

Economic Commission for Europe

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

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
serving as the Meeting of the Parties
to the Protocol on Strategic
Environmental Assessment

Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment

Seventh meeting

Geneva, 28–30 May 2018

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Informal notes on the agenda

Note by the secretariat

This paper presents an overview of agenda items (in chronological order), associated documentation (official, informal “INF” and other) and actions that the delegates are invited to take.

Timing of the items is indicative and subject to changes depending on the deliberations during the meeting.

<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documents</i>	<i>Actions</i>
Monday, 28 May	10–10.15	1. Adoption of the agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisional agenda (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/1) (These) informal notes on the agenda (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.1) <p><i>Delegates may also wish to refer to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informal notes on meeting of Bureau, 7–8 February 2018 Report of the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (Minsk, 13–16 June 2018) (ECE/MP.EIA/23–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7), including the decisions adopted by the two bodies (ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1–Add.3 ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4.Add.1–Add.3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Working Group is expected to adopt the agenda of its meeting. <p>It will be invited to agree on proposed changes to the provisional agenda regarding the order and the indicative timing of some of the agenda items, starting from Tuesday afternoon at 16.30, as follows:</p> <p><u>Tuesday, 29 May:</u></p> <p>16.30-17.30: Item 8: Budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance</p> <p>17.30–18: Item 6: Exchange of good practices</p> <p><u>Wednesday, 30 May:</u></p> <p>10-11.30: Item 9: Preparations for the next sessions of the Meetings of the Parties</p> <p>11.30-12.15: Item 5: Subregional cooperation and capacity building</p> <p>12.15-13 and 15-15.30: Item 7: Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol and the Convention</p> <p>15:30–16: Item 10: Inputs to related international processes</p> <p>16–16.30: Item 11: Other business</p> <p>16.30–18: Item 12: Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the meeting</p>

<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documents</i>	<i>Actions</i>
Monday, 28 May	10.15–11	2. Status of ratification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status of ratification (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delegations will be invited to report on planned ratifications of the Convention and its two amendments. In particular, each Party to the Convention that has not ratified the two amendments will be expected to report on its preparations for ratification. Delegations of the 7 States that were Parties to the Convention at the time of adoption of the first amendment (27 February 2001) (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Greece, Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, the UK) will be invited to provide detailed information on steps taken towards ratification. Signatories of the Protocol (Belgium, France, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Republic of Moldova and the United Kingdom) and other delegations will be invited report on their preparations to ratify the Protocol. Romania, as the depository and/or delegations/Signatories of the Bucharest Agreement (Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece and Serbia) are invited report on the status of and plans to ratify/accede to the Bucharest Agreement. The Working Group is expected to propose actions that could be taken to encourage accession to or ratification of the Convention, its amendments and the Protocol.
	11.00–12.30	3. Compliance and implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft decisions on the review of compliance of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.4, and 4(a)–(h)) <p><i>Delegates may also wish to refer to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation Committee reports on its: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 39th session (5–7 September 2017) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair of the Implementation Committee will report on the Committee's 39th – 41st sessions and plans for its 42nd session (11–14 Sept. 2018) in particular regarding the revision of draft decision VII/2. The Working Group will be invited to take note of the report. Delegations may also comment

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Monday, 28 May			<p>(ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2017/3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40th session (5–7 December 2017) (ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2017/6) • 41st session (13–16 March 2018) (ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2018/2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee's Structure and functions, and procedures for review of compliance; and consolidated operating rules (as last amended in 2014) • Opinions of the Implementation Committee, 2001–2017 (updated, English only) 	the information. The Committee will next finalize draft decisions (IS/1 and IS/1 (a)–(h)) and forward them to the intermediary session of the MOP (IS-MOP) (Geneva, 5–7 February 2019).
Monday, 28 May & Tuesday, 29 May	12.30–13	3. Compliance and implementation (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplan implementation status (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.3) • Timetable for the modification of questionnaires and the preparation of the draft reviews of implementation (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.5) • Proposed modifications to the questionnaire for the implementation of the Convention in 2016–2018 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.6) • Proposed modifications to the questionnaire for the implementation of the Protocol in 2016–2018 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.7) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Working Group is expected to agree on the finalization of the questionnaires on the implementation of the Convention and Protocol in 2016–2018. • The Working Group is also expected to agree a detailed timetable for the submission of completed questionnaires, and for the generation of the draft sixth review of implementation of the Convention and the draft third review of implementation of the Protocol.
	14–18 & 10–11.30	4. Application of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants (a) Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft terms of reference for possible guidance on the applicability of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/4) • Draft programme of the workshop on the application of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The delegations of Germany and the United Kingdom will be invited to present the draft terms of reference and written comments to it. They will also be invited to co-chair the workshop. • Delegations will be invited to actively participate in the discussions. • The Working Group will be invited to note

