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REFERENCE: 20200821UnNvStatesParties

The Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations presents its compliments to Representatives of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and has the honour to refer to the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The Office of Legal Affairs is pleased to transmit a letter dated 21 August 2020 from the President of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties addressed to Representatives of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and annexed documents.

The Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Representatives of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea the assurances of its highest consideration.


21 August 2020


UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES

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TELEPHONE NO: (212)-963-1234; FAX NO. (212)-963-4879

REFERENCE: 20200821UnNvÉtatsParties

Le Bureau des affaires juridiques de l'Organisation des Nations Unies présente ses compliments aux représentantes et représentants des États parties à la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer et a l'honneur de se référer à la trentième Réunion des États parties à la Convention.

Le Bureau des affaires juridiques a le plaisir de transmettre ci-joint une lettre datée du 21 août 2020, qui est adressée aux représentantes et représentants des États parties à la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer par le Président de la trentième Réunion des États parties, et des documents annexes.

Le Bureau des affaires juridiques saisit cette occasion pour renouveler aux représentantes et représentants des États parties à la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer les assurances de sa très haute considération.


Le 21 août 2020





PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
UNITED NATIONS | NEW YORK

21 August 2020

Excellencies,

I wish to refer to my letters dated 30 July, 5 August, 11 August, 14 August and 18 August 2020 concerning the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

I write to provide delegations with detailed information on the modalities of the in-person plenary meeting on **Monday, 24 August 2020** (commencing 10.00 am, at the General Assembly Hall). Please note that, in order to ensure social distancing, this meeting will be restricted to one representative from each State Party to UNCLOS. This restriction does not apply to delegations who have designated tellers, as these delegates will not be at their delegation seats.

Risk Assessment / Mitigation Measures

At my request and that of my Bureau, the United Nations Division of Healthcare Management and Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) has conducted a risk assessment (attached as **Annex I**) regarding the in-person plenary meeting. This assessment was conducted in accordance with New York City and State requirements regarding public gatherings and the Phase Two restrictions for activity at the United Nations Headquarters complex, as detailed in the Crisis Operations Group Reintegration Plan.

I wish to bring to your attention that the OSH has assessed the meeting as “medium risk”. This assessment reflects the planned conduct of the plenary meeting, including the election, as outlined in this communication. It has been based on a detailed activity plan and walk-through of the meeting room by the OSH team with key representatives from other departments within the Secretariat and members of the Bureau.

As President, it is my responsibility to ensure that the meeting takes place in a safe manner and in accordance with these guidelines. As this will be the first in-person meeting to be held in the premises of the General Assembly Hall at United Nations Headquarters since the lockdown in March 2020, it is incumbent on all participants to conform with all the safety and risk mitigation measures that have been put in place for this meeting. This includes necessary social distancing and mitigation measures, such as the wearing of face masks at all times, to minimize the risk to United Nations staff and delegates.

I wish to appeal to States Parties to take the risk assessment seriously and to strictly adhere to the mitigation measures. I have been advised that the OSH team will closely observe the proceedings of our meeting. If strict adherence is not observed by all delegations, I have been informed that OSH would be obliged to reclassify the meeting as "high risk", which would have an impact on our ability to continue proceedings, especially if the need arises for a subsequent meeting the following day to continue with the elections process.

I have also been informed that the Secretariat staff will register participants and support staff to facilitate contact tracing, as needed. Should any attendee becomes unwell with or be diagnosed with COVID-19 within 14 days after the meeting, they are requested to contact Secretariat medical staff through the confidential address osh@un.org. Contact tracing will take place and testing will be offered to those who have, or may have, been in contact with the person.

For this purpose, each State Party is requested to as soon as possible visit the following link, <https://bit.ly/2Q8SIQz>, to register the name and contact details of its main representative and an alternate representative, on the understanding that only one of them can be present at the meeting on Monday.

Staggered arrival schedule

Representatives of State Parties are requested to arrive at the times indicated in **Annex II** as a mitigation measure. Approximately 30 delegates will arrive every 10 minutes starting at 9.00 am. Delegates that miss their allocated arrival slot will be placed at the end of the schedule and let in when there is an opportunity.

Election Modalities

The modalities for the election have been prepared on the basis of the attached risk assessment and are detailed in the attached note (**Annex III**), in particular with a view to minimizing the amount of time needed for participants to be physically present in the meeting room.

Regarding the election, I am also pleased to transmit for your information the attached joint letter (**Annex IV**) dated 18 August 2020, from Her Excellency Ms. Maria Angela Zappia, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations and Her Excellency Ms. Vanessa Frazier, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malta to the United Nations.

On the basis of the allocation of seats set out in document SPLOS/201 and in accordance with the understanding set out in the joint letter dated 18 August 2020, under which the candidate from Malta will contest the seat allocated to the Group of Western European and Other States and the candidate from Italy would be the only candidate for the “floating seat”, the voting for all seats will be held concurrently.

Campaign Materials

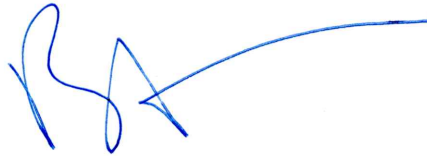
Delegations that have nominated candidates for the elections and who wish to distribute hard-copy campaign material in support of their candidates, can do so by delivering physical copies of such material to the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations no later than **5.00 pm on 21 August 2020**. Given the need to mitigate risks, assistance will be provided in placing a single page of information for each candidate at seats of delegations in the General Assembly Hall. Please note that no campaign material can be distributed on the day of the election in order to reduce movement of personnel on the floor of the General Assembly Hall.

Credentials

As this is a meeting of States Parties, I wish to highlight that delegations will only be allowed to vote if they have submitted the requisite credentials to the Secretariat, in keeping with the practice and rules of procedure. I thank those delegations that have done so. I would strongly urge those States Parties which have yet to do so, to submit credentials before **Monday, 24 August at 9.00 am**.

In this regard I draw the attention of delegations to notification [MSP.N.2020.LOS.Add.2](#) , circulated by the Secretariat on 6 July 2020. This notification contains all relevant information concerning the credentials for the thirtieth Meeting. The notification is available at: https://www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting_states_parties/thirtiethmeetingstatesparties.htm.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.



H.E. Burhan Gafoor
President of the thirtieth Meeting of States
Parties to the United Nations Convention
on the Law of the Sea

Representatives of States
Parties to the United
Nations Convention on
the Law of the Sea

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Postal Address - Adresse Postale: UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017
Cable Address - Adresse Télégraphique: UNATIONS NEWYORK

20 August 2020

Excellency,

This is to confirm the following key safety arrangements for the conduct of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea to take place commencing 24 August 2020 in the General Assembly (GA) Hall. This summary is the agreed minimum and is in accordance with current New York City and State requirements regarding public gatherings, and the Phase Two restrictions for activity in the United Nations Headquarters (UNHQ) complex as detailed in the Crisis Operations Group Reintegration Plan.

General points

This assessment reflects the conduct of a plenary meeting and will include election of seven members the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea. If required voting will extend over morning sessions from 10 am to 1 pm on subsequent days. Meeting arrangements proposed by the convenors of the meeting are included in the document 'Draft arrangements – ITLOS' (annex A).

Attendance in the GA Hall is limited to the President of the Meeting plus 1 support staff, 4 Vice-Presidents, one representative from each participating State Party, and up to 20 DGACM staff, 10 OLA staff, 5 tellers and 13 technical/AV staff. No media or observers will be present.

