Preparation of the 44 th Meeting

Berlin, 2022

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**Information paper submitted by Germany**

With reference to the Final Report of ATCM 42 in Prague 2019 para 119 which states

*“(119)...The Meeting encouraged all upcoming ATCM Host Countries to submit a progress report to the ATCM in the form of an IP a year in advance, and for upcoming Host Countries to provide regular progress reports to the Secretariat. It also agreed that this suggestion should be included in the Organisational Manual that the Secretariat routinely provided to upcoming Host Countries...”,*

Germany wishes to inform about its preparations for the 44th Meeting in Berlin in 2022.

Germany very much regrets that, due to the global health situation, it was not possible to continue the annual consultations of the Contracting Parties to the Antarctic Treaty in the customary fashion since early 2020. We hope that the development of the health situation will make it possible for us all to come together for an in‑person meeting in 2022. We are aware that the Meeting in Berlin in 2022 will play a disproportionately significant role against this background.

It is a special honour for Germany to be hosting the Meeting again for the first time since 1991 after an interval of 31 years. Thanks to early planning, the preparations are advancing well.

The Meeting will take place in Berlin from 23 May to 2 June 2022. We are expecting around 500 participants. The Estrel Congress Center ([www.estrel.com](http://www.estrel.com)) has been chosen as the venue. A block reservation has been made at this hotel for participants who would prefer accommodation close to the venue. Further details will be provided in due course.

The structures of the Meeting (ATCM Chair, ATCM Deputy Secretary/Head of Host Country Secretariat, Head of Delegation) outlined in the ATS Organisational Manual have been largely determined. The funding for the Meeting is secured and the personnel required to organise it is available. Overall responsibility for organising the Meeting will lie with the Federal Foreign Office, which will be supported by a very experienced conference service provider.

We are in constant contact with the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat and will give regular briefings on the further preparations for the Meeting.

Germany has produced a film which portrays Germany’s engagement in the Antarctic and presents a preview of the Meeting in Berlin. The film will be shown at the ATCM in Paris under item 18 of the agenda after a short oral introduction on how the preparations are progressing. It will subsequently be accessible to the public (information on this will follow).

Germany is looking forward to the ATCM 2022 in Berlin.

We would like to take this opportunity to cordially invite you to the Meeting.