

Twenty-sixth meeting of the Council
Abu Dhabi, 19-20 October 2023

Annotated Provisional Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

The opening of the meeting will take place on October 19, 2023, commencing at 10.00 am (GMT+4, Gulf Standard Time). Antigua and Barbuda, as Chair of the twenty-fifth meeting of the Council, will open the meeting.

2. Organisation of work

a. Election of officials

Pursuant to Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council (RoP), contained in document A/5/5, the Council shall elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair, having due regard to equitable geographical representation.

Pursuant to Rule 18 of the RoP, the Chair shall propose to a member of the Council to act as Rapporteur at the beginning of each Council meeting.

At the end of its twenty-fifth meeting, the Council designated the United States of America as Chair, and Panama as Vice-Chair, of the twenty-sixth meeting of the Council.

The Council may wish to confirm the designation made and elect the United States of America as Chair, and Panama as Vice-Chair, of the twenty-sixth meeting of the Council.

The Chair may wish to appoint a Rapporteur.

b. Adoption of the agenda (C/26/L.1)

Pursuant to Rule 9 of the RoP, the Council shall adopt the agenda for a meeting at the beginning of that meeting.

The Council will have before it the provisional agenda (C/26/L.1).

The Council may wish to consider and adopt the provisional agenda.

c. Adoption of the report of the twenty-fifth meeting of the Council (C/25/SR/L.1)

Pursuant to Rule 49 of the RoP, reports of Council meetings shall not be official until approved by the Council.

The Council will have before it the draft report of the twenty-fifth meeting of the Council (C/25/SR/L.1).

The Council may wish to consider and approve the draft report of the twenty-fifth meeting of the Council.

3. Annual Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget for 2022-2023 (C/26/2; C/26/INF/2) (including Work Programme Self-Assessment for 2022-2023)

Pursuant to Article X.F.4 of the IRENA Statute and Assembly decision A/3/DC/12, the Council shall consider and submit to the Assembly annual reports concerning the activities of the Agency.

The Council will have before it the Annual Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget for 2022-2023 (C/26/2). The Director-General will introduce the item. The Chairs of the Programme and Strategy Committee, and the Administration and Finance Committee will report on the Committees' consideration of the item.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Medium-term Strategy (MTS) 2018-2022, the Agency is required to undertake a self-assessment of its biennial programmatic work. Information on this self-assessment will be presented to the Council.

The Council may wish to consider and take note of the Annual Report of the Director-General on the Implementation of the Work Programme and Budget for 2022-2023 and transmit it to the Assembly at its fourteenth session.

The Council may also wish to take note of the information contained in the presentation on the Work Programme Self-Assessment (2022-2023).

4. Report of the Director-General – Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2024-2025 (C/26/3)

Pursuant to Article X.F.2 of the Statute of IRENA, the Council shall consider and submit to the Assembly the proposed Work Programme and Budget of the Agency. Pursuant to Assembly decision A/3/DC/12, the Director-General is requested to consult with Members to elicit their views on the IRENA work programming to be taken into consideration in the development of the biennium Work Programme and Budget, within the overall Medium-term Strategic framework.

The Council will have before it the Report of the Director-General – Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2024-2025 (C/26/3). The Director-General will introduce the item. The Chairs of the Programme and Strategy Committee, and the Administration and Finance Committee will report on the Committees' consideration of the item.

The Council may wish to consider and take note of the Report of the Director-General – Proposed Work Programme and Budget for 2024-2025 and transmit it to the Assembly at its fourteenth session.

5. General Member Statements – National Experiences on the Energy Transition

Members will be invited to share their experiences on priority actions and challenges related to the deployment of renewable energy and exchange views on issues related to the energy transition in the coming decade and beyond. Delegations will be given an allotted time of 3 minutes to share their experiences.

Members are invited to provide their statements, in written form and in the original language of delivery, to the Secretariat. Written statements provided by Members will be annexed to the Summary Report of the twenty-sixth meeting of the Council. A template for written statements is available at this [link](#).

The Council may wish to take note of experiences shared by Members.

6. Programmatic discussion on Reinforcing Climate Action in the Agriculture and Health Sectors with Renewables (C/26/BN/1)

The Secretariat will introduce the programmatic discussion on Reinforcing Climate Action in the Agriculture and Health Sectors with Renewables. Following the introductory remarks and presentation(s), delegations will be invited to make interventions on the matter.

The Council may wish to consider and take note of the presentation(s) and discussion.

7. Programmatic discussion on Socio-economics of the Energy Transition: The Road Ahead (C/26/BN/2)

The Secretariat will introduce the programmatic discussion on Socio-economics of the Energy Transition: The Road Ahead. Following the introductory remarks and presentation(s), delegations will be invited to make interventions on the matter.

The Council may wish to consider and take note of the presentation(s) and discussion.