By swiping their United Nations issued ID card on entry, all attendees and support staff declare as a condition of their entry that they:

- Have completed quarantine if they have arrived from an international location in the last 14 days;
- Have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days;

- Have not had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days; and
- Have not had close contact with someone with COVID-19 or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

Protective measures

All meeting attendees are required to wear a face covering at all times whilst in public spaces, and in the GA Hall except when directly addressing the meeting. All UN staff will wear face coverings at all times. All delegates and staff will be offered a disposable surgical face mask if needed at the check in desk at Post 112 (initial entry to the GA building).

Gloves and other protective equipment are not required for most attendees. Hand-sanitizing solution will be available on entry to the GA Hall. All surfaces will be deep cleaned prior to the meeting commencing.

All attendees are to refrain from direct contact, including handshakes and other physical contact during greetings, in recognition of the physical distancing requirements. Election flyers, if any, will be distributed to assigned desks prior to the meeting. All attendees should remain conscious of COVID-19 hand sanitizing and contact precautions. To support contact precautions, no food or drink / glassware will be provided in the GA Hall.

Movements

All movement and if necessary queuing requires 2metre physical distancing, and attendees are requested to minimize activity until seated in the GA Hall.

- a. Arrival is via the 45th street entrance, or if by vehicle, the Secretariat circle. Delegates will queue if required around the Secretariat circle until they can enter at Post 112.
- b. Upon entry, a single OLA staff member will confirm at the first check in desk that only one voting representative of each Permanent Mission is allowed into the GA Hall. All other delegation members are to remain outside the GA building. Perspex barriers will be installed to provide further protection to check-in staff.
- c. Attendees will proceed up the stairs/escalator to a second check in desk then though to the east document counter to collect ballot papers, and thereafter to their allocated seating. A map will be available to assist. Perspex barriers will be installed to provide further protection to staff at the second check-in desk and document counter.

- d. When called to vote by the President, delegates will file to the ballot box in a clockwise direction and cast their ballot. They will then leave the GA Hall and move directly out of the building.

Counting

Tellers will be initially be in the GA Hall side seating to observe the casting of votes. Once voting is complete OLA staff, tellers and observers will proceed to the Trusteeship Council Chamber to count votes. Tellers will be seated at least 2 metres from each other and from supporting Secretariat staff.

Staff members from the Office of the Legal Affairs who are not paired with tellers may move around to provide assistance and oversight. Tellers/OLA staff counting the ballots should, to the extent possible, remain seated. All those in the room counting should ensure that any approach within 2 metres is kept to the minimum time practicable.

Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation will take place using 14 booths in the ECOSOC, Trusteeship, and Security Council chambers (subject to amendment). There will be a single interpreter at a time in each enclosed room and each interpreter will occupy their own dedicated workspace. Doors will remain open. As there will only be a single interpretation team on site the meeting is limited to 3 hours in accordance with DGACM requirements.

Medical support and contact tracing

OLA staff will record the participants and support staff present on the day and forward this to the DHMOSH Occupational Safety and Health team as a record in support of contact tracing. Should any attendee become unwell with or be diagnosed with COVID-19 within 14 days of the meeting, they are requested to contact DHMOSH medical staff through the confidential address osh@un.org. Contact tracing will take place and testing will be offered to those considered contacts.

Risk rating

As described and with the mitigation measures in place, I assess the meeting as being medium risk to both attendees and support staff. Whilst not required under the Organizations privileges and immunities, New York State guidelines do not currently support large scale indoor gatherings such as this meeting. I therefore recommend that the approach taken for the meeting be reviewed in order to assess if

the overall risk can be lowered. In this regard, conducting the election without requiring a plenary meeting is likely to change the risk rating to 'low'.

I appreciate your confirmation that the safety requirements outlined will be met on the day and wish you all success with the meeting and the important work of this meeting.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Rowell".

Dr Mike Rowell, MB.BS, MPH, FRACGP, D.Occ.Med, CIME
Senior Medical Officer for
Occupational Safety and Health

His Excellency
Mr. Burhan Gafoor
President of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the
Law of the Sea
United Nations
New York

Cc:
Mr. Luigi Santosuosso
Mr. Gilles Michaud
Mr. Movses Abelian
Dr Bernhard Lennartz

PROPOSAL – ITLOS Elections

The scenario outlined below represents a proposal for a possible conduct of elections of seven members of the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea during the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea starting on 24 August 2020, to assist in the risk assessment of this event.

1. Delegates are urged to check that their badges have not expired. If they have expired delegates are encouraged to renew them prior to 24 August 2020 to avoid crowding and choke-points. Details on obtaining a pass are available at <https://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/passes.htm> . Delegates without a valid ground pass will not be admitted to the UN campus.
2. Starting at 9:00am, delegates will be arriving according to the time-table included in the annex, to ensure social distancing both outdoors and indoors at all times. Delegates are urged to arrive in accordance with the time scheduled that is provided by the President (approx.. 30 States will arrive every 10 minutes). To allow for social distancing while awaiting admission to the General Assembly Building vestibule through its main entrance, delegates are kindly requested to enter through a single entry point, namely the entrance on 1st avenue and 45th street see map). Delegates will wait for their turn to enter the General Assembly Building vestibule in a queue on the sidewalk along the main circle, while maintaining social distancing of at least 2 meters. Delegates that miss the allocated arrival-slot will be placed at the bottom of the schedule and let in when possible.
3. The meeting will take place on 24 August from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm in the General Assembly Hall with simultaneous translation. It may continue at the same times on 25 and 26 August [See note below on how the elections will end].

General points

4. Attendance in the GA Hall is limited to: (i) the MSP President plus up to 1 support staff and four Vice-Presidents, (ii) one representative per 168 States Parties, (iii) five tellers; (iv) and up to 20 DGACM staff, (v) 10 OLA staff and (vi) 3 technical/AV staff. No media [or observers] will be present.
5. By swiping their United Nations issued ID card on entry, all attendees and support staff declare as a condition of their entry that they:
 - a. Have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days;
 - b. Have not had symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days; and

- c. Have not had close contact with someone with COVID-19 or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
6. All meeting attendees are required to wear a face covering at all times, including, if possible, when addressing the meeting. All UN staff are required to wear face coverings at all times. Masks will be made available if needed. Gloves are not required.
7. All attendees are kindly requested to maintain social distancing of at least 2 meters at all times, to refrain from physical contact including handshakes and other physical contact during the meetings in recognition of the physical distancing requirements. All attendees should exercise COVID-19 hand sanitizing and contact precautions. Hand-sanitizing stations are available on campus, namely by the entrance to the Secretariat Building. Note that physical distancing is the primary requirement, and the use of a face covering is an additional measure for when this distance is inadvertently breached, not a measure to allow face-to-face discussions.
8. No food or drink / glassware will be provided or allowed in the GA Hall.
9. Election flyers will be distributed to assigned desks prior to the meeting.
10. Delegations will be asked to bring their own pens, masks and gloves.

Movements

11. Only one voting representative of each State Party to UNCLOS will be allowed into the General Assembly Hall via the entrance on 1st avenue and 45th street(see map). The five tellers as identified by States Parties will be allowed access to the General Assembly Hall and will be seated on the right (west) side of the podium at separation no less than 2 meters.
12. Only a total of five tellers will be allowed access to the rooms used for counting votes, besides staff members involved with the counting.
13. A 'check in' desk will be set up at the delegates entrance with one/two staff member(s) from OLA. A floater OLA staff may be present, to deal with any issues that need to be addressed (to allow the 'check-in' to continue). No delegate will be allowed in who has not submitted some form of credentials to the Secretariat. Delegates would be able to submit credentials to the Secretariat, if they have not done so in advance. The staff shall be protected by two perspex barriers.
14. A second 'check-in' desk will be set up at the entrance of the General Assembly hall (just after security) with one or two staff member(s) from OLA. The staff will obtain the name of the representative upon arrival and ensure that no other

representative from that State enters the General Assembly hall. The staff and representatives shall wear face coverings and the staff will be further protected by two perspex barriers.

