



**XLIII^E RÉUNION
CONSULTATIVE
DU TRAITÉ SUR
L'ANTARCTIQUE**

XLIII ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING

**PARIS, FRANCE
14 – 24 June 2021**

Secretariat Note No. 5 - Decision on whether to hold the meeting by videoconference

15 April 2021

As host country to the XLIII ATCM, France has been closely following the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Two months from the start of the meeting, on 14 June 2021, it has been determined that due to the global health crisis, it cannot be guaranteed that all of the delegations would be able to travel to Paris, which is a requirement for a physical meeting to be held.

Therefore, we would like to inform you that **a decision has been taken to hold a meeting by videoconference** on the dates initially scheduled for the physical meeting.

France had been preparing for this possibility, in close coordination with the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, of the two options of the ACTM being held physically or by videoconference.

In liaison with the Secretariat, the details on how the meeting by videoconference will be organized and held (adapted duration, timetable and programme) will be provided shortly.

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you that in the organization of the XLIII ATCM, including in a videoconference format, France has wished to **follow an ISO 20121 certification approach of organizing a sustainable event and of obtaining the “gender equality event” label.**

Yours Sincerely

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