



# **Amendment (ECE/CP.TEIA/2012/8) (ECE/CP.TEIA/B/2012/INF.2)**

**ITEM 14. POSSIBLE AMENDMENT OF THE  
CONVENTION**



# **Procedure for amendments**

## **Working Group on Development**

- **Created by COP in 2004, dormant since 2006**
- **Open-ended: open to the representatives of all Parties**
- **Can be reconvened when another review of Annex I required**

**Proposed amendments must be circulated to all Parties at least 90 days in advance of COP**

**Amendments adopted by consensus (or 9/10 majority for annex I)**

**Annex I amendments enter into force unless 16 notifications indicating will not apply to a Party**

**Other amendments, once ratified by 16 Parties, enter into force for those Parties**



# **Annex I – hazardous substances**

**United Nations Globally Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals revised in 2010**

**Bureau and Working Group on Implementation propose alignment of annex I with GHS**

**Working Group on Development could draft from 2013 to mid-2014**

**Would be circulated to Parties 90 days in advance of COP-8, 2014**

**Could be adopted at COP-8 and could enter into force end 2015**

**Would maintain consistency with Seveso Directive, which has been amended and will take effect mid-2015**



# **Other possible amendments**

## **Process?**

- **Task Working Group on Development to evaluate possible amendments from 2013 to mid-2014**
- **Task Working Group on Development to evaluate possible amendments and the draft as appropriate from 2013 to mid-2014**
- **Minimize frequency of amendments – an amendment should be important**

## **Scope? Prioritization?**



## **Scope (a-c)**

**(a) Revised and additional definitions, e.g. update “public” and add “competent authority” – largely technical**

**(b) Revised scope – requires policy decisions on, e.g. pipelines and tailings management facilities, but drafting straightforward**

**(c) Strengthened rights for public, e.g. information, public participation in decision-making, access to justice, in line with Aarhus Convention – requires policy decisions and more complex drafting**



## **Scope (d-g)**

- (d) Revised scope of mutual assistance – requires policy decision but drafting straightforward**
- (e) Revised frequency of meetings – technical revision**
- (f) Clarified or strengthened reporting obligations, e.g. clarify procedure, make reports public, require accident reporting – requires policy decisions but drafting straightforward, except perhaps if major accident reporting added**
- (g) Accession by other Member States of the United Nations – requires policy decision, drafting to be carefully reviewed**



## **Scope (h-k)**

**(h) Application of amendments to new Parties – technical revision**

**(i) Provisions on land-use planning – requires policy decisions and more complex drafting**

**(j) Provisions on the review of compliance – requires policy decision but drafting straightforward**

**(k) Governance structures under the Convention – review possibly leading to decision by COP, but unlikely to involve amendment of Convention**