15. All delegates will then be requested to proceed to the East Documents Counter to pick up their ballots, located towards the back of the Hall, adjacent to GA0214. staffed by a maximum of [two] staff members [one from OLA and one from DGACM] wearing face coverings and further protected by three perspex barriers, with at least 6 feet of distance among themselves. Delegates who have previously submitted a scanned copy of their credentials may drop off the original credentials here.
16. Seating will be arranged in alphabetical order of States Parties. Seating arrangement will be announced and made available before hand to enable the representative to easily identify, and proceed directly to, their assigned seats upon entering the General Assembly Hall. Delegates will assume their seat behind the nameplate of their country, unless otherwise identified on the floor plan to ensure social distancing in certain parts of the Hall. Once seated, representatives shall be requested to remain in their seats at all times.

Use of restrooms

17. Representatives should use only restrooms located in the back of the General Assembly Hall. Representatives waiting their turn outside the restroom should maintain social distancing of no less than 2 meters at all times.

Interpretation

18. Simultaneous interpretation will take place using 14 booths in the [XXXX]. There will be a single interpreter at a time in each enclosed room. Rotations will not be required and each interpreter will occupy their own dedicated workspace. Doors will remain open.

Casting of ballots

19. One ballot box will be placed at the front right of the General Assembly Hall where tellers will be able to observe it and the casting of ballots.
20. For the casting of ballots, the President will request the delegation in alphabetical order of States Parties to proceed to cast their ballot. Representative will be requested to maintain distancing of no less than 2 meters and to proceed to cast their ballot only when the previous representative has completed casting their ballot,. This will continue until the last representative has cast their ballot.

21. In order to minimize the risks posed by prolonged exposure and crowding, representatives are requested to leave the hall upon the casting of the ballot through the exit on the west side of the General Assembly Hall.
22. The President at the outset will inform the Meeting that once the last ballot is cast, the meeting will automatically adjourn.

Announcement of results

23. Upon receipt of the results certified by the tellers, the President shall immediately circulate a letter to all Member States in order to inform them of the results and to declare elected those Member States that have received the greatest number of votes and a required majority of the members present and voting.
24. The results will also be announced by the President through the webcast.
25. The announcement will also contain information concerning the date, time, venue for the following balloting, as needed. In this regard, if another round of balloting is required, it will only commence the following day at the same time.

Counting

26. Once all ballots are cast, the ballot box, together with the five [5] tellers and [7] OLA staff (5 paired with tellers and 2 who will be on the podium), with the assistance of the Conference officers, will move to the Trusteeship Chamber for the counting.
27. Tellers will be seated in the front row at least 2 metres apart. In the Trusteeship Council Chamber, the two tellers will be seated at each end of the front row on the left side; one teller in the front row in the middle; and two tellers at each end of the front row on the right side. The tellers will be requested to be seated until the end of the counting, except when they verify that the ballot boxes are empty, when they may approach the podium one by one. All communications with the tellers will be conducted through the microphones, except when this is not practicable.
28. The initial count of the number of ballots cast will take place, in a manner visible to the tellers, at the podium of each room by a single staff member of OLA wearing a face covering, to be verified by another OLA staff member.
29. Sets of ballots will then be delivered to pairs of Tellers/OLA staff members sitting as far apart as possible, and in any case at least 2m apart. Each will review and tally votes and confirm final results with each other. If the two results do not match a recount of that set of ballots will take place. When the teller and OLA staff exchange ballot papers, they will not hand the ballot papers directly to the other person, but will place the ballot papers on a separate table, and the other person will approach that table to pick up the ballot papers.

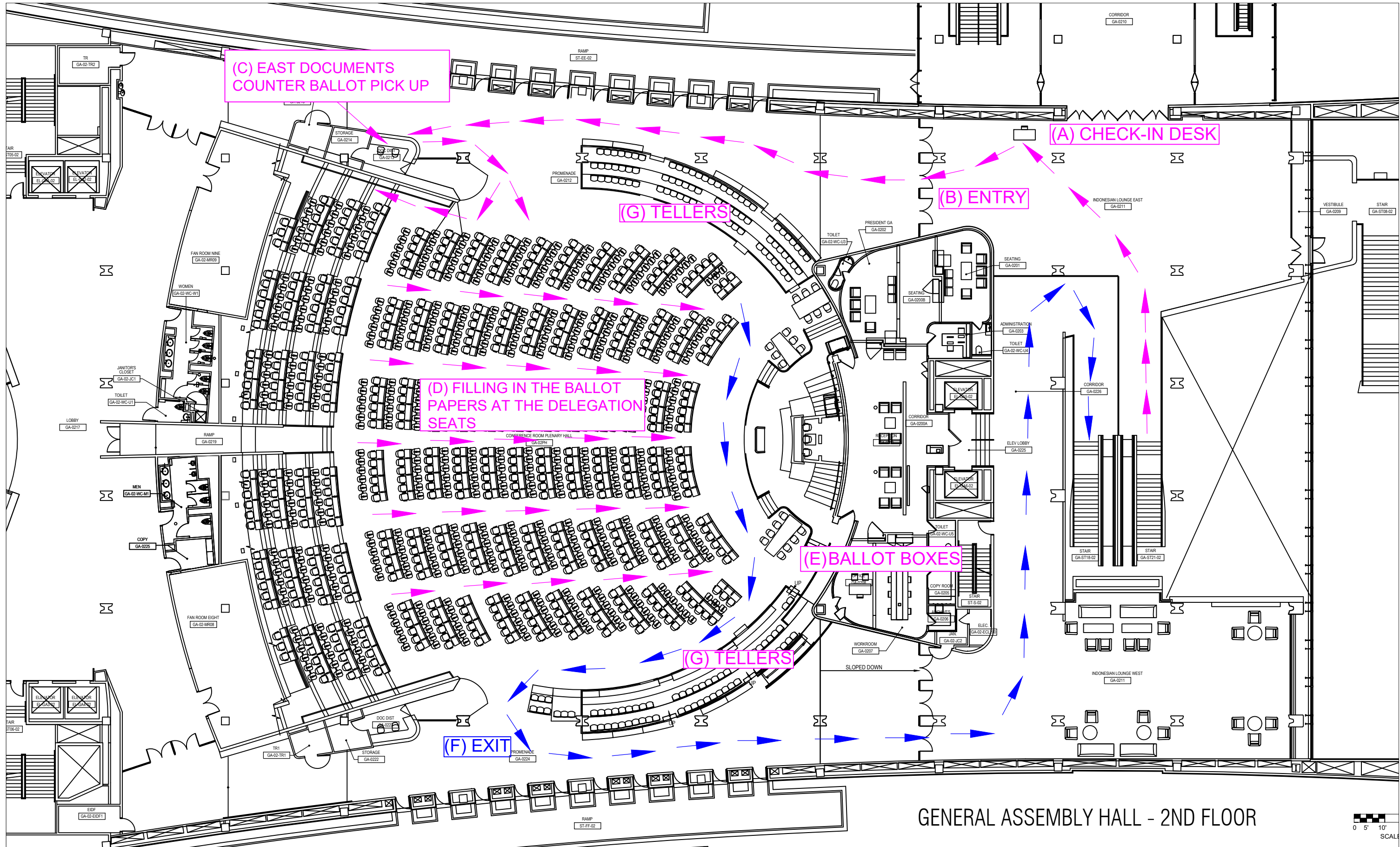
30. Two OLA staff members in addition to OLA staff members who are not paired with tellers may move around. Tellers/OLA staff counting the ballots should, to the extent possible, remain seated. All those in the room counting should ensure they spend at a maximum less than a few minutes at a distance under 2 m of another person. All those in the room counting the ballots, will be able to leave the room after the outcome of the election has been announced on webcast.

