



Sixth Seminar on Cooperation on the Espoo Convention in the Baltic Sea region

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Secretariat to the Espoo Convention, UNECE

Tallinn, 20-21 September 2012





Update

- Working Group on EIA and SEA, 24-26 April 2012
- Current workplan
 - Compliance with and implementation of the Convention
 - Subregional cooperation and capacity-building
 - Exchange of good practices
 - Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol on SEA
- Resources
- Status of ratification
- Bilateral & multilateral agreements





Working Group on EIA and SEA

24-26 April 2012

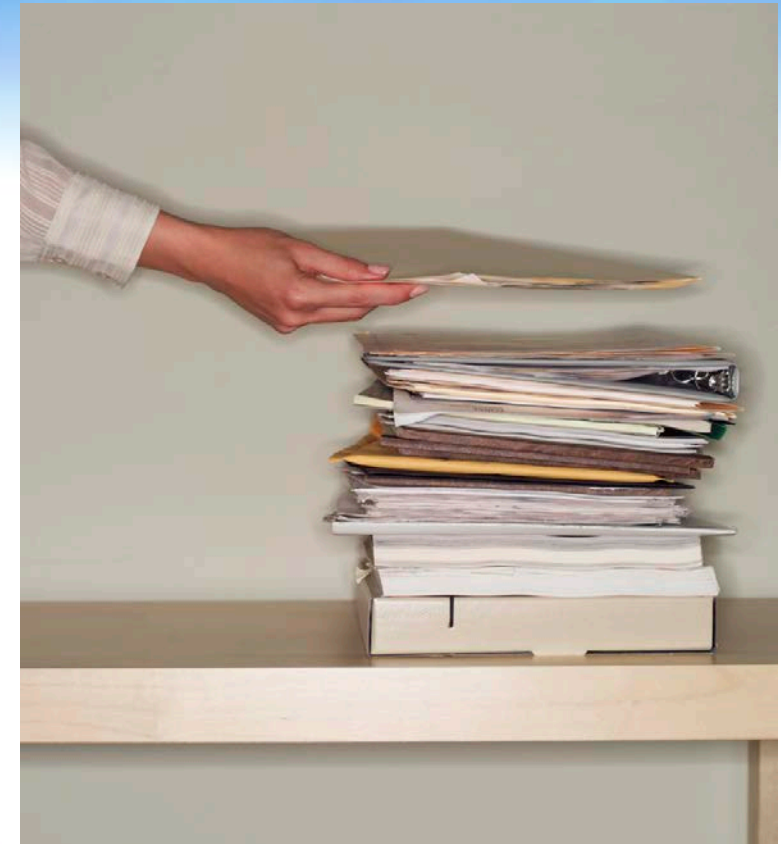
- Chair: Piotr Otawski; Vice-Chairs: R. Revoldiene (Lithuania), V. Buchko (Ukraine), G. Kremlis (EC)
- Reviewed:
 - Implementation of the workplan
 - Status of ratifications
 - Budget and financial arrangements
 - Secretariat staffing
 - Preparations for the next MOPs
 - Inputs to related international processes (EfE, Sept 2011 ; Rio+20; Informal meetings of ECE MEAs)





Workplan 2011-14

- Compliance with & implementation of Convention
- Subregional cooperation & capacity-building
- Exchange of good practices
- Promoting ratification & application of SEA Protocol





Compliance & implementation (1)

Review of compliance: Implementation Committee

- **Submissions/follow-up:**
 - Azerbaijan re. Armenia (NPP)
 - Lithuania re. Belarus (NPP)
 - Armenia re. Azerbaijan (6 oil and gas projects)
 - Follow-up to decision V/4: Ukraine
- **Committee initiative:** Azerbaijan, Albania
- **Information gathering:** Belarus, Ukraine (NPP), Romania (SEA), Lithuania (NPP)
- Guidance to resolve possible systemic inconsistency between the Convention and the State ecological expertise system in former Soviet republics, in 2013.
- Discrepancy between different language versions
 - ✓ Task force: EC, France, Switzerland, Ukraine (+1 English speaking?) & European ECO Forum and Ecoglobe (observers)





Compliance & implementation (2)

4th Review of implementation of the Convention and the Protocol (2010-12)

- Questionnaire
 - EIA part: Approved by Working Group in April 2012,
 - SEA part: Finalized by Committee at its 25th session (Sept. 2012) based on focal points' feedback
- Reporting by Parties
 - EIA: 30 Oct. 2012 to Parties for completion by 31 March 13
 - SEA: 31 Dec. 12 to Parties for completion by 27 May 13
- Draft Review
 - Preparation by a consultant to secretariat by September 2013
 - Consideration by the Working Group in November 2013
 - Consideration by Meetings of the Parties: May-June 2014





Compliance and implementation (3) - Pre-accession legislative assistance

Belarus: Technical advice on SEA, 2012-2013,
financed by Sweden via ENVSEC

Uzbekistan: Technical advice on EIA, funded by CH

Ukraine: Technical advice on SEA, possibly funded
through EU funded EaP-Green





Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood (EAP-GREEN)

- EU funded, 10 MEUR project, 2012-2016
- For: Eastern Partnership Countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine)
- Aim: Promoting sustainable consumption and production; and SEA/EIA as tools for transition to green economy
- Implementing partners: UNECE (Espoo secretariat), UNEP, UNIDO (2 MEUR each) and OECD (4 MEUR)
- Allows implementation of workplan activities on SEA (and EIA): Legislative reviews and legal drafting, national and local training; pilot projects; workshops; guidance documents
- Launching event in Brussels 4 October, finalization of substantive and budgetary agreements by end of October





Subregional cooperation (1)

Baltic Sea area

- Workshop, 20-21 September 2012, Estonia
- Possible further workshop in 2013? - hosted by?

