

Economic Commission for Europe

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

Bureau

Forty-third meeting

Geneva (online), 16 and 17 June 2020

Annotated provisional agenda of the forty-third meeting

To be held remotely via Webex

I. Provisional agenda

- A. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the provisional agenda**

- B. Preparations for the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties and related updates and considerations**
 - 1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
 - 2. Representation and Credentials.
 - 3. Strengthening mine tailings safety in the UNECE region and beyond:
 - (a) Seminar;
 - (b) Decision.
 - 4. Report of the Bureau on its activities since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
 - 5. Election of officers and other members of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties.
 - 6. Implementation of the Convention:
 - (a) Activities of the Working Group on Implementation and ninth report on the implementation of the Convention;
 - (b) Election of the members of the Working Group on Implementation for the period 2021–2024;
 - (c) Implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for industrial safety;
 - (d) Cooperation with the EU Joint Research Centre on JRC SPMI indicators and the Convention's self-assessment.
 - 7. Assistance to countries in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Europe:
Progress report on assistance activities carried out in 2019–2020.
 - 8. Development of the Convention.

9. Prevention of accidental water pollution.
10. Outreach, awareness-raising and strategic partnerships:
 - (a) Targeted communication;
 - (b) NATECH risk management;
 - (c) Strategic partnerships.
11. Facilitation of implementation:
 - (a) Risk assessment;
 - (b) Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction;
 - (c) Land-use planning and industrial safety.
12. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Industrial Accident Notification System.
13. Use of financial and in-kind resources in 2019–2020.
14. Plan of action for the Convention for the biennium 2021–2022.
15. Date and venue of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

C. Progress in the implementation of the long-term strategy for the Convention, the communication, outreach and engagement strategy and the decision fostering implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism

D. User survey on guidance and training materials

E. Evaluation of Bureau meetings

F. Other business

G. Closing of the meeting.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Day 1, Tuesday, 16 June 2020 (provisional timing indicated in brackets)

8.45 – 9.00 *Dialling in by participants via Webex*

A. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda (9:00 - 9:05)

This provisional agenda was prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair of the Bureau. The Chair will open the meeting and introduce the meeting etiquette. The Bureau will be invited to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

B. Preparations for the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP-11) and related updates and considerations (9:05 – 10:00)

The Chair, supported by the secretariat, will inform the Bureau about the proposed agenda and approach to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Geneva, 1-3 December 2020).

The Bureau member representing the host country will be invited to inform the Bureau of Germany's considerations with respect to the hosting of CoP-11, and the site visit. The secretariat will be invited to present possible options in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. On this basis, the Bureau will be invited to discuss and decide on the way forward.

The secretariat will present an overview of the expected official documentation for consideration by CoP-11. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the approach to the presentations and documents for each of the CoP-agenda items, in their respective sequence, in the following.

1. CoP-11 draft annotated provisional agenda and opening of the meeting (10:00 – 10:30)

The Bureau will be invited to discuss the draft provisional agenda for the meeting, and its opening by the Chair, the host country and UNECE.

It will also be invited to recall relevant points raised in the evaluation of the tenth meeting in the preparation of eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Documentation:

Draft annotated provisional agenda for the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (ECE/CP.TEIA/41)

Coffee break (10:30 – 10:45)

2. Representation and credentials (10:45 – 11:15)

Based on a proposal by the secretariat, the Bureau will be invited to agree how to handle this item, including the report on credentials, traditionally delivered by one of the Vice-Chairs.

3. Strengthening mine tailings safety in the UNECE region and beyond (11:15 – 12:00)

(a) Seminar

The Chair, with the support of the secretariat will present information on the planning for the seminar on mine tailings safety and elements of the respective background documents for the CoP, notably the members of the Bureau's small group preparing the seminar (Martin Merkofer, on behalf of Martine Rohn (Switzerland), Michael Struckl (Austria), Torill Tandberg (Norway, Chair of the Group), Gerd Winkelmann-Oei (Germany)).

Documentation

Mine tailings safety in the ECE region and beyond (ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/2) – draft outline

Draft Programme of the seminar on mine tailings safety (CP.TEIA/2020/INF.1)

(b) Decision

The Chair, with the support of the secretariat, will introduce the draft decision on strengthening mine tailings safety in the UNECE region.

Documentation

Draft decision on strengthening mine tailings safety in the UNECE region (ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/3)

Lunch break: 12:00 – 13:00

4. Report of the Bureau on its activities since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (13:00 – 13:30)

The Chair will present the draft outline of the report on the activities of the outgoing Bureau in 2019–2020, in cooperation with the Vice-Chairs, and how these have contributed to the implementation of the long-term strategy for the Convention until 2030, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its last, tenth meeting (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1). The Bureau is also expected to confirm its previous practice of backing up its written report to the COP with a presentation by the Chair, and to discuss the elements to be highlighted therein.

