

18 October 2013
English only

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

Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment
and Strategic Environmental Assessment

Third meeting

Geneva, 11–15 November 2013

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 to be taken by the delegates to the meeting.

<i>Day</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documents</i>	<i>Actions</i>
Monday, 11 November 2013	10.00 - 10.15	1. Adoption of the agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisional agenda (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/6) • (These) informal notes on the agenda (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.1) <p><i>Delegates might also wish to refer to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the 2nd session of the Working Group on EIA and SEA (Advance copy, ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/2) • Report of the 1st session of the Working Group (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2012/2) • Informal notes on meeting of Bureau, 31 January-1 February 2013 • Report of the 5th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (MOP5) (ECE/MP.EIA/15, and Corr.1) • Report of the 1st session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (MOP/MOP1) (ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Working Group is expected to adopt the agenda of its meeting.
	10.15- 11.00	2. Status of ratification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of ratification (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.2) • Draft decision VI/5–II/5, Draft joint decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.2). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegations will be invited report on planned ratifications of the Convention, its two amendments and its Protocol. In particular, each Party to the Convention that has not ratified the two amendments will be expected to report on its preparations for ratification, taking into account the invitation of the Bureau and the Working Group for Parties to ensure their entry into force by the next MOPs. Each Signatory of the Protocol that has not ratified it will be expected to report on its preparations to do so. • The Working Group is expected to review and agree on the draft decision on Accession by

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				Member States of the United Nations not members of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (joint MOP6 and MOP/MOP2 decision VI/5–II/5) Convention.
Monday, 11 November and Tuesday, 12 November	11.00-13.00 10.00-11.00	3. Compliance and implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of the Implementation Committee on its 28th session (advance copy, ECE/MP.EIA/IC/2013/4) • Elements for draft decisions on the review of compliance of the Convention and the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.3) • Proposed amendments to the Implementation Committee's operating rules and Structure and functions ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.3.Add.1 • Implementation of the workplan (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.6) <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft fourth review of implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/8) • Draft first review of implementation of the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/9) • Draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (MOP6) (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.1). • Draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (MOP/MOP2) (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.3). • Draft joint decisions by MOP-6 and MOP/MOP2 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair of the Implementation Committee will report on the Committee's 28th session; on the elements for draft decisions VI/2 and II/2 on the review of compliance of the Convention and the Protocol; and on the proposed amendments to the Implementation Committee's operating rules and Structure and functions. • Delegations may comment on the text of the draft decisions VI/2 and II/2 and on the proposed amendments to the Committee's operating rules, structure and functions, which are to be finalized by the Committee prior to their submission to MOP6. <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Working Group is invited to consider the draft fourth review of implementation of the Convention and the draft first review of implementation of the Protocol in the period 2010-12. It may wish to take into account the draft findings of the reviews when preparing the draft workplan (draft joint decision VI/3–II/3) for consideration by MOP6 and MOP/MOP2 under agenda item 9. • The Working Group is also invited to review and agree on draft decisions VI/1 and II/2 on reporting and the review of implementation under the Convention and the Protocol, which are to be considered by MOP6 and MOP/MOP2. • Delegations that have yet to submit a completed questionnaire on their implementation

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Monday, 11 November and Tuesday, 12 November	11.00-13.00 10.00-11.00	3. Compliance and implementation continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligning the authentic language versions of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.7) <p><i>Delegates might also wish to refer to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bringing into line the three authentic language versions of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.5 and Annex to informal document 5 - feedback from UN Treaty Section; considered by the Working Group at its last meeting in May 2013) Text of the Convention (Certified True Copy) <hr/> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Checklist prepared by the European Bank for Reconstruction (EBRD) (informal) 	<p>of the Convention or the Protocol are expected to indicate a date for submission in 2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ad hoc task force set by the Working Group (EC, France, Ireland, Switzerland, and Ukraine and observers from the European ECO Forum and Ecoglobe) is expected to present its proposals on how to address the inconsistencies identified in the text of the three authentic language versions of the Convention. The Working Group is expected to consider the proposals by the ad hoc task force; as well as to review and agree on a draft decision on aligning the authentic language versions of the Convention (MOP6 decision VI/6) which is to be considered by MOP6. The Working Group is also invited to review and finalize draft decision on aligning the authentic language versions of the Protocol (MOP/MOP2 decision II/6), which is to be considered by MOP/MOP2. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representatives of Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Uzbekistan are invited to report on the pre-accession legislative advice received or being planned in their countries. <hr/> <p>The secretariat and the representative of EBRD are invited to inform delegations about progress in the promotion of the use of the checklist prepared by EBRD by international financial institutions, and on the development of a consolidated list reflecting common practice of those institutions. Delegations may wish to comment.</p>

