



5th Session

MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

19-21 NOVEMBER 2019 | BELGRADE | SERBIA

Innovation in compliance: the Consultation Process under the Protocol on Water and Health

Concept note

The Compliance Committee of the Protocol on Water and Health has provided an innovative contribution to compliance mechanisms through its Consultation Process. In this event, we will present country experiences with consultations held under the Protocol, look at achievements and gather the lessons learned.

Background

Compliance mechanisms are not limited to reviewing individual communications or national reports. The Protocol on Water and Health has provided a brilliant example with its innovative Consultation Process.

The first reporting exercise conducted under the Protocol (2009-2010) showed that a number of Parties were facing difficulties in implementing the Protocol. To respond to this situation and enhance its facilitation and assistance functions, the Compliance Committee proposed to enter into consultations with the interested Parties. This Consultation Process was endorsed by the Meeting of the Parties at its second session.

The overall objective of the Consultation Process is to facilitate and support implementation and not to ascertain or declare whether a Party is or not in compliance.

Objectives, scope and expected outcomes

Several Parties have engaged in the Consultation Process during the last period and this event will provide an opportunity take stock of these first consultations. It will also allow exchange of experiences and views, gather the lessons learned and discuss the wider implications for compliance mechanisms in general.



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Programme

Moderator: Yves Lador, Earthjustice

- 13:15 – 13:20 Welcome (*Yves Lador, Earthjustice*)
- 13:20 – 13:35 First steps in an innovative process about compliance (*Prof Jorge Viñuales, Chair of the Compliance Committee*)
- Lessons learned from the Consultation Process:
- 13:35 – 13:45 Consultations with Lithuania (*Rita Sketerskienė, Romaldas Sabaliauskas, Lithuania*)
- 13:45 – 13:55 Consultations with Estonia (*Leena Albreht, Estonia*)
- 13:55 – 14:05 Views from civil society (*Bistra Mihaylov, Women Engaged for a Common Future*)
- 14:05 – 14:12 Engagement with the audience (questions and answers)
- 14:12 – 14:15 Conclusions of the session (*Yves Lador, Earthjustice*)



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