

# **Economic and Social Council**

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# **Economic Commission for Europe**

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context

# **Implementation Committee**

Twenty-eighth session Geneva, 10–12 September 2013 Item 1 of the provisional agenda Adoption of the agenda

# Annotated provisional agenda for the twenty-eighth session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 10 September 2013\*

# I. Provisional agenda

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.
- 2. Submissions.
- 3. Follow-up to decision V/4 regarding Ukraine.
- Committee initiative.
- 5. Review of implementation.
- 6. Information gathering.
- 7. Structure, functions and operating rules.
- 8. Preparations for the next sessions of the Meetings of the Parties.
- 9. Other business.
- 10. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session.

There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Members of the Committee and observers are therefore requested to complete the registration form available from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) website (http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm) and to transmit it to the Convention secretariat, at the latest two weeks prior to the meeting, either by fax to +41 22 917 0107 or by e-mail to eia.conv@unece.org.



# II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

# 1. Adoption of the agenda

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 10 September, 10–10.15 a.m.

1. This provisional agenda was prepared by the secretariat to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA) in agreement with the Implementation Committee Chair, in accordance with the Implementation Committee's operating rules (ECE/MP.EIA/10, decision IV/2, annex IV, as amended by decision V/4, ECE/MP.EIA/15). The Implementation Committee under the Convention and the Protocol will be invited to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

#### 2. Submissions

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 10 September, 10.15 a.m.-1p.m.

- 2. Discussion under this agenda item will not be open to observers.
- 3. The Committee will continue its consideration of the submission by Armenia expressing concerns about compliance by Azerbaijan with its obligations under the Convention. The Committee is expected to review and finalize its findings and recommendations taking into account comments received from the two Parties by 31 May 2013.
- 4. The Committee will examine any submissions by Parties received since the Committee's previous session.

### 3. Follow-up to decision V/4 regarding Ukraine

Tentative timing: Tuesday, 10 September, 3-4.30 p.m.

- 5. Discussion under this agenda item will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.
- 6. The Committee will follow up on decision V/4 with regard to the steps taken by the Government of Ukraine to bring about compliance with its obligations under the Convention. It will review the progress report submitted by Ukraine on 31 December 2012, as requested by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention at its fifth session, and the additional information to be provided by Ukraine by 27 August 2013. It is then expected to draft recommendations to assist Ukraine in complying with its obligations under the Convention in accordance to decision V/4.

#### 4. Committee initiative

*Tentative timing*: Tuesday, 10 September, 4.30–6 p.m. and Wednesday, 11 September, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. and 3–4 p.m.

- 7. Discussion under this agenda item will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.
- 8. The Committee will continue its consideration of its initiative on Azerbaijan further to paragraph 6 of the appendix to decision III/2 (ECE/MP.EIA/6, annex II). The Committee

is expected to comment the written report on progress in implementing recommendations by an international consultant to the secretariat (report of 31 August 2012) and the draft law on environmental impact assessment (EIA) to be submitted by Azerbaijan in advance of the session.

9. Further to its twenty–seventh session, the Committee will then consider its initiative on Ukraine, in accordance with the appendix to decision III/2 and the Committee's operating rules. The Committee will start by considering the initiative in a closed session, on 10 September, in the afternoon. On 11 September, in the morning, it will invite Ukraine to present information and opinions on the matter under consideration and will ask it questions. The Committee will then consider the initiative again in a closed session and will proceed to draft its findings and recommendations.

### 5. Review of implementation

Tentative timing: Wednesday, 11 September, 4-4.30 p.m.

- 10. As part of its examination of the specific compliance issues from the Third Review of Implementation, the Committee is expected to consider written clarifications it requested from Portugal by 13 May 2013.
- 11. The secretariat will be invited to report on the preparation of the draft fourth review of implementation of the Convention and the draft first review of implementation of the Protocol on SEA.

# 6. Information gathering

*Tentative timing*: Wednesday, 11 September, 4.30–6 p.m. and Thursday, 12 September, 9.30 a.m.–1 p.m.

- 12. Discussion under this agenda item will not be open to observes, except if invited by the Committee.
- 13. Further to its twenty-seventh session, the Committee is expected to continue its consideration of the information it has gathered regarding activities proposed in Romania, Lithuania and Ukraine. It may also wish to consider information it requested from Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan regarding two projects of Azerbaijan in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea.
- 14. Finally, time allowing, the Committee may wish to consider the information provided by a German parliamentarian and an Irish non-governmental organization expressing concerns regarding a planned activity in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

#### 7. Structure, functions and operating rules

Tentative timing: Thursday, 12 September, 3-4 p.m.

15. The Committee is expected to keep under review, and if necessary, to develop its structure and functions as well as its operating rules in the light of experience it has gained, including recommendations to the Meeting of the Parties on the imposition of sanctions for non-compliance (ECE/MP.EIA/15, decision V/4, para. 15). The Committee is expected to discuss necessary proposals for the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention.

### 8. Preparations for the next sessions of the Meetings of the Parties

Tentative timing: Thursday, 12 September, 3-4.30 p.m.

16. The Chair will report on the outcome of the second meeting of the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment, held from 27 to 30 May 2013. The Committee is expected to discuss preparations for the sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the second session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, to be held in Kyiv from 2 to 5 June 2014, including the drafting of a decision on the review of compliance and preparation of the Committee's report on its activities (ECE/MP.EIA/6, annex II, decision III/2, appendix, para. 11).

#### 9. Other business

Tentative timing: Thursday, 12 September, 4.30–4.45 p.m.

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

# 10. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session

Tentative timing: Thursday, 12 September, 4.45–5.30 p.m.

18. The Committee is expected to agree on the main decisions taken at the meeting and to confirm the date and location of its next session before the Chair formally closes the session.

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