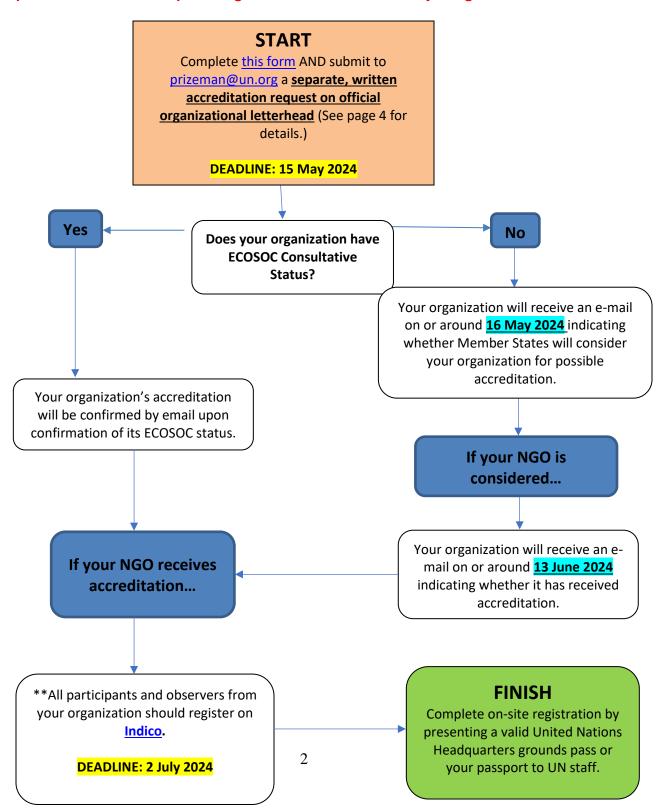
New York

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs will post all information and documents of the Open-ended Working Group at https://meetings.unoda.org/open-ended-working-group-on-information-and-communication-technologies-2021

All interested non-governmental entities are welcome to apply for accreditation ahead of the eighth substantive session regardless of the outcome of the last round of accreditation.

Quick Guide

If your entity/organization already received accreditation through previous rounds (see for list of accredited groups (A/AC.292/2024/INF/1), you DO NOT need to request accreditation again for the eighth substantive session. The received accreditation is valid for the remainder of the OEWG mandate. You should proceed to the final step and register in Indico for a security badge.



1. Modalities of stakeholder participation

Agreement has been reached to apply the following modalities for the participation of stakeholders in the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021-2025:

- Member States of the OEWG are committed to engaging with stakeholders in a systematic, sustained, and substantive manner.
- Relevant non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in accordance with resolution 1996/31 would inform the Secretariat of the OEWG of their interest to participate in the work of the OEWG.
- Other interested non-governmental organizations relevant and competent to the scope and purpose of the OEWG should also inform the Secretariat of their interest in participating by submitting information on the organization's purpose, programmes and activities in areas relevant to the scope of the OEWG. These organizations would accordingly be invited to participate, on a non-objection basis, as observers in the formal sessions of the OEWG.
- Accredited stakeholders will be able to attend formal meetings of the OEWG, make oral statements during a dedicated stakeholder session, and submit written inputs to be posted on the webpage of the OEWG.
- Encourage Member States to utilize the non-objection mechanism judiciously, bearing in mind the spirit of inclusivity.
- Where there is an objection to a non-governmental organization, the objecting Member State will make known its objection to the Chair of the OEWG and, on a voluntary basis, make known to the Chair of the OEWG the general basis of its objections. The Chair will share any information received with any Member State upon its request.
- The Chair of the OEWG will organize informal consultative meetings with stakeholders during the inter-sessional period, building on the practice of the previous OEWG.
- The OEWG is an inter-governmental process in which negotiation and decision-making are exclusive prerogatives of Member States.
- The modalities for this OEWG shall in no way create a precedent for any other UN process.

2. Accreditation of stakeholders

All requests for accreditation, under the modalities reproduced above, must be received by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs by <u>15 May 2024.</u> Such requests should be submitted through the accreditation request form <u>here</u>.

In addition, stakeholders must submit to Ms. Katherine Prizeman (prizeman@un.org) of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs a written accreditation request, on official organization letterhead, containing (1) information on the organization's purpose; (2) information on the organization's programmes; and (3) an overview of past interactions, if any, between the organization and the United Nations, particularly in relation to the scope of the meeting.

Organizations without ECOSOC Consultative Status will receive an email indicating whether the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs will submit their information to Member States to consider for accreditation on a non-objection basis. Each organization receiving consideration will then be informed by email of the outcome of its request. For the estimated dates of these notifications, see the "quick guide" in this document.

Organizations with ECOSOC Consultative Status will be informed by email of the outcome of their accreditation request upon confirmation of that status. For questions relating to accreditation, please contact Ms. Diane Barnes (diane.barnes@un.org).

Organizations that receive accreditation will be considered accredited for the remainder of the OEWG's mandate. For each substantive session, a new round of accreditation will be launched for interested stakeholders to apply. Information for registering for a temporary United Nations grounds pass will also be communicated ahead of each substantive session.

3. Registration procedures

Organizations whose accreditation has been provisionally approved should ask their representatives to register as participants at the following address: https://indico.un.org/event/1011249/registrations/ on or before **2 July 2024.**

Confirmed registrants who require a temporary pass should present a valid government-issued photo identification (e.g. <u>passport</u>) and a <u>printed copy of their approval letter</u> to UNODA staff who will be available at the following time and location: **8 July 2024, 9-11 a.m. UNITAR Building** (<u>801 1st Avenue</u>). For alternate arrangements to pick up temporary passes, and for other matters related to registration and issuance of grounds passes, kindly contact Ms. Diane Barnes (<u>diane.barnes@un.org</u>) and Ms. Virginia Browning (<u>virginia.browning@un.org</u>) at least one business day before arrival.

4. Documentation

Official documents and statements of the OEWG will be posted at https://meetings.unoda.org/open-ended-working-group-on-information-and-communication-technologies-2021. Written inputs from stakeholders should address issues of relevance to the scope and mandate of the OEWG and may be sent in PDF format to Ms. Virginia Browning (virginia.browning@un.org) for posting.

5. Side events

Stakeholders that plan to organize a side event may request event information be posted to the OEWG webpage. To do so, please contact Ms. Virginia Browning (virginia.browning@un.org).

6. Taking action on harassment, including sexual harassment

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 United Nations conferences and events 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 session. The text of the Code of Conduct and further information on it are available online (www.un.org/en/content/codeofconduct/).

If you feel you have been a victim of, or a witness to, sexual harassment at the United Nations Secretariat during the session, you are encouraged to contact the Stakeholder Coordinator. The Speak up helpline (speakup@un.org) is available to provide confidential support on what to do and where to go for help.