Contact tracing

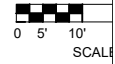
31. OLA staff are to record the participants and support staff present on the day and forward this to the DHMOSH Occupational Safety and Health team as a record in support of contact tracing. Should any attendee become unwell with or be diagnosed with COVID-19 within 14 days of the meeting, they are requested to contact DHMOSH medical staff through the confidential address osh@un.org. Contact tracing will take place and testing will be offered to those considered contacts.

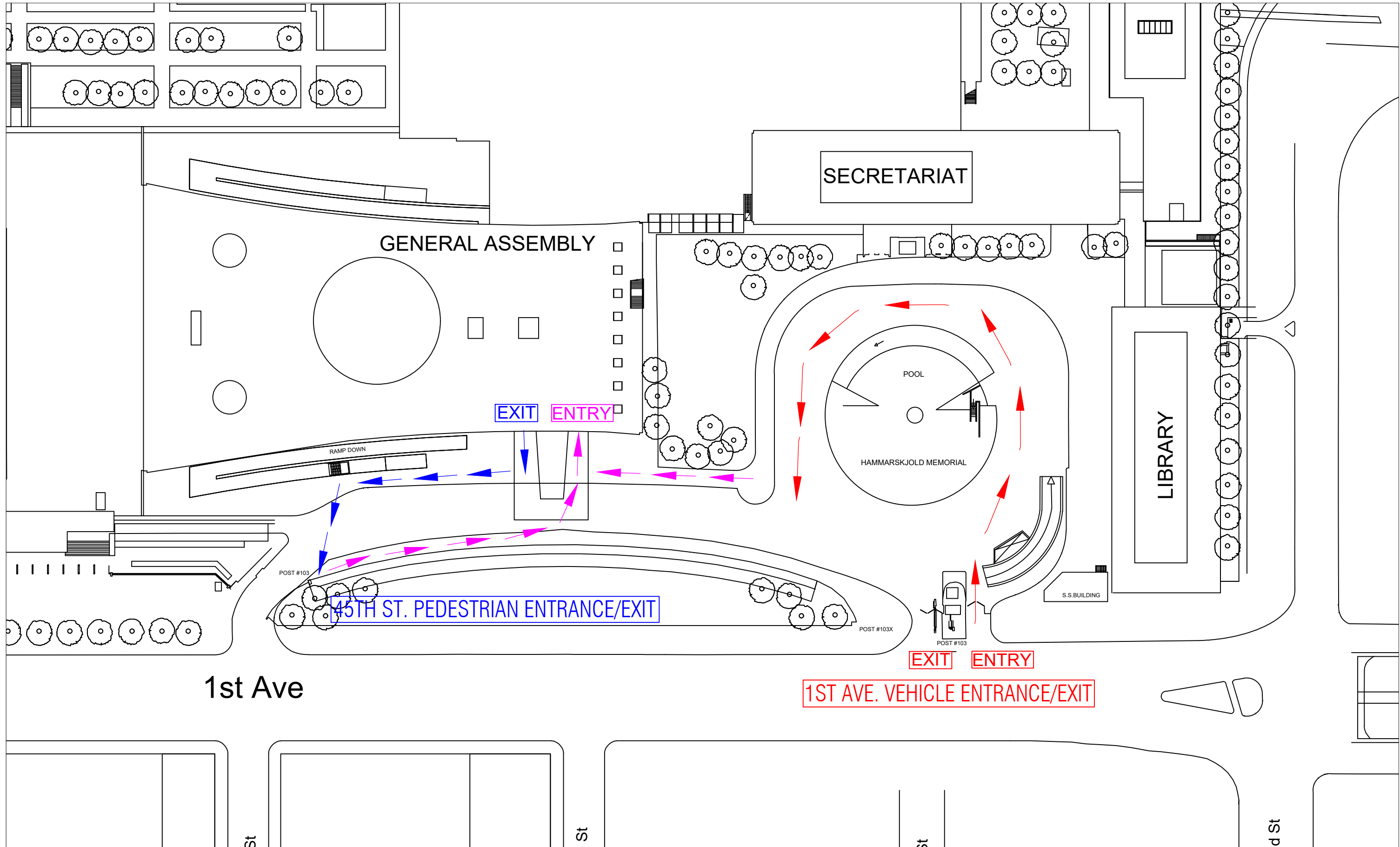
Changes to the risk assessment

32. Delegations will be requested to strictly adhere to the safety and health mitigating measures set up in this document. Delegations will be informed that any non-adherence may lead to a reclassification of the meeting as "high risk", which would have an impact on the continuation of the proceedings and on their resumption. Consequently, the President of the Meeting, with the assistance of the Occupational Safety and Health representatives, will oversee their implementation in the course of the proceedings. The President may, if at any moment it appears that the guidelines are not being strictly observed the President will be requested to draw the attention of delegates to these guidelines, and suspend or adjourn the meeting as needed.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY HALL - 2ND FLOOR





GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SECRETARIAT

POOL

HAMMARSKJOLD MEMORIAL

LIBRARY

S.S. BUILDING

45TH ST. PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE/EXIT

EXIT ENTRY

EXIT ENTRY

1ST AVE. VEHICLE ENTRANCE/EXIT

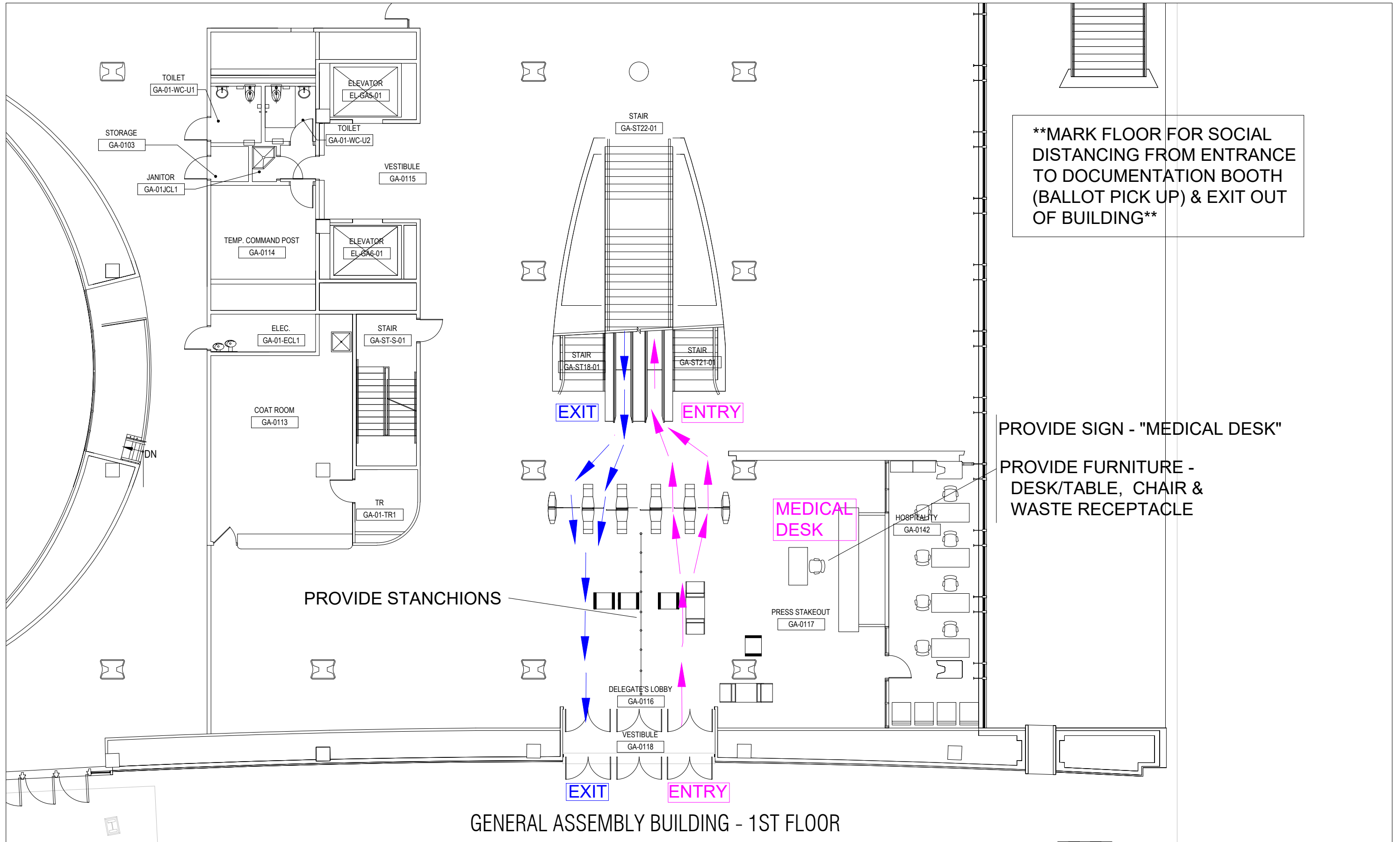
1st Ave

St

St

St

d St



GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING - 1ST FLOOR

Annex II
Time slots for arrival

Slot A: 9:00 to 9:10 a.m. Slot B: 9:10 to 9:20 a.m. Slot C: 9:20 to 9:30 a.m. Slot D: 9:30 to 9:40 a.m. Slot E: 9:40 to 9:50 a.m.		
	States Parties	Assigned time slots
1	Albania	A
2	Algeria	B
3	Angola	C
4	Antigua and Barbuda	D
5	Argentina	E
6	Armenia	A
7	Australia	B
8	Austria	C
9	Azerbaijan	D
10	Bahamas	E
11	Bahrain	A
12	Bangladesh	B
13	Barbados	C
14	Belarus	D
15	Belgium	E
16	Belize	A
17	Benin	B
18	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	C
19	Bosnia and Herzegovina	D
20	Botswana	E
21	Brazil	A
22	Brunei Darussalam	B
23	Bulgaria	C
24	Burkina Faso	D
25	Cabo Verde	E

26	Cameroon	A
27	Canada	B
28	Chad	C
29	Chile	D
30	China	E
31	Comoros	A
32	Congo	B
33	Cook Islands	C
34	Costa Rica	D
35	Côte D'Ivoire	E
36	Croatia	A
37	Cuba	B
38	Cyprus	C
39	Czech Republic	D
40	Democratic Republic of the Congo	E
41	Denmark	A
42	Djibouti	B
43	Dominica	C
44	Dominican Republic	D
45	Ecuador	E
46	Egypt	A
47	Equatorial Guinea	B
48	Estonia	C
49	Eswatini	D
50	European Union	E
51	Fiji	A
52	Finland	B
53	France	C
54	Gabon	D
55	Gambia	E
56	Georgia	A
57	Germany	B
58	Ghana	C
59	Greece	D
60	Grenada	E

61	Guatemala	A
62	Guinea	B
63	Guinea-Bissau	C
64	Guyana	D
65	Haiti	E
66	Honduras	A
67	Hungary	B
68	Iceland	C
69	India	D
70	Indonesia	E
71	Iraq	A
72	Ireland	B
73	Italy	C
74	Jamaica	D
75	Japan	E
76	Jordan	A
77	Kenya	B
78	Kiribati	C
79	Kuwait	D
80	Lao People's Democratic Republic	E
81	Latvia	A
82	Lebanon	B
83	Lesotho	C
84	Liberia	D
85	Lithuania	E
86	Luxembourg	A
87	Madagascar	B
88	Malawi	C
89	Malaysia	D
90	Maldives	E
91	Mali	A
92	Malta	B
93	Marshall Islands	C
94	Mauritania	D
95	Mauritius	E

96	Mexico	A
97	Micronesia (Federated States of)	B
98	Monaco	C
99	Mongolia	D
100	Montenegro	E
101	Morocco	A
102	Mozambique	B
103	Myanmar	C
104	Namibia	D
105	Nauru	E
106	Nepal	A
107	Netherlands	B
108	New Zealand	C
109	Nicaragua	D
110	Niger	E
111	Nigeria	A
112	Niue	B
113	North Macedonia	C
114	Norway	D
115	Oman	E
116	Pakistan	A
117	Palau	B
118	Panama	C
119	Papua New Guinea	D
120	Paraguay	E
121	Philippines	A
122	Poland	B
123	Portugal	C
124	Qatar	D
125	Republic of Korea	E
126	Republic of Moldova	A
127	Romania	B
128	Russian Federation	C
129	Saint Kitts and Nevis	D
130	Saint Lucia	E

131	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	A
132	Samoa	B
133	Sao Tome and Principe	C
134	Saudi Arabia	D
135	Senegal	E
136	Serbia	A
137	Seychelles	B
138	Sierra Leone	C
139	Singapore	D
140	Slovakia	E
141	Slovenia	A
142	Solomon Islands	B
143	Somalia	C
144	South Africa	D
145	Spain	E
146	Sri Lanka	A
147	State of Palestine	B
148	Sudan	C
149	Suriname	D
150	Sweden	E
151	Switzerland	A
152	Thailand	B
153	Timor-Leste	C
154	Togo	D
155	Tonga	E
156	Trinidad and Tobago	A
157	Tunisia	B
158	Tuvalu	C
159	Uganda	D
160	Ukraine	E
161	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	A
162	United Republic of Tanzania	B
163	Uruguay	C
164	Vanuatu	D
165	Viet Nam	E

166	Yemen	A
167	Zambia	B
168	Zimbabwe	C

Annex III

**Logistical and procedural aspects for the election of
seven members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea**

**United Nations Headquarters, General Assembly Hall,
24-26 August 2020, from 10.00 am**

I. Introduction

1. This note set out the logistical and procedural aspects for the election of seven members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, as part of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
2. The election will be held during the plenary meeting of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties starting on Monday, 24 August 2020 at 10.00 am in the General Assembly Hall at the United Nations Headquarters.

