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

Working Group on the Development of the Convention

Sixth meeting

Geneva, 30 November–2 December 2015

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Terms of reference for the Working Group on the Development of the Convention

Draft amended terms of reference for the Working Group on the Development of the Convention

Note by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, prepared in
cooperation with the secretariat

Summary

At its eighth meeting (Geneva, 3–5 December 2014) the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents requested its Bureau to review the terms of reference of the Convention's subsidiary bodies and to prepare revised terms of reference for review and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting (ECE/CP.TEIA/30, para. 48).

The Working Group on the Development of the Convention is invited to review, take note of and provide its views on the proposed update of its terms of reference contained in the present document.



Background

1. At its third meeting (Budapest, 27–30 October 2004), by decision 2004/4 the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents established the Working Group on the Development of the Convention (Working Group on Development) and defined its terms of reference (ECE/CP.TEIA/12, annex IV).
2. At its fourth meeting (Geneva, 28–29 April 2014), the Working Group on Development noted the need to update the terms of reference of the subsidiary bodies of the Convention and agreed to bring that issue to the attention of the Conference of the Parties (ECE/CP.TEIA/WG.1/2014/3, para. 55).
3. The Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting (Geneva, 3–5 December 2014) mandated the Bureau to review the terms of reference of the Convention's subsidiary bodies and to prepare revised terms of reference for review and adoption at its ninth meeting (ECE/CP.TEIA/30, para. 48).
4. The draft amended terms of reference for the Working Group on Development, annexed to this document, have been prepared by the Bureau with due regard to the role and current practice of the Working Group, as well as consistency with the proposed amended terms of reference for the other subsidiary bodies. The Working Group is invited to consider the draft amended terms of reference and to provide feedback on them to the Bureau.
5. In the draft amended terms of reference, changes from the original terms are shown in the following way: deleted text is indicated with strikethrough and proposed additions are indicated in bold.

Annex

Draft amended terms of reference for the Working Group on the Development of the Convention

~~The Conference of the Parties,~~

~~Recalling article 18, paragraph 2 (c), of the Convention,~~

1. ~~Establishes~~ **the Working Group on the Development of the Convention (Working Group on Development) shall be an open-ended working group consisting of representatives from Parties. Observers may participate in the meetings of the Working Group in accordance with rules 6 to 8 of the rules of procedure for the meetings of the Conference of the Parties (ECE/CP.TEIA/3).**

2. **The Working Group shall meet on a needs-driven basis to carry out its tasks as set out below.**

3. **The Working Group shall:**

(a) ~~Keep under review developments in other regulatory instruments concerning the field of the prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents, including those in other regulatory instruments, such as the relevant legislation adopted by the European Community-Union and other Parties, and assess their legal and practical implications for the Convention;~~

(b) ~~Review, as a priority, annex I to the Convention in the light of the corresponding legal requirements of the Seveso II Directive of the European Community; and other relevant regulatory instruments;~~

(c) ~~Develop~~ **Submit, if appropriate, to the Bureau recommendations and proposals for amending the Convention as part of the preparations for the meetings of the Conference of the Parties;**

(d) **Submit, through the Bureau to the Conference of the Parties, if appropriate, recommendations and proposals for amending the Convention and its annexes, including annex I;**

(e) **Carry out other tasks entrusted to it by the Conference of the Parties.**

~~2. Entrusts the Bureau to appoint the Chairman of the Working Group;~~

~~3. Decides that the Working Group will be open to representatives from all Parties and recommends that it should regularly use inter alia electronic tools to facilitate active communication among its members and with the secretariat.~~