



# Economic and Social Council

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## Economic Commission for Europe

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

#### **Ninth meeting**

Ljubljana, 28–30 November 2016

Item 8 (a) of the provisional agenda

#### **Implementation of the Convention: activities of the Working Group on Implementation and eighth report on the implementation of the Convention**

### **Draft decision on reporting requirements under the Convention**

#### **Submitted by the Working Group on Implementation**

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Bearing in mind* its request at its eighth meeting for the Working Group on Implementation to prepare a draft decision clarifying the reporting requirements, including with regard to the periodicity and public availability of national implementation reports,

*Recalling* the obligation of Parties to report on the implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, in accordance with article 23,

*Also recalling* the adoption of the commitment declaration at the High-level Commitment Meeting (Geneva, 14–15 December 2005), in which countries not Party to the Convention agreed to submit their implementation reports,

*Further recalling* article 18 of the Convention which stipulates that the Conference of the Parties should review the Convention's implementation,

*Taking note* of the generally good progress that has been made nationally in improving industrial accident prevention, preparedness and response, and bearing in mind the incremental nature of such progress which accordingly results in the often slow realization of measurable changes,

*Also taking note* of the administrative workload placed on Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries linked to reporting on the implementation of the Convention every two years, and their request not to increase the reporting burden,

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*Recognizing* the difficulties experienced by Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries to comply with the biennial reporting deadline in January of every even year, leaving only one month after the end of the reporting period to submit a national implementation report,

*Bearing in mind* the short time frame for the Working Group on Implementation to analyse and evaluate the national implementation reports and to compile an overall report on the implementation of the Convention in the same year,

*Taking note* of the potential for reducing the reporting burden on many Parties through aligning reporting cycles with those under other international obligations on industrial safety,

*Recognizing* the expanded tasks of the Working Group on Implementation, as reflected also in its updated terms of reference,<sup>1</sup> and the Working Group's workload related to the implementation of these tasks,

*Stressing* the importance of Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries providing qualitative information in their implementation reports, which are made available on a password-protected web page to Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries,

1. *Decides* that, as of 2019, Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries shall submit their implementation reports every four years to the secretariat for analysis and evaluation by the Working Group on Implementation, with the tenth reporting period to last from 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2022;

2. *Also decides* that, in order to allow for a smooth transition to a four-year reporting cycle, the ninth reporting period will exceptionally last three years, starting on 1 January 2016 and ending on 31 December 2018;

3. *Requests* the Working Group on Implementation to prepare for each reporting round an overall report on the implementation of the Convention for review and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its meeting following the end of the reporting period;

4. *Agrees* deadlines for submission of the national implementation reports and the availability of overall reports on the implementation of the Convention for the ninth and tenth and eleventh reporting rounds, as contained in the table annexed to this decision, with the understanding that only reports received within the deadline for a particular reporting round will be assessed by the Working Group on Implementation for preparing the overall report on implementation;

5. *Reiterates* the need for Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations and commitments, to allow sufficient time for the analysis and evaluation of the reports by the Working Group and its compilation of the overall report on the implementation of the Convention;

6. *Mandates* the Working Group on Implementation, when it becomes aware of possible difficulties in the implementation of the Convention, to engage with Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries so as to understand the situation in these countries more accurately and to provide advice and make recommendations on the implementation of the Convention, in accordance with its terms of reference;

7. *Also mandates* the Working Group on Implementation to enter into contact with Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries, based on the review of the

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<sup>1</sup> See ECE/CP.TEIA/2016/13.

national implementation reports, to gather information about innovations, good practices, national guidelines and other materials of interest, with the aim of facilitating the exchange of information among Parties and other countries;

8. *Calls on* Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries to work collaboratively with the Working Group on Implementation when it seeks to contact them to understand the situation with regard to the national implementation of the Convention more accurately and provides advice on the implementation of the Convention, in accordance with its terms of reference;

9. *Requests* Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries to use the reporting format and follow the guidelines prepared by the Working Group on Implementation for each reporting round, particularly for their reporting on the progress made since the last reporting round;

10. *Decides* to continue its practice of maintaining the confidentiality of sensitive information provided in the national implementation reports, and therefore that they are made available only through a password-protected web page to Parties, committed countries and other reporting countries.

**Annex****Reporting periods, deadlines and availability of overall reports on the implementation of the Convention**

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<i>Reporting round</i>	<i>Reporting period</i>	<i>Deadline for the submission of reports</i>	<i>Availability of an overall report on the implementation of the Convention</i>
Ninth	2016–2018 (three years)	31 October 2019	End of 2020 (eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties)
Tenth	2019–2022 (four years)	31 October 2023	End of 2024 (thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties)
Eleventh	2023–2026 (four years)	31 October 2027	End of 2028 (fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties)

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