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Monday, 11 November and Tuesday, 12 November		3. Compliance and implementation (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft decisions by MOP6 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.1). • Draft revised general guidance on enhancing consistency between the Convention and environmental impact assessment within the framework of State ecological expertise in countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.5, in English and in Russian) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Working Group is expected to review and finalize draft decision on the adoption of draft general guidance on enhancing consistency between the Convention and environmental impact assessment within the framework of State ecological expertise in countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. (MOP6 decision VI/8) • The draft general guidance, finalized by the consultants based on comments received during and after the Working Group's last meeting, is provided in informal document no. 5. It will be edited and submitted to MOP6 as an official document. The document was also supplemented with two tables on the role of developers/proponents. • The Working Group will be invited to review the proposed tables annexed to the document and agree on their inclusion into the draft guidance to be submitted for adoption by MOP-6
Monday, 11 November (and Thursday, 14 November, noon-13.00, as needed)	15.00-18.00	4. Exchange of good practices A. Seminar on sharing good practice and tools for communication, cooperation and conflict resolution – in particular with countries with no diplomatic relations <hr/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft programme and background information for the seminar - Note by European Commission, IAIA and the Implementation Committee Chair (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.11) • Draft decisions by MOP6 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.1). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The European Commission, IAIA and the Implementation Committee Chair will co-chair the seminar. <p>The Working Group may decide on follow-up actions based on the seminar outcomes. It may also review a draft decision on good practice on communication, cooperation and conflict resolution (draft decision VI/9) and consider whether to submit the decision for adoption by MOP6</p> <hr/>

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Tuesday 12 November	11.00- noon	5. Subregional cooperation and capacity-building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the workplan (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representatives of lead countries (France, Germany, Belarus, and as appropriate Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Uzbekistan) will be invited to report on progress in organizing other activities for subregional cooperation and capacity-building foreseen in the workplan. A representative of Romania will be invited to report on the status of the Bucharest Agreement signed by ministers from South-Eastern Europe. The other countries of South-Eastern Europe are expected to report on actions taken to ratify and implement the agreement.
Tuesday 12 November	Noon- 13.00	6. Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol on SEA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of the workplan (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.6) IAIA informal pamphlets <p><i>Delegates might also wish to refer to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simplified Resource Manual to Support Application of the SEA Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/18) Resource Manual to Support Application of the SEA Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/17) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood"(EaP-GREEN) programme: Draft plan of work for 2013-2014 ENV/EPOC/EAP(2013)12 Progress in implementing the EaP GREEN programme of work (January– July 2013) ENV/EPOC/EAP(2013)11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The secretariat will report on the status of the Russian version of the Resource Manual on SEA, and the translations made into Armenian, Azerbaijani and Georgian. The representative of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) will be invited to report on the preparation of two-page informal pamphlets on key issues in SEA practice Representatives of lead countries (Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine), or the secretariat, will be invited to report on workshops, including training, on the application of the Protocol held or under preparation. Representatives of lead countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Republic of Moldova), or the secretariat, will be invited to report on preparations for pilot projects. A representative of the lead country (Republic of Moldova) will be invited to report on the technical assistance for the development of its