Documentation

Activities of the Bureau since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/4) – draft outline

Long-term strategy for the Convention until 2030 (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1)

5. Election of officers and other members of the Bureau (13:30 – 14:00)

Following an invitation by the Chair, Bureau members will be invited to express their availability and backing by their competent authorities for their nomination for a future term in the Bureau. On this basis, the Bureau will be invited to discuss the possible future composition of the Bureau, and possible actions it could take in this respect. At its forty-first meeting (February 2019), the Bureau agreed that existing or new focal points or contacts to the Convention from under-represented sub-regions should be encouraged to become members of the Bureau in the future.

Documentation

Rules of procedure of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (ECE/CP.TEIA/37 (consolidated version, including amendments agreed at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties))

Terms of reference of the Bureau (ECE/CP.TEIA/32/Add.1)

6. Implementation of the Convention (14:00 – 15:30)**(a) Activities of the Working Group on Implementation and ninth report on the implementation of the Convention (14:00 – 14:30)**

The Chair of the Working Group on Implementation, in cooperation with the secretariat, will introduce the key findings of the report on the implementation of the Convention and draft decision for strengthening the implementation of the Convention.

He will inform the Bureau of the intended structure of the Group's report to the CoP, which will cover both the overall implementation report and the Group's engagement with beneficiary countries of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme.

The Bureau will be invited to take note and to share its views.

(b) Election of the members of the Working Group on Implementation for the period 2021–2024. (14:30 – 14:40)

The Bureau will be briefed by the Chair of the Working Group about the number of members and the respective countries available for re-election for the next term (2021-2024).

Documentation

Draft ninth report on the implementation of the Convention (2016–2018) (ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/5)

Draft decision on strengthening the implementation of the Convention (ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/6)

Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure (ECE/CP.TEIA/37)

Terms of Reference of the Working Group on Implementation (ECE/CP.TEIA/32/Add.1)

Coffee break: 14:40 – 15:00

(c) Implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for industrial safety (15:00 – 15:30)

The Bureau will be invited to discuss the proposal to include this item in the agenda of CoP-11, in view of the current COVID-19 pandemic and its implications for industry. It will be invited review and reflect on the proposed questions, outlined in the draft CoP-11 agenda, and the format of the discussion.

(d) Cooperation with the EU Joint Research Centre on JRC SPMI indicators and the Convention's self-assessment (15:30 – 16:00)

The secretariat will brief the Bureau of discussions with the EU Joint Research Centre (JRC) on possible collaboration on its SPMI (Seveso Progress Measurement Index) indicators and linkages with the self-assessments under the Strategic Approach of the Assistance and Cooperation Programme, following a request by Serbia. The Bureau is invited to take note, discuss and advise on the way forward.

7. Assistance to countries in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Europe (16:00 – 16:30)

Progress report on assistance activities carried out in 2019–2020

The secretariat will present the proposed items to be covered during the report on assistance activities during the CoP. It will highlight updates on assistance activities since the Bureau's last meeting. The secretariat will also highlight the proposed approach to presenting evaluations of the Programme's activities and suggestions with respect to the CoP's reflections, in view of the 3-step approach decided in 2016. The Bureau will be invited to take note, advise and endorse the proposed approach.

Documentation

Draft progress report on the implementation of assistance activities in 2019–2020 (ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/7)

Coffee break: 16:30 – 16:45

8. Development of the Convention (16:45 – 17:15)

The Chair will provide an update on actions taken and information received since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. She will present, as discussed with the Vice-Chairs, future envisaged actions, and the proposed handling of this item at CoP-11. The Bureau will be invited to take note.

9. Prevention of accidental water pollution (17:15 – 17:45)

The German co-Chair of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (JEG), with the support of the secretariat, will report on a teleconference held with the JEG on potential future activities. On this basis, he will present the items proposed by the JEG for inclusion into the 2021-22 workplan for the Convention, along with their envisaged lead Parties and budget, and items for inclusion in future workplans. The Bureau will be invited to review and agree on the JEG-related items to be included in the Convention's workplan for 2021-22, and the corresponding budget, keeping in mind its decision at its last, forty-second meeting (Oslo, 26-27 September 2019) to pursue a strong role in reviewing and guiding the work of JEG, in line with the JEG strategy.

The secretariat, in cooperation with the co-Chair, will highlight the proposed sequence of items to be presented at CoP-11. It will also present the next steps towards a re-nomination of members to the JEG.

Documentation

Background document on past and potential future activities of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents

Day 2, Wednesday, 17 June 2020 (provisional timing in brackets)

9.15 – 9.30 Dialling-in by participants

10. Outreach, awareness-raising and strategic partnerships (9:30 – 10:00)

(a) Targeted communication

The secretariat will report on the elements which it plans to present under this item concerning targeted communication, working visits and high-level missions to Parties and other stakeholders.

