Proposal of Finland to host the   
45th ATCM in Helsinki in 2023

Proposal of Finland to host ATCM XLV in Helsinki   
from 29th May to 8th June 2023

As the Parties to the Antarctic Treaty are aware, due to circumstances beyond our control, Finland was obliged to cancel the ATCM XLIII in Helsinki in 2020. Following the cancellation, the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat (ATS) contacted Finland to enquire whether it was willing to be re-incorporated in the Host Country -list. As stated in the *ATS Half Year Report 2020/2021* (issued 9th October 2020):

*“In compliance with the Parties’ instructions at the ATCM Forum, the Secretariat has contacted the two Consultative Parties whose turn to organise an ATCM did not materialise (Ecuador in 2018 and Finland in 2020) to ask for their views on this matter and see whether those Parties were willing to be re-incorporated in the list.*

*Finland announced that, in order not to miss the chance to organise an ATCM, it had reached an understanding with India to organise the ATCM in 2023 (postponing India to 2024).”*

This announcement was subsequently included at the ATCM Discussion Forum (*Intersessional consultation among Consultative Parties on the next steps following the cancellation of ATCM XLIII – CEP XXIII in Finland, Second Round of Discussion*) on 16th June 2020. At the summary of the discussions it states (under “other issues”, 2nd July 2020):

*“Mechanisms to recover missed opportunities to hold ATCMs:*

*One Party pointed out the need to discuss how Parties that recently missed the opportunity to host ATCMs could recover that chance, and that the forum was the proper place for this discussion. It also suggested that such Parties should be asked for their views, either in the framework of this forum or officially through the Secretariat.*

*In this respect, Finland announced that it had reached an understanding with India to organise the ATCM in 2023 (postponing India to 2024). Tentative dates proposed were 29 May - 8 June 2023. Finland stated that it was ready to move in that direction if other Parties agreed.”*

Finland is very grateful to the Delegation of India for their understanding and cooperation in this regard.

Finland is determined to bear its responsibilities as a consultative member of the Antarctic Treaty and wishes also to be able to take advantage of all the planning and arrangements we had in place for 2020. We would therefore wish to confirm the consent of the Consultative Parties on this arrangement. This would allow us to fully continue our preparations for the meeting in 2023.