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			(ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.8) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplan implementation status (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.3) 	the results/conclusions of the discussions to be presented by the Co-Chairs on Tuesday morning, and to take them into account when discussing and agreeing the terms of reference, as amended, and the next steps under item 4 (b).
Tuesday, 29 May	11.30–13	4. (Continued) (b) Terms of reference for possible guidance and next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft terms of reference for possible guidance on the applicability of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/4) • Draft decision IS/3 on the application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/5) 	<p>Taking into account the outcomes of the workshop, the Working Group will be invited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss and consider adopting the terms of reference, as amended; 2. Consider taking following main follow-up actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite ad hoc group to pursue its work starting with the development of initial key elements of guidance for endorsement by IS-MOP; • Agree on the text of draft decision IS/3
Tuesday, 29 May	15–16.30	3. Compliance and implementation (cont'd from Monday)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplan implementation status (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.3) • Updated Guidelines on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context for Central Asian countries (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/3) • Draft decision IS/2 on the updated guidelines on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Ukraine will be invited to report on progress regarding the adoption or amendment of the draft legislation and subsidiary regulations to implement the Convention and the Protocol further to the technical advice from the secretariat. • Representatives of Kazakhstan will be invited to report on received legislative assistance for developing new national legislation on SEA. • Representative of the Russian Federation (or the secretariat) will be invited to report on progress in the adoption of its legislation on EIA and SEA. • The secretariat will present the draft update of the Guidelines on EIA in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries. Delegations, in particular those from the countries concerned,

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Tuesday, 29 May			<p>Central Asian countries (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Background document</i> Draft Guidelines on EIA in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.1/2007/6) 	<p>may wish to provide possible further comments. The Working Group is expected to invite the secretariat to finalize the guidelines based on the comments made, and to discuss and agree on the text of a draft decision IS/2 for the endorsement of the guidelines. by the MOP at its intermediary session.</p>
	16.30–17.30	8. Budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance	<p>Status of the trust fund: contributions and expenditures (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.10)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The secretariat will present a financial report for the period to 30 April 2018, and any update to it. The Working Group will be invited to comment. • The Working Group will be invited to agree on the budget of the IS-MOP session. • The secretariat will report on any changes in the staff resources that have occurred since June 2017 or that are expected;
	17.30–18	6. Exchange of good practices	<p><i>Background documents</i></p> <p>Draft agenda of a seminar on Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety (Mechelen, Belgium, 16-17 May 2018)</p> <p>Video on land-use planning and industrial safety</p> <p>Guidance on land-use planning, the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspect (as published, ECE/CP.TEIA/35).</p> <p>Good Practice Recommendations on the Application of the Convention to Nuclear Energy-related Activities (as published</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair will inform the Working Group about the outcomes of the workshop on land-use planning and industrial safety organized under Industrial Accidents Convention with EIB funding; • The secretariat will inform about the publication of guidance documents adopted by the MOPs in 2017. • The Working Group is expected to note and comment the information and, as needed, to provide advice and agree on implementation/follow-up activities.

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			ECE/MP.EIA/24).	
Wednesday, 30 May	10–11	9. Preparations for the next sessions of the Meetings of the Parties (a) Intermediary session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisional annotated agenda and preparations for the intermediary session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.11) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair and the secretariat will report on the preparations for the intermediary session of the Meetings of the Parties (IS-MOP). <p>The Working Group is expected to comment and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree on the provisional agenda Consider the chairmanship of the high-level segment of the session Consider the chairmanship of the Bureau beyond the intermediary session, based on proposals by delegations and the Bureau.
Wednesday, 30 May	11– 11.30	9. (Continues) (b) Next ordinary sessions of the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention and the Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisional schedule of meetings 2018–2020 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.12) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Working Group will be invited to agree the provisional dates for the next sessions of the Meetings of the Parties: MOP8 and MOP/MOP4 (considering Bureau’s proposal: 9 to 11 December 2020) and for the other official meetings in the present intersessional period. Delegations may also wish to put forward offers to host the next MOP sessions in 2020; Delegations may wish to make any other proposals regarding the programme of the next MOP sessions.
Wednesday, 30 May	11.30– 12.15	5. Subregional cooperation and capacity-building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abstracts of the presentations from a special session on the Espoo Convention, 	<p>The following delegations will be invited to report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finland and Sweden on progress in the organization of a subregional cooperation workshop for the Baltic Sea area (1st week of September 2018). Romania (and the secretariat) on a session on the implementation of the Convention, the Protocol and the Bucharest Agreement (Vodice, Croatia, 14–15 September 2017). South-Eastern European countries on actions