II. Arrival time, registration and seating

Arrivals

3. Delegations are reminded to check that their United Nation passes have not expired and, if necessary, send their paperwork to: unprotocol@un.org. No representative will be allowed to access the United Nations Headquarters without a valid UN pass.
4. The staggered arrival times for each delegation on 24 August 2020 is outlined in Annex II to the letter of the President of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties to which the present note is annexed. Approximately 30 delegates will arrive every 10 minutes starting at 9.00 am. Delegates that miss their allocated arrival slot will be placed at the end of the schedule and let in when possible.
5. Arrival is via the entrance on First Avenue and 45th Street entrance, or if by vehicle, the Secretariat circle. Delegates will queue if required around the Secretariat circle until they can enter at the General Assembly vestibule.

Registration

6. The Secretariat staff will register participants and support staff to facilitate contact tracing, as needed. Should any attendee become unwell with or be diagnosed with COVID-19 within 14 days of the meeting, they are requested to contact Secretariat medical staff through the confidential address **osh@un.org**. Contact tracing will take place and testing will be offered to those who have or may have been in contact with the person.

7. For this purpose, each State Party is requested to as soon as possible visit the following link, <https://bit.ly/2Q8SIQz>, to register the name and contact details of its main representative and an alternate representative, on the understanding that only one of them can be present at the meeting on Monday. Representatives are also requested to arrive at the times indicated in Annex II as a mitigation measure.

Check-in desks

8. Upon entry into the General Assembly building, United Nations staff will meet delegations at the first check-in desk for registration.

9. Delegates will then proceed to a second check-in desk to confirm that their delegations have submitted credentials electronically. Delegations will only be allowed to vote if they have submitted the requisite credentials to the Secretariat.

Credentials

10. Delegations that have not yet done so, are urged to submit their credentials electronically before Monday, 24 August at 9.00 am or to bring them in hard-copy to the meeting. Details on the modalities for the electronic submission of credentials for the thirtieth Meeting is contained in notification [MSP.N.2020.LOS.Add.2](#), which was circulated by the Secretariat on 6 July 2020 and is available online at: https://www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting_states_parties/thirtiethmeeting_statesparties.htm .

Ballot papers pick-up desk

11. Delegations will then proceed to the East Documents Counter to submit the hard-copy of their credentials and collect their ballots. The East Document Center is located towards the back of the Hall, adjacent to GA0214 and then to their allocated seating in the General Assembly Hall. For the first round of balloting they will be provided with a total of six ballots, one for each regional group and one for the floating seat (see below). For subsequent rounds of balloting they will be provided with the requisite number of ballots to fill the remaining seats.

Seating chart and maps

12. A seating chart for the General Assembly Hall will be circulated electronically in due course, by email and on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (<https://www.un.org/Depts/los/index.htm>) to facilitate the identification of the respective seats. Seating will be arranged in alphabetical order of States Parties. Delegates will assume the seat nearest to the nameplate of their country to ensure social distancing. Once seated, representatives are to remain in their seats at all times.

13. Maps for delegations to follow in arriving at and exiting the General Assembly Hall are appended.

Access for people with disabilities

14. Representatives with disabilities who require accessible seating during the Meeting are kindly requested to bring this matter at the soonest time possible to the attention of the Secretariat (doalos@un.org).

Campaign materials

15. Delegations that have nominated candidates for the elections and who wish to distribute hard-copy campaign material in support of their candidates, can do so by delivering physical copies of such material to the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations no later than 5.00 pm on 21 August 2020. Given the need to mitigate risks, assistance will be provided in placing a single page of information for each candidate at seats of delegations in the General Assembly Hall. Please note that no campaign material can be distributed on the day of the election in order to reduce movement of personnel on the floor of the General Assembly Hall.

III. Election procedure

Quorum

16. Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Statute of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (Annex VI to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea), provides that two-thirds of the States Parties shall constitute a quorum at that meeting.

Required majority

17. Those nominees who obtain the largest number of votes and a two-thirds majority of the States Parties present and voting shall be declared elected, provided that such majority includes a majority of the States Parties (article 4, paragraph 4, of the Statute).

“Floating seat”

18. On the basis of the “Arrangement for the allocation of seats on the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf” approved by the nineteenth Meeting of States Parties on 26 June 2009, as contained in document SPLOS/201, one member is to be elected from among the Group of African States, the Group of Asia-Pacific States and the Group of Western European and Other States (“the floating seat”). Following the withdrawal of the candidature of Mr. Haplias Zhou by the Government of Zimbabwe, only those candidates from the Group of Western European and Other States can be considered for the floating seat.

19. On 18 August 2020, the President of the thirtieth Meeting of States Parties received a communication from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations and the Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, noting that Mr. David J. Attard of Malta will contest the seat allocated to the Group of Western European and Other States, and Ms. Ida Caracciolo of Italy will not contest the seat allocated to the Group of Western European and Other States and will instead contest the floating seat.

20. As a consequence, Ms. Ida Caracciolo is the only candidate standing for the floating seat, and her name will appear as the only candidate on the ballot of the floating seat.

21. In view of the above, since there are no candidates who are nominated for both the seats allocated to the relevant regional groups and the floating seat, we shall proceed with the secret ballot for all the seats, including the floating seat, concurrently.

Ballots

22. Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Statute, provides that the members of the Tribunal shall be elected by secret ballot.

23. The members of the Tribunal are elected from the list of persons nominated by State Parties in accordance with article 4 of the Statute.

24. Only those candidates whose names appear on the ballot papers are eligible for election. A vote for a candidate is cast by placing a cross in the box to the left of the name. Blank ballot papers are considered abstentions and States Parties that have cast such ballot paper will be considered as not voting. Ballot papers marked for more candidates than the number of seats indicated are considered invalid. If a ballot paper contains any notation other than votes in favour of specific candidates, those notations will be disregarded.

25. There will be one set of ballot papers with a separate sheet for each of the five regional groups, as well a separate sheet for the floating seat, containing the names of the candidates, together with the name of the States that nominated them. The candidates that obtain the required majority and the largest number of votes would be declared elected, up to the number of seats to be filled for each region. Balloting will continue in accordance with rule 65 or rule 66 of the Rules of Procedure for Meetings of States Parties until all the seats have been filled.

Casting of ballots

26. One ballot box will be placed at the front right of the General Assembly Hall where tellers will be able to observe the ballot box as well as the casting of ballots.

27. For the casting of ballots, the President will request each delegation to proceed to cast their ballot in the English alphabetical order of States Parties. Representative will be requested to maintain distancing of no less than two meters and to proceed to cast their ballot only when the previous representative has completed casting their ballot and until the last representative has cast their ballot.

28. In order to minimize the risks posed by prolonged exposure and crowding, representatives are requested to leave the General Assembly Hall upon the casting of the ballot through the exit on the west side of the Hall.

29. The President will at the outset inform the Meeting that once the last ballot is cast, the meeting will automatically adjourn. The five tellers and UN staff members will move to the Trusteeship Council Chamber for the counting of votes.

Exiting the General Assembly Hall

30. As indicated above, delegates will exit the General Assembly Hall through the doors located on its west side and depart by taking the escalators on the left side to the ground floor to exit the General Assembly Building from the delegates' entrance.

Election results

31. The President will circulate a letter to all States Parties to inform them of the results of the election and to declare elected those candidates that have received the greatest number of votes and a required majority of the States Parties present and voting.

32. The announcement will also contain information concerning the date, time and venue for any additional balloting, as needed. If a second round of balloting is required, it will commence on Tuesday, 25 August 2020 at 10.00 am. If a third round of balloting is required, it will commence on Wednesday, 26 August 2020 at 10.00 am. These additional rounds of balloting will follow the same procedure outlined above, *mutatis mutandis*.