8. Programmatic discussion on Status of Work on Energy Transition Accelerator Financing (ETAF) and Climate Investment Platform (CIP) (C/26/BN/3)

The Secretariat will introduce the programmatic discussion on Status of Work on Energy Transition Accelerator Financing (ETAF) and Climate Investment Platform (CIP). Following the introductory remarks and presentation(s), delegations will be invited to make interventions on the matter.

The Council may wish to consider and take note of the presentation(s) and discussion.

9. Administrative and Institutional matters

a. Human Resources Management

i. Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends (including the Independent – KPMG – Human Resources Audit report) (C/26/4; C/26/INF/3)

At its twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth meetings, the Council requested the Secretariat to provide Human Resources trends, relating to staff turnover rate, staff retention measures and years of service, as well as other key indicators on human resources trends, as standard annual reporting to the Council. The Secretariat was also requested to provide more detailed information on human resources matters as part of the Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends.

The Council will have before it the Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends (C/26/4). The Director-General will introduce the sub-item and the Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee will inform on the Committee's consideration of the issue.

The Council, at its twenty-fifth meeting, also considered the Information Note on the Expert evaluation on joining the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) and the Inter-Organisation Agreement concerning Transfer, Secondment or Loan of Staff among the Organisations applying the UN Common System of Salaries and Allowances (IOA), contained in document C/25/INF/2. It was noted that eliciting staff feedback on their pension plan preferences would provide useful input for the ongoing review of this matter. An update in this regard is included in Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends (C/26/4).

At the twenty-fourth meeting of the Council, a request was made for an independent human resources audit to review and understand the reasons for the current staff turnover rate. At the twenty-fifth meeting, the Secretariat informed the Council that this audit on retention and data was being conducted by KPMG International Limited (KPMG), including an assessment of the current state of HR through a review of all documentation, policies, procedures, HR workshops, as well as interviews with all Directors, staff focus groups and the Host Country. The Council was informed that the report by KPMG detailing the results of the assessment will be available for discussions at the twenty-sixth meeting of the Council.

The Information Note - KPMG Current State Assessment Report: Findings, Recommendations & Initiatives on Staff Retention & Turnover is contained in document C/26/INF/3. The Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee will inform on the Committee's consideration of the issue.

The Council may wish to consider the Report of the Director-General on Human Resources Management and Trends, and the information contained therein. The Council may also wish to consider the Information Note – KPMG Current State Assessment Report: Findings, Recommendations & Initiatives on Staff Retention & Turnover.

ii. **Report of the Director-General - Proposed amendment to Staff Rule 105.3 Types of Appointment (break in service, including the re-hiring of staff as consultants after reaching maximum tenure) (C/26/5; C/26/6)**

Pursuant to Decision A/12/DC/2 on Length of Service for Staff in the General Service Category and given the need to review additional staff rules that are impacted as a result, the Council will be invited to consider the proposed amendment to Rule 105.3 on the appointment of General Service staff to Professional level posts.

At its twenty-fifth meeting, the Council took note of the Report of the Director-General - Proposed amendment to Staff Rule 105.3 Types of Appointment (C/25/5) and recommended the preparation for the twenty-sixth Council meeting of a draft proposal for the amendment to Staff Rule 105.3 Types of Appointment which also considers the issue of break in service, including the re-hiring of staff as consultants after reaching maximum tenure, to be taken for consideration at the fourteenth session of the Assembly.

The Council will have before it the Report of the Director-General - Proposed amendment to Staff Rule 105.3 Types of Appointment (C/26/5). The Council will also have before it the Report of the Director-General – Break-in Service and Consultants (C/26/6). The Director-General will introduce the sub-item and the Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee will inform on the Committee’s consideration of the issue.

The Council may wish to consider this matter and provide guidance, as appropriate.

b. **Report of the Ethics Officer on the Implementation of the Policy on Ethics and Conflict of Interest (C/26/7)**

In its decision A/2/DC/7, the Assembly requested the Ethics Officer to prepare a report on the implementation of the Policy on Ethics and Conflict of Interest on an annual basis. The report is provided to the Director-General to comment upon prior to its delivery to the Assembly.

The Council will have before it the Report of the Ethics Officer on the Implementation of the Policy on Ethics and Conflict of Interest (C/26/7). The Ethics Officer will introduce the item.

The Council may wish to consider the Report of the Ethics Officer on the Implementation of the Policy on Ethics and Conflict of Interest and transmit it to the Assembly for its consideration at the fourteenth session.

c. **Report of the Director-General - Activities of the Internal Audit Office, and Internal Audit Recommendations and Actions Taken (C/26/8)**

Pursuant to Regulation 11.4 (b) of the Financial Regulations for IRENA (A/4/7), the Director-General shall report to the Council at each session on internal audit recommendations and actions taken.

The Council will have before it the Report of the Director-General – Activities of the Internal Audit Office, and Internal Audit Recommendations and Actions Taken (C/26/8).