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			<p>the Protocol on SEA and the Bucharest Agreement (Third Regional Conference, Vodice, Croatia 13-16 September 2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on a sub-regional workshop for countries in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus (Ukraine, 31 October- 2 November 2017) 	<p>taken to increase the membership of the Bucharest Agreement and on possible arrangements for the first meeting of the Parties;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The secretariat and Ukraine on subregional workshop (Kyiv, 31 October–2 November 2017); held in Ukraine in 2017 (stocktaking of workplan activities funded by EU under EaP Green programme); • Central Asia, on subregional workshop to discuss experience from Eastern Europe and the Caucasus and draft updated guidelines for Central Asian countries (Kyiv, 2 and 3 November 2017), <p>The Working Group is expected to note and comment the information and, as needed, to provide advice and agree on implementation/follow-up activities.</p>
Wednesday, 30 May	12.15– 13 and 15– 15.30	7. Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol and the Convention	<p>A. Reports of the workshops, national conferences and other events in 2017 and 2018 can be accessed from the webpage on meetings and events</p> <p>Manual for trainers on the application of the Protocol on SEA</p>	<p>A. The secretariat and the following delegations will be invited to report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine on the development of national guidance documents on strategic environmental assessment, • Azerbaijan and Belarus on recent training workshops on the application of the Protocol, • Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine on national conferences on the results of the EaP GREEN-funded activities 2013–2017 and further priorities, • Ukraine on a recent high-level awareness raising event on SEA. • Kazakhstan on progress in implementing a pilot project on strategic environmental assessment in energy sector • The secretariat on the finalization of a manual for trainers on the application of the Protocol.

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			<p>B. Guidance on the assessment of health impacts of plans and programmes and for the involvement of health authorities: concept note (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2018/INF.9)</p> <p>C. Fact sheets on German case studies on the application of the Protocol to the Federal Requirements Plan 2015 for the Energy Transmission Grid and the Federal Transport Infrastructure Plan 2015–2030.</p> <p>D. IAIA “FasTips” (See also translated “FasTips”)</p> <p>Draft FasTip on the Convention</p> <p>Draft FasTip on the Protocol</p>	<p>B. The secretariat will present a concept note on guidance to be produced jointly with WHO, with funding from EIB. The Working Group is expected to comment on and to provide guidance for the development of the guidance.</p> <p>C. Germany will be invited to present two fact sheets. Delegations are invited to comment and to propose cases for the preparation of fact sheets.</p> <p>D. A representative of IAIA will provide an update on its preparation of “FasTips”</p> <p>The secretariat will present draft FasTips on the Convention and the Protocol, and report on translation of earlier FasTips</p> <p>The Working Group is expected to note and comment the information and, as needed, to provide advice and agree on implementation/follow-up activities.</p>
	15.30–16	10. Inputs to related international processes	<p>Chairs summary of the meetings of the representatives of the governing bodies of the ECE Environmental treaties and the Committee of Environmental Policy</p> <p>Report of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE region on its second session (ECE/RFSD/2018/2)</p> <p>Programme of the side event by Czechia: Achieving SDGs by participation of all in the light of SEA and EIA procedures (Geneva, 1 March 2018)</p>	<p>The Working Group is invited to comment and as relevant advice on further actions regarding outcomes of:</p> <p>The informal meeting between the representatives of the governing bodies of the ECE MEAs and the CEP, held in Geneva, on 13 November 2017.</p> <p>Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the ECE Region (Geneva, 1–2 March 2018) and side event organized by Czechia.</p> <p>Developments within and beyond the ECE region, notably regarding China’s “Belt and Road” initiative</p>
	16–16.30–	11. Other business	(none)	Delegations wishing to raise other business should contact the Chair and the secretariat as soon as possible ahead of the meeting.

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	16.30– 18	12. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the meeting	<i>(none)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Working Group is expected to agree on the main decisions taken at the meeting.