33. The results of the election will also be announced by the President through the webcast (see below)

IV. Meeting services and other arrangements

UN Journal/Webcast

34. The United Nations Webcast Unit will provide live and on-demand streaming coverage of the election, including the announcement of the results. The coverage will be available on the UN Web TV website (<http://webtv.un.org>). The Journal announcement regarding the elections will include a link to the webcast. Queries about webcast coverage should be directed to the United Nations Webcast Unit (telephone: 212 963 6733; email: damianou@un.org and justin@un.org).

E-statements

35. Delegations wishing to post their statements online should email eStatements@un.org in PDF and Word indicating clearly the name of the meeting, speaker, delegation, agenda item and date

Use of restrooms

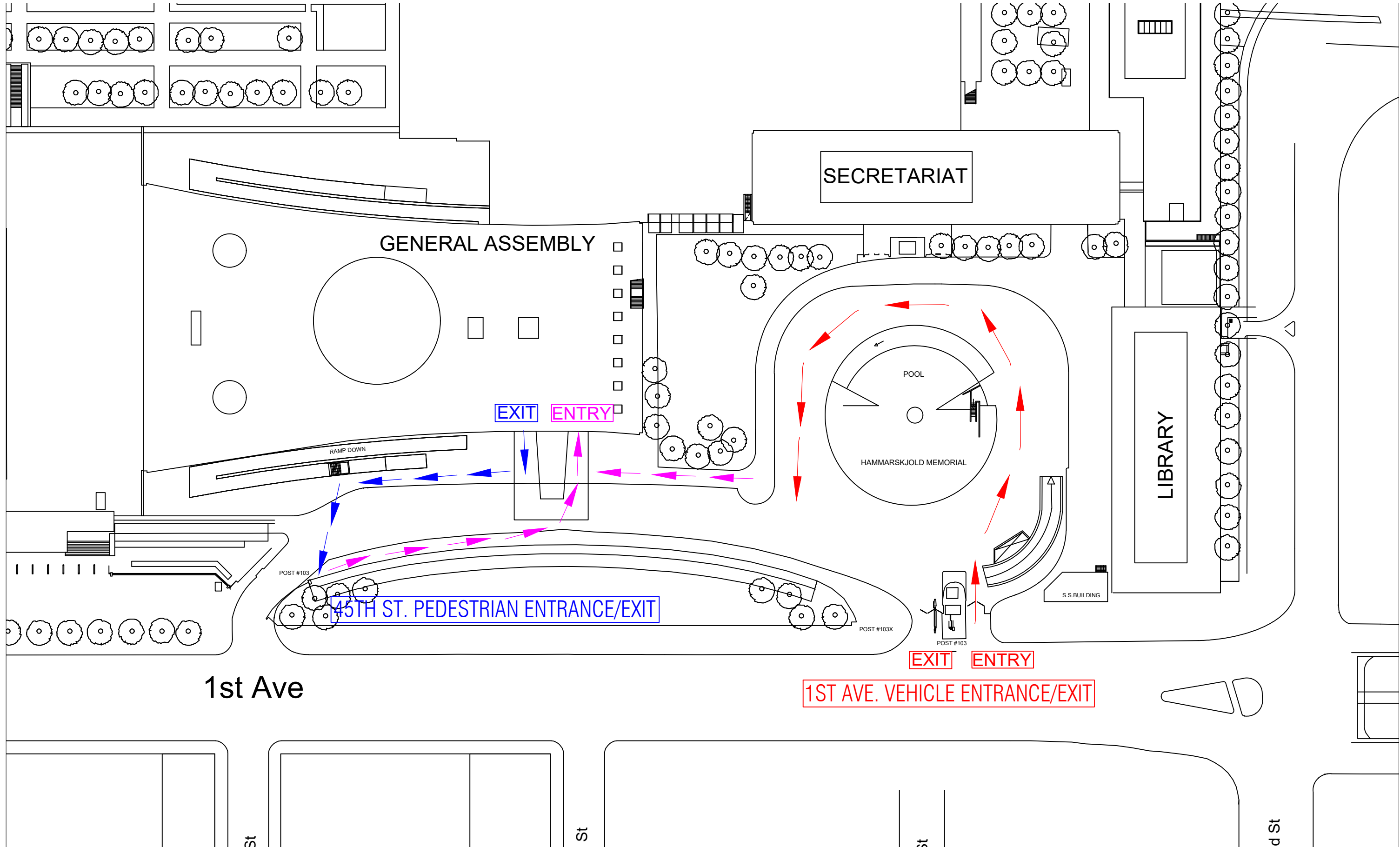
36. Representatives should use only restrooms located in the back of the General Assembly Hall. Representatives waiting their turn outside the restroom should maintain social distancing of no less than two meters at all times.

Security

37. Questions or concerns should be directed to Kevin O Hanlon, Chief, United Nations Headquarters, Security and Safety Service, by contacting the Security Event Planning Unit (Captain Charlene Wilson, telephone: 212 963 2867).

Focal points

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs	doalos@un.org Luigi Santosuosso Email: santosuosso@un.org Telephone: 212 963 1894
Meetings support and logistic	Narendra Nandoe Email: nandoe@un.org Telephone: 212 963 1807 Denitsa Petrova Email: Denitsa.petrova@un.org Telephone: 646 647 9458
Security	Kevin O Hanlon Telephone: 917 367 4359 Email: kevin.ohanlon@un.org Captain Charlene Wilson (Security Event Planning Unit) Telephone: 212 963 2867 Fax: 917 367 7032 Email: wilson16@un.org