(b) NATECH risk management

The secretariat will briefly highlight its actions in follow-up to the United Nations/OECD workshop on natural-hazard triggered technological accidents (NATECH) risk management and its contribution to the NATECH-III Project, implemented under the leadership of OECD and Germany, in partnership with the UN Environment/OCHA Joint Unit and the EU Joint Research Centre.

(c) Strategic partnerships

The secretariat will highlight the items it wishes to present under this item, namely actions to maintain and enhance strategic partnerships with other international organizations, including the Inter-agency coordination meeting to be hosted by ILO (Geneva, September 2020). It will also reflect on the representatives of other international and regional organizations who will be invited to speak about relevant activities and cooperation with ECE.

The Bureau will be invited to take note and advise.

11. Facilitation of implementation (10:00 – 10:30)

(a) Risk assessment

The Bureau member of Switzerland, leading the small group on risk assessment, with the support of the secretariat, will report on progress in the small group's work and the development of a report on risk assessment, to be presented to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting in 2022.

(b) Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction

The secretariat will present its plans to present its contribution to the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2019, and report on its cooperation with UNDRR going forward.

(c) Land-use planning and industrial safety

The secretariat will present the Bureau with an update on the development of an information repository of good practices on land-use planning and industrial safety, with references to environmental impact assessments, strategic environmental assessment, and public information and participation, and the respective presentation at the CoP.

The Bureau will be invited to take note and advise.

Coffee break: 10:30 – 10:45

12. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Industrial Accident Notification System (10:45 – 11:00)

The secretariat will present the informal report on a connectivity test of the Industrial Accident Notification System and an online consultation of the Points of Contact organized in 2020, along with its conclusions. The Bureau will be invited to take note and agree with the presentation of these documents at the CoP.

13. Use of financial and in-kind resources in 2019–2020 (11:00 – 11:30)

The secretariat will inform the Bureau of any updates on financial and in-kind resources under the Convention in 2019-2020, and present elements for the document to be prepared for CoP-11, with reference to the request by the last meeting of the Conference of the Parties that the secretariat report on the use of financial resources as of the next meeting in a more aggregated, standard manner — based on the information attainable from the United Nation’s administrative system UMOJA, and to report on the use of in-kind resources. The Bureau will be invited to take note.

14. Plan of action for the Convention for the biennium 2021–2022 (11:30 – 12:30)

The secretariat will present the draft plan of action for the next biennium. The Bureau will be invited to exchange its views, discuss and advise.

The secretariat will also present the draft decision on guiding principles for financial assistance, which the Bureau will be invited to endorse.

Documentation

Draft Priorities, workplan and resources for the Convention for 2021–2022 (ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/9)

Draft decision on guiding principles for financial assistance (ECE/CP.TEIA/2020/10)

Lunch break: 12:30 – 13:30

15. Date and venue of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (13:30 – 13:40)

The Bureau will be invited to discuss options for the hosting of CoP-12 in 2022.

C. Progress in the implementation of the long-term strategy, communication, outreach and engagement strategy and decision fostering implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism (13:40 – 15:00)

At its forty-first meeting (Geneva, 13 February 2019), the Bureau agreed to review implementation of progress towards the implementation of the long-term strategy and the communication strategy – along with the decision fostering implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism – at its meetings in advance of each meeting of the Conference of the Parties. It then also agreed to hold a substantive discussion on actions to follow-up on the implementation of the long-term strategy with regard to new and emerging risks. On this basis, the Bureau will be invited to reflect on progress made in the biennium. This reflection can find its input to the report by the Chair on the Bureau’s activities to CoP-11.

Documentation

Long-term strategy of the Convention until 2030

Communication, outreach and engagement strategy

Decision 2018/2 fostering implementation of the sustainable financial mechanism

(all contained in ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1)

Coffee break: 15:00 – 15:15

D. User survey on guidance and training materials (15:15 – 15:45)

The secretariat will report on the circulation of the user survey of outputs, its initial evaluation and the envisaged next steps.

E. Evaluation of Bureau meetings (15:45 – 16:00)

Following the suggestion by Ms. Wagello-Sjölund at the last Bureau meeting, the Bureau will be invited to reflect on and evaluate the format of the Bureau meetings in the biennium and whether, based on the information provided, it is able to effectively monitor the workplan implementation.

F. Other business (16:00 – 16:15)

Members of the Bureau wishing to raise other business should contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

G. Closing of the meeting (16:15 – 16:20)

The Bureau is invited to confirm the date and location of its next session, normally held back-to-back with the CoP, before the Chair formally closes the session.
