

Economic Commission for Europe

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

Working Group on Implementation

Twenty-seventh meeting

Geneva, 29 and 30 January 2015

Annotated provisional agenda of the twenty-seventh meeting

**To be held in Geneva, at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 14.00 pm on
29 January 2015 to 5 pm on 30 January 2015***

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs
3. Implementation of the Convention
4. Assistance Programme management
5. Role of the Working Group on Implementation in the development of the Convention
6. Schedule of meetings
7. Other business
8. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the meeting

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. This provisional agenda was prepared by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) secretariat in agreement with the outgoing Chair and Co-Chair of the Working Group.

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

2. The Chair of the Working Group on Implementation will open the meeting and invite the Working Group to adopt its agenda as set out in the present document.

* Members of the Working Group on Implementation are requested to confirm their participation to the Convention secretariat, at the latest one week prior to the meeting.

2. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs

3. According to the terms of reference of the Working Group on Implementation, the Working Group should elect its Chair at the first meeting following the meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Working Group might also decide to elect up to two Vice-Chairs.

3. Implementation of the Convention

4. The Chair, with the support of the secretariat, will update the meeting on the issuing of a corrigendum to the Seventh report on the Implementation of the Convention (2012-2013) posted in its advanced version on the Convention's website with the symbol ECE/CP.TEIA/2014/4/Corr.1¹.

5. The secretariat will recall the finalization and posting of an information note² on the role and tasks of a country's focal point. The meeting will be invited comment on its use and distribution.

Timeline and actions in view of initiating the eighth round of reporting under the Convention

6. The Chair will recall that the Conference of the Parties requested the Working Group on Implementation to prepare the eighth report on the implementation of the Convention (2014–2015) for review at its ninth meeting.

7. The Chair will also recall the request from the Conference of the Parties to the Working Group to further simplify the format and guidelines with a specific focus on (a) updates from countries having previously provided full reports and (b) the inclusion of specific criteria to help countries assess the effectiveness of their policies to implement the Convention, and to consider engaging in dialogue with reporting countries.

8. The secretariat will recall previous decisions taken by the Working Group on Implementation concerning the schedule of reporting for the eighth round.

9. On the basis of the above, the meeting is expected to discuss the following issues:

a) Timeline and procedures for updating the guidelines for reporting on the implementation of the Convention

The Working Group is expected to identify a schedule with clear deadlines for carrying out the work on the guidelines, in view of initiating the eighth round of reporting.

b) Timeline for initiating the eighth round of reporting on the implementation of the Convention

10. In preparing for initiating the eighth round of reporting, the members of the Group might also wish to keep in consideration the decision at the last meeting of the Working Group on Implementation (Geneva, 2-3 July 2014) about reviewing the areas for follow-up identified in the seventh report on implementation.

4. Assistance Programme management

11. The secretariat will provide updated information, through the Assistance Programme tracking table, about planned and future activities within the Assistance Programme. The

¹ Available from <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=34103#/>

² Available from : <http://www.unece.org/env/teia/contact.html>

Working Group is expected to consider the information presented in view of its role in monitoring the implementation of the Strategic Approach and providing substantive guidance to their carrying out, together with possible partnership;

12. The Chair, supported by the secretariat, will recall the CoP decision concerning the user-friendly version of the document on indicators and criteria. The meeting is invited to reflect on the steps forward to encourage countries beneficiary of the Assistance Programme to use the document. The Group is also invited to identify means to monitor the implementation of the Strategic Approach;

13. The Working Group is invited to discuss the schedule, organization of work and next steps regarding the following mandate by CoP-8: "In order to document the effectiveness of the Assistance Programme, the CoP requested the Working Group, with the support of the Bureau and the secretariat, to carry out an analytical review of the information available to consider whether it was sufficient for this purpose. The CoP also requested the WGI to assess whether there was a need for an independent external evaluation of the Programme, and to report its findings to the ninth meeting of the CoP.

5. Role of the WGI in the development of the Convention

14. The Conference of the Parties, at its eighth meeting (Geneva, 3-5 December 2014), took several decisions concerning the development of the Convention, both concerning amendments to articles to the Convention and provision of guidance by the Conference of the Parties. On the basis of the decisions taken, the Working Group is expected to be involved in different ways. The Group is expected to decide the schedule and way of working concerning the following elements:

a) Preparation CoP guidance through a draft decision on "Reporting obligations with regard to periodicity, public accessibility and other issues" for submission to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

b) Compliance: The Conference of the Parties decided that the Working Group on Development, in cooperation with the Working Group on Implementation, will consider the introduction of a compliance mechanism and prepare a draft decision. The Working Group on Implementation is invited to discuss its involvement in the deliberations of WGD and consider and establish a corresponding timeline;

c) Terms of Reference for the Working Group on Implementation: the Conference of the Parties mandated the Bureau to prepare revised terms of reference for the Convention's subsidiary bodies. This is expected to be done in cooperation with the subsidiary bodies concerned. The Working Group on Implementation might wish to provide to the Bureau with its view and provide additional information, especially in view of its involvement in the discussions on compliance (including on increasing the number of members from 10 to 12).

6. Schedule of meetings

15. The Working Group is expected to decide on the dates and locations of its next meetings in 2015, on the basis of provisional dates identified by the outgoing Chair in cooperation with the secretariat (2-4 June 2015 or 29-30 June 2015) and, provisionally, meetings in 2016.

7. Other business

16. Members of the Working Group wishing to raise other business should contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

8. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the meeting

17. The meeting is expected to agree on the main decisions taken.

18. The Chair is expected to close the meeting at about 5 p.m. on 30 January 2015.