Based on the report of Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee (AFC), on the Committee’s consideration of this matter, the Council will be invited to consider and take

note of the Report of the Director-General – Activities of the Internal Audit Office, and Internal Audit Recommendations and Actions Taken.

d. Report of the Director-General on the Status of Implementation of the External Audit Recommendations (C/26/9)

Further to the Secretariat's submission of the audited Financial Statements for 2022 to the Council at its twenty-fifth meeting (C/25/9), the Secretariat is presenting the status of the implementation of the external audit recommendations to the Council.

The Council will have before it the Report of the Director-General on the Status of Implementation of the External Audit Recommendations (C/26/9).

Based on the report of Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee (AFC), on the Committee's consideration of this matter, the Council will be invited to consider and take note of the Report of the Director-General on the Status of Implementation of the External Audit Recommendations and transmit it to the Assembly at its fourteenth session.

e. Report of the Director-General - Status of Collection of Assessed Contributions and Advances to the Working Capital Fund (C/26/INF/4)

Pursuant to Financial Regulation 6.6, subsequent to the Assembly's adoption of the biennium budget and the determination of the level of the Working Capital Fund and the IRENA scale of assessed contributions, the Director-General informs Members of their commitments in respect of their annual contributions and advances to the Working Capital Fund, and requests that they remit their assessed contributions and advances.

The status of collection of Members' assessed contributions and advances to the Working Capital Fund as of 7 September 2023 will be presented to the Council.

Based on the report of Chair of the Administration and Finance Committee (AFC), on the Committee's consideration of this matter, the Council will be invited to consider and take note of the Report of the Director-General on the Status of Collection of Assessed Contributions and Advances to the Working Capital Fund.

10. Report of the Open-Ended Group on the Establishment of Regional Offices of IRENA

At its twenty-fourth meeting, the Council agreed to establish an Open-ended Group to further discuss the viability of establishing regional offices of IRENA as well as related processes, procedures and policies. Based on expressions of interest received, Egypt was designated as Facilitator of the Open-Ended Group, which held its first meeting, in virtual format, on 27 February 2023.

At the twenty-fifth meeting of the Council, Egypt presented an oral report on the outcome of this meeting, based on the report of the Open-Ended Group ([link](#)). The Council took note of the report by the Facilitator of the Open-Ended Group on the establishment of regional offices of IRENA and agreed to continue the discussion on this matter under the umbrella of the Open-Ended Group with a view to providing a summary of its deliberations at the twenty-sixth meeting of the Council.

Following consideration of the matter at its twenty-fifth meeting, the Council may wish to refer to document C/25/INF/3, which contains initial observations on some open questions raised in relation to ongoing discussions on the potential establishment of regional offices of IRENA.

The second meeting of the Open-Ended Group on the Establishment of Regional Offices of IRENA, facilitated by Egypt, was convened on 11 September 2023. Egypt will present an oral report on the outcome of the discussions of the second meeting Open-Ended Group on the Establishment of Regional Offices of IRENA ([link](#)).

The Council may wish to consider the matter and provide guidance, as appropriate.

11. Arrangements for the fourteenth session of the Assembly (C/26/10)

Pursuant to Article X.F.3 of the Statute of IRENA, the Council shall approve arrangements for the sessions of the Assembly including preparation of the draft agenda.

The Director-General, in consultation with the Bureau of the thirteenth session of the Assembly¹, the designated Bureau of the fourteenth session of the Assembly², the designated Chair of the twenty-sixth Council, as well as the United Arab Emirates and Germany, is proposing that the fourteenth session of the Assembly be convened in two parts. The scenario for this proposal, as well as the list of topics proposed for consideration at the proposed Part I and Part II of the Assembly, is contained in document C/26/10.

Following the Council's consideration of this proposal, the IRENA Membership will be informed of the arrangements for the conduct of the fourteenth session of the Assembly, as appropriate.

The Director-General will introduce the item. The Council may wish to consider the proposed scenario for the conduct of the fourteenth session of the Assembly and approve the list of topics to be included in the provisional agenda of the Assembly.

12. Arrangements for the twenty-seventh meeting of the Council

Pursuant to Rule 1 of the RoP, the Council shall convene twice a year unless it decides otherwise. The Council shall determine at each meeting the time and place of its next regular meeting.

With a view to facilitate early planning, the Council may wish to consider proposed dates for both its meetings in 2024. It is proposed to hold the twenty-seventh meeting of the Council on 30 and 31 May 2024, with the in-person meetings of the subsidiary organs scheduled for 29 May 2024 and the twenty-eighth meeting of the Council on 24-25 October 2024 in Abu Dhabi, with the in-person meetings of the subsidiary organs scheduled for 23 October 2024.

The Council may wish to consider and approve the arrangements for the twenty-seventh meeting of the Council. The Council may also wish to agree on proposed dates for its twenty-eighth meeting, subject to final determination at the twenty-seventh meeting.

¹ India (President), Belgium, Indonesia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Zimbabwe (Vice-Presidents).

² Rwanda (President), Angola, Dominican Republic, Georgia, Iraq (Vice-Presidents).

13. Any other business

14. Closing of the meeting