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SECRETARIAT

POOL

HAMMARSKJOLD MEMORIAL

LIBRARY

S.S. BUILDING

POST #103

45TH ST. PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE/EXIT

POST #103X

POST #103

EXIT ENTRY

1st Ave

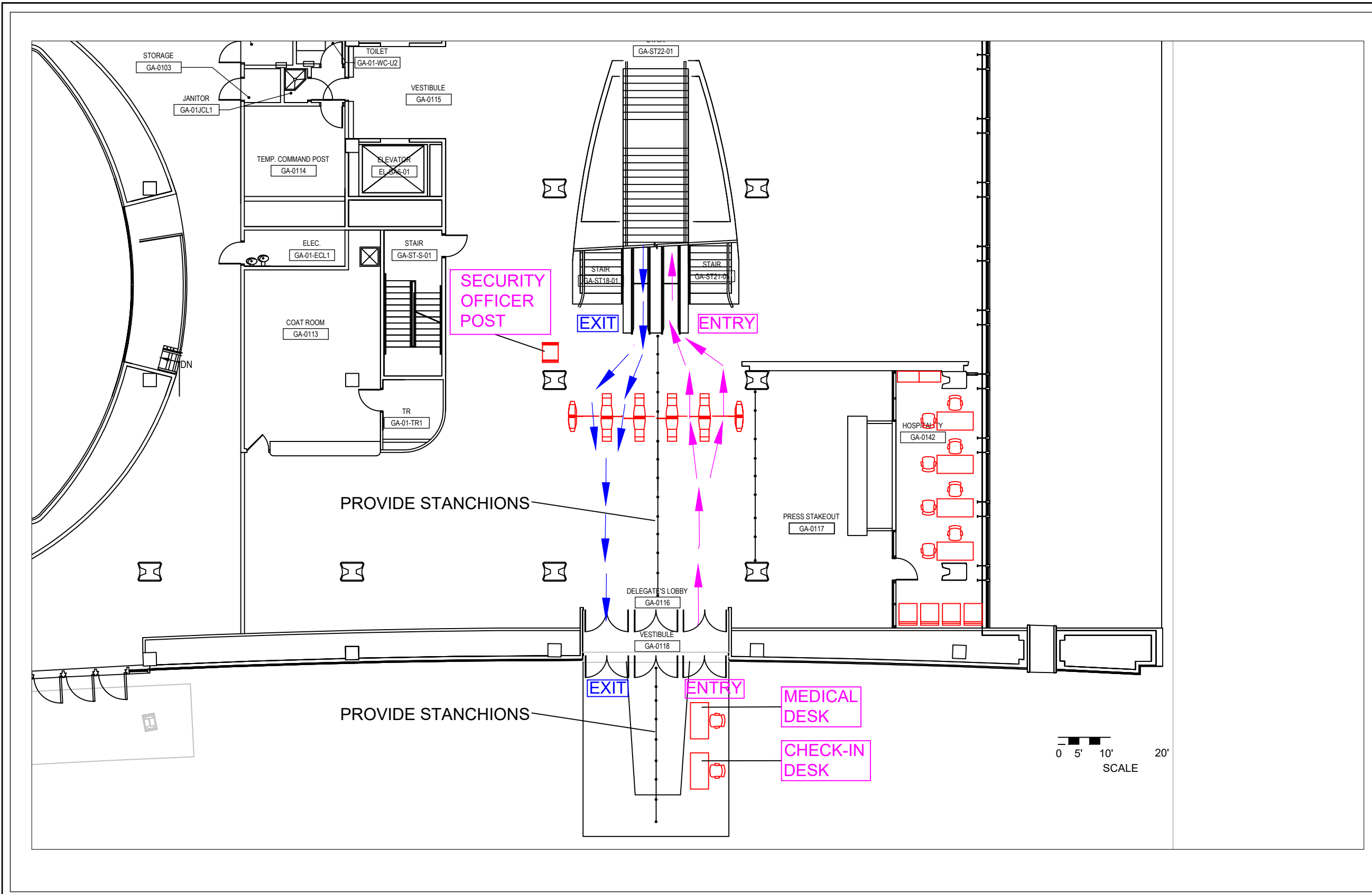
1ST AVE. VEHICLE ENTRANCE/EXIT

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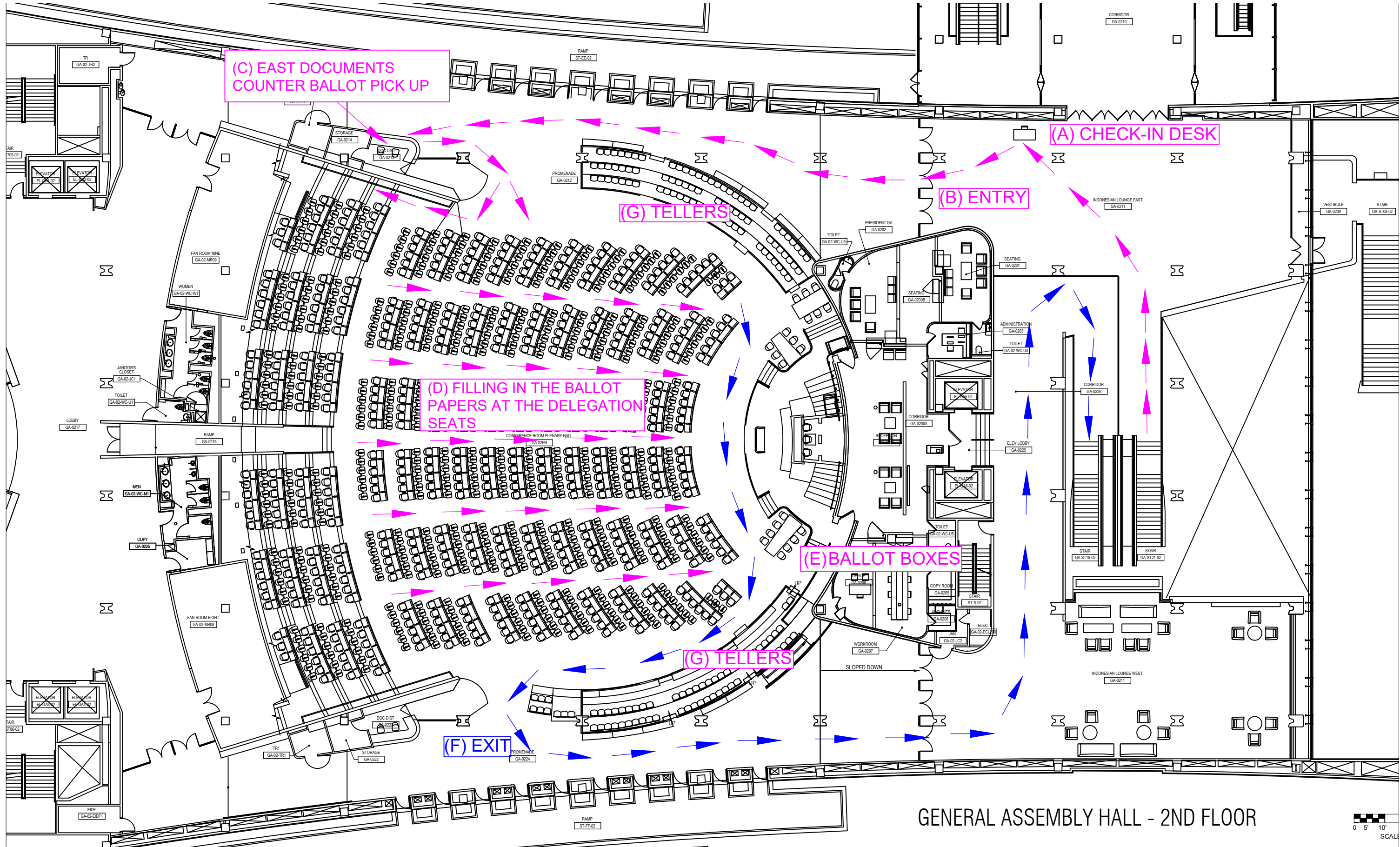


GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING - 1ST FLOOR

DELEGATE ENTRANCE

UNITED NATIONS
SCALE: NTS

Print Date: Aug 21, 2020



GENERAL ASSEMBLY HALL - 2ND FLOOR

0 5' 10'
SCALE



Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - New York



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA

New York, 18 August 2020

Excellency,

We, the Permanent Representative of Italy and the Permanent Representative of Malta, wish to thank you and the Bureau members for the commendable work that you are doing to guarantee the smooth running of the 30th session of the Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in the particularly difficult circumstances created by the current pandemic.

We wish to draw your attention to the fact that, for the upcoming judicial elections to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the two WEOG candidates (Prof. David Attard of Malta and Prof. Ida Caracciolo of Italy) are eligible to contest two seats – the seat allocated to the WEOG regional group and the ‘floating seat’.

We note that the latter seat is, on this occasion, not contested by other regional groups as the nominations from the other two eligible region groups equals the number of seats allocated to those regional groups.

In the spirit of facilitating the election procedures at this critical juncture related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in consideration of the order in which the WEOG candidates were presented, we note that Prof. Attard of Malta will contest the WEOG seat. Accordingly, Prof. Caracciolo of Italy will not contest the WEOG seat and will instead contest the ‘floating seat’.

We trust that this understanding will facilitate the conduct of the judicial elections for ITLOS, including given the limited availability of appropriate meeting facilities.

We would greatly appreciate if you could circulate this letter to the States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Mariangela Zappia

Vanessa Frazier