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Manual

3.2. General Arrangements and Quality Principles

47. The videoconferencing system should be set up in such a way that the persons concerned are provided with an accurate picture of what is happening in the foreign site (of the requesting or requested authority).

Concerning the quality of the visual and audio connection, sufficient account should be taken of the interests of the persons concerned. Consequently, the videoconferencing system should be of high quality. Only then will a hearing conducted via videoconferencing provide a reasonable alternative to a face-to-face hearing.

More particularly, this means that sounds and images need to be aligned accurately and reproduced without any perceptible delay. Furthermore, the external appearance, facial expressions and gestures of the persons concerned should be clearly perceptible.

Videoconferencing Equipment

48. In order to facilitate the use of videoconferencing equipment, all equipment components should as far as possible be standardised on the basis of the same types of equipment and the same configuration.

The videoconferencing equipment should where possible be integrated with the established courtroom working arrangements and infrastructure.

At the courtroom the videoconferencing tools should to the widest extent possible be installed and used in such a way that it creates the atmosphere of a traditional meeting of the court. In the following sections, the various aspects of image, lighting, sound and the positioning and use of equipment (cameras, microphones and screens) are discussed.

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