



Economic and Social Council

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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
on Environmental Impact Assessment in
a Transboundary Context serving as the
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on
Strategic Environmental Assessment

Implementation Committee

Forty-seventh session

Geneva, 16–19 March 2020

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, starting at 10 a.m.
on Monday, 16 March 2020*

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.

* There are accreditation procedures for all delegates attending meetings at the Palais des Nations. Members of the Committee and observers are therefore requested to register online at least two weeks before the start of the meeting, i.e. by **2 March 2020**, through the following link: <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=xwVnwZ> (the use of the Internet Explorer browser is recommended). In case of difficulty, please refer to the online user manual (<https://www2.unece.org/wiki/display/OMR/Online+Meeting+Registration+Guidelines>) or contact the secretariat by email (eia.conv@un.org or elizabeth.james@un.org). On their way to the meeting, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the Pass and Identification Unit of the United



2. Follow-up to decisions IS/1a, c, d, f and g.
3. Submissions.
4. Information gathering:
 - (a) Convention matters;
 - (b) Protocol matters.
5. Review of implementation.
6. Work methods and operating rules.
7. Other business.
8. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the session.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

1. The present provisional agenda was prepared by the secretariat to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment in agreement with the Implementation Committee Chair, in accordance with rule 9 of the Implementation Committee's operating rules.¹ The Implementation Committee under the Convention and the Protocol will be invited to adopt the present agenda.

2. Follow-up to decisions IS/1a, c, d, f and g

2. Discussions under agenda item 2 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.

3. Further to its forty-sixth session (Geneva, 10–13 December 2019), the Committee is expected to continue to follow up on decisions IS/1a, c, d, f and g of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention regarding Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Ukraine, with a view to preparing the text of the following draft compliance decisions for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties at its eighth session (Vilnius, 8–11 December 2020):

- (a) Draft decision VIII/2 on general issues of compliance with the Convention;
- (b) Draft decision VIII/2a on follow-up by Armenia to decision IS/1a on its compliance with the obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation;
- (c) Draft decision VIII/2b on follow-up by Azerbaijan to decision IS/1c on its compliance with the obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation;

Nations Office at Geneva's Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate, 14, Avenue de la Paix (see map and other practical information available from the Economic Commission for Europe website at <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.html>). In case of difficulty, please contact the Convention secretariat by telephone at +41 22 917 6307.

¹ The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention adopted the Committee's operating rules through decision IV/2, annex IV (see ECE/MP.EIA/10) and later amended them through decisions V/4, annex (see ECE/MP.EIA/15) and VI/2, annex II (see ECE/MP.EIA/20/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4/Add.1). A consolidated version (entitled Structure and functions of the Implementation Committee, and procedures for review of compliance and consolidated operating rules) is available on the Committee's web page (see http://www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/implementation_committee.html).

(d) Draft decision VIII/2c on follow-up by Belarus to decision IS/1d on its compliance with the obligations under the Convention in respect of the Belarusian nuclear power plant in Ostrovets;

(e) Draft decision VIII/2d on follow-up by Ukraine to decision IS/1f on its compliance with the obligations under the Convention in respect of the Danube-Black Sea Deep Water Navigation Canal in the Ukrainian sector of the Danube Delta;

(f) Draft decision VIII/2e on follow-up by Ukraine to decision IS/1g on its compliance with the obligations under the Convention in respect of extension of the lifetime of the Rivne nuclear power plant.

3. Submissions

4. Discussions under agenda item 3 will not be open to observers, unless the Committee decides otherwise, further to rule 17 of the operating rules.

5. The Committee will continue its examination of the submission by Bulgaria of 30 May 2019 regarding the application of the Convention by Serbia to several mining activities located close to the border with Bulgaria, with a view to considering a timeline for inviting Bulgaria and Serbia to attend hearings in order to present their information and opinions on the matter, in line with paragraph 9 of the Committee's structure and functions.²

6. The Committee will examine the submission received on 25 September 2019 from Montenegro on the application of the Convention by Albania to the planned construction of a number of small hydropower plants on the Cijevna River. It will also consider a reply from Albania to the submission by Montenegro, along with corroborating and supporting information expected by 30 December 2019.

7. It will also examine any submissions by Parties received since the Committee's previous session.

4. Information gathering

8. Discussions under agenda item 4 will not be open to observers, except if invited by the Committee.

(a) Convention matters

9. The Committee will continue its consideration of the information-gathering cases concerning compliance with the provisions of the Convention by:

(a) Belarus, regarding its law on State ecological expertise, strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment;

(b) Bosnia and Herzegovina, in respect of the planned activities at the Banovici, Tuzla and Ugljevik thermal power plants;

(c) Switzerland, concerning the planned changes at Zurich Airport;

(d) Ukraine, regarding the planned construction of nuclear reactors 3 and 4 at the Khmel'nitsky nuclear power plant and the planned construction of a tourism complex in the Svydovets mountain range.

² See

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/eia/documents/ImplementationCommittee/2014_Structure_and_functions/Implementation_Committee_structure_functions_procedures_rules.e_2014.pdf.

10. The Committee is also expected to continue its consideration of the information it has gathered concerning:

(a) The extension of the lifetime of nuclear power plants. Among other things, it is expected to examine information to be provided by Bulgaria concerning the Kozloduy nuclear power plant and by Ukraine concerning the South Ukrainian, Zaporizhzhya and Khmelnytsky nuclear power plants;

(b) The construction of the Nord Stream 2 project by Denmark, Finland, Germany and Sweden.

(b) Protocol matters

11. The Committee will continue to examine the information it has gathered regarding compliance with the provisions of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment by Serbia regarding its Government's Energy Strategy and the programme for its implementation.

5. Review of implementation

12. Time permitting, the Committee will continue consideration of the general and specific compliance issues identified during the fifth review of implementation of the Convention³ and the second review of implementation of the Protocol.⁴

13. The Committee is also expected to continue its consideration of the specific compliance issue regarding compliance by the European Union with the Protocol identified during the first review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2014/3).

6. Work methods and operating rules

14. With a view to increasing its efficiency and effectiveness, the Committee will also be invited to continue reviewing its work methods and practice and to prepare, as necessary, proposals for amendments to the Committee's structure and functions and its operating rules.

7. Other business

15. Members of the Committee wishing to raise other business should contact the secretariat as soon as possible.

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

16. The Committee is expected to agree on the main decisions taken at the meeting and to confirm the date and location of its next session before the Chair formally closes the session.

³ See United Nations publication, ECE/MP.EIA/25.

⁴ See United Nations publication, ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/9.