South-Eastern Europe

- Workshop(s) on implementation of the Convention, Protocol and Bucharest Agreement in the subregion (Bosnia and Herzegovina, secretariat and UNEP)

Mediterranean Sea

- Workshop on EIA application (France, with Spain)?
- Morocco, Workshop on SEA (?)





Subregional cooperation (2)

Eastern Europe
the Caucasus
Central Asia

- **Pilot project on post-project analysis, Belarus with Ukraine 2012-13**
- Pilot project on EIA, Kyrgyzstan with Kazakhstan
- Subregional workshop in the context of climate change, biodiversity, desertification
- Seminars for all countries for the exchange of information, legislation and good practice
- Conference on climate change and EIA
- Conference "Silk Road: development and environmental protection in EIA".

ENVSEC/Sweden funding

Kazakhstan

Georgia, Ukraine
Belarus
EAP-Green funding?

Moldova, secretariat
Uzbekistan





Exchange of good practices

1 day seminar

Biodiversity
(Belgium with EC)



WG Nov 2013
MOP 2014

Renewable energy: wind farms, renewable fuels (incl. biomass), large-scale solar
(**Poland**, Portugal, with REC-CEE)

1 day seminar

Long-range impacts of nuclear energy related activities
(Austria, Finland and Sweden)





Promoting ratification & application of SEA Protocol (1)

- National workshops and training
 - **Armenia**, (*EaP-Green?*)
 - Belarus, 3 workshops at provincial level (2013, Sweden/ENVSEC)
 - **Georgia** (*EaP-Green?*)
 - Kazakhstan
 - Republic of Moldova, (*EaP-Green?*)
 - Russian Federation (**Sweden??**)
 - Ukraine (*EaP-Green?*)
- Pilot SEAs
 - Armenia, landfill (2013?, *EaP-Green?*)
 - Azerbaijan (2013?, *EaP-Green?*)
 - Rep. of Moldova, waste strategy (2013?, *EaP-Green?*)





Promoting ratification & application of SEA Protocol (2)

- Resource Manual: (Health annex to be translated in RU);
Simplified Resource Manual: (Published in Sept. 2012)
- **Joint Workshop with Aarhus Convention on public participation in SEA, 29-30 October 2012, Geneva**
 - Co-financed by Germany; preparations overseen by the Bureau
 - Develops Good practice recommendations on PP in SEA and Recommendations on PP in Environmental Decision-making
 - Examines obstacles/ challenges and good practises to effective PP in strategic decision-making
- Other activities (not in the workplan)
 - Participation at IAIA Conference, Porto, May 2012
 - Case study fact sheets: Poland's case on regional land-use planning, incl. transboundary aspects (with Germany)





Resources

- WG noted the first biannual financial report between MOPs, (until 31 Dec. 2011) and list of recent contributions and;
- **Acknowledged the shortfall between contributions received and necessary expenditures**
- Staffing:
 - Acting secretary: Tea Aulavuo
 - Extrabudgetary short-term staff member: Fe Sanchis-Moreno
 - Associate Expert (Finland): Minna Torkkeli





Status of ratification

State	Espoo	1 st amendment	2 nd amendment	SEA Protocol
Belarus	Party	Party		
Denmark	Party			Party
Estonia	Party	Party	Party	Party
Finland	Party			Party
Germany	Party	Party	Party	Party
Latvia	Party			Signatory
Lithuania	Party	Party	Party	Party
Norway	Party	Party	Party	Party
Poland	Party	Party	Party	Party
Russian Federation	Signatory			
Sweden	Party	Party	Party	Party
European Union	Party	Party	Party	Party



Ratifications under way

- Based on information to WG on EIA&SEA in April 2012

SEA Protocol:

- Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, France and Ukraine
- Switzerland (at the earliest in 2014)

Amendments to the Convention:

- **Both: Denmark, Finland, Latvia** and Slovenia (in 2012)
; the Republic of Moldova
- **2nd** : Switzerland (in 2012)

- Others?





Bilateral & multilateral agreements

Adopted

- Estonia and Latvia (1997)
- Estonia and Finland (2002)
- Germany and Poland (2006; in force 2007)
- Lithuania and Poland (2004)

Forthcoming

- **Belarus and Lithuania?**
- **Belarus and Poland?**
- **Denmark and Germany?**
- **Latvia and Lithuania?**
- **Others?**

Elsewhere in region

- Multilateral agreement for SE Europe in force
- Caspian Sea protocol on EIA in a transboundary context
- Recommendations for Black Sea