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft decisions by MOP/MOP2 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.2) • Draft revised Good practice recommendations on public participation in SEA (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.8) • Any case study fact sheets? 	<p>legislation on SEA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Working Group is expected to review and agree on draft decision on Good practice recommendations on public participation in strategic environmental assessment decision II/9, to be considered by MOP/MOP2. • The draft recommendations revised based on the comments made by the Working Group at its last meeting are presented in informal document 8. • Delegations will be invited to propose cases in which the Protocol has been applied and that could be described in case study fact sheets to be published on the Convention website.
Tuesday 12 November	15.00-15.30	7. Inputs to related international processes	<p><i>Delegates might also wish to refer to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair's Summary from the previous meeting between the representatives of the governing bodies of the ECE Environmental Conventions and the Committee of Environmental Policy, Geneva, 27 February 2013. • Potential for Using the EIA/SEA Process as a Vehicle for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction; (Concept note for discussion prepared by UNEP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Working Group is invited to comment the outcomes of the informal meeting between the representatives of the governing bodies of the ECE Environmental Conventions and the Committee of Environmental Policy, held in Geneva, on 21 October 2013. • Representative of UNEP will present points for discussion on the potential use of EIA and SEA for disaster risk reduction. Delegations may wish to consider and comment the information provided.
	15.30-17.30	8. Budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biannual financial report • Recent contributions to the trust fund of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.13) • Draft joint decisions by MOP-6 and MOP/MOP2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegations might report on additional contributions to the trust fund of the Convention. • The Working Group is expected to review and agree on draft decision on the budget financial arrangements and financial assistance; and on a draft financial strategy revised based on comments by the Working Group at its last meeting (decision VI/4-

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			<p>(ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional information related to the financial strategy (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.9) • Implementation of the workplan (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.6) 	II/4 and annexes II)
Wednesday, 13 November 2013	10.00-13.00 and 15.00-18.00	<p>4. Exchange of good practices (cont'd)</p> <p>B. One day workshop on on the long-range impacts of nuclear energy-related activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft programme for the workshop Note by Austria, Finland and Sweden (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.12) • Implementation of the workplan (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lead countries (Austria, Finland and Sweden) will co-chair the seminar, as foreseen in the workplan. <p>The Working Group may propose follow-up actions based on the seminar outcomes, that could be included into decision IV/7 (considered under item 4.C) and the next interessional workplan (finalized under item 9).</p>
Thursday, 14 November 2013	10.00-11.00	C. Application of the Convention to nuclear energy-related activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft decisions by MOP6 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.1). <p><i>Delegates might also wish to refer to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background paper by the secretariat (ECE/MP.EIA/2011/5) • Information on panel discussion on nuclear energy-related projects (for MOP5 (ECE/MP.EIA/2011/INF.8). • Informal list of nuclear energy-related activities in the UNECE region, revised for MOP5. • Report on a meeting on public participation in nuclear energy related activities under the Aarhus Convention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking into account the outcomes of the workshop on nuclear-energy related activities, the Working Group is expected to review and agree on a draft decision on application of the Convention to nuclear-energy related activities, to be considered by MOP6 (decision IV/7), including the development of good practice guidance on the issue.

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Thursday, 14 November 2013	11.00-11.30	4. Exchange of good practices (cont'd) D. Other activities foreseen in the workplan	with European Commission (DG-Energy) and ANCCLI: (Luxembourg, 12-13 March 2013)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives of the lead country, Poland, will be invited to report on progress in the organization of the seminar on renewable energy, focusing on wind energy, to be held during the next Meetings of the Parties. • Delegations representing countries with experience on other forms of renewable energy are invited to inform the meeting of their possibilities to provide inputs. • The Working Group is expected to discuss and agree on the main contents of the workshop
	11.30-noon	E. Practices in States outside the region		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives or experts from States outside the ECE region that are participating in a meeting under the Convention or its Protocol for the first time will be invited to present briefly the EIA and SEA systems and practices in their country. As needed, non-ECE representatives may also provide brief updates to previously provided information
Thursday, 14 November 2013 and Friday, 15 November	15.00-18.00 ----- 10.00-11.30	9. Preparations for MOP6 and MOP/MOP2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft decisions by MOP6 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.1). • Draft joint decisions by MOP-6 and MOP/MOP2 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.2) • Draft decisions by MOP/MOP2 (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/L.3). • Draft fourth review of implementation of the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/8) • Draft first review of implementation of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative of Ukraine will report on arrangements for MOP-6 and MOP/MOP-2, to be held in Kyiv from 2 to 5 June 2014 (foreseen on Friday, 15 November at 10 am) • The Working Group is expected to review the draft decisions not discussed under the previous agenda items and agree the text of all the draft decisions to be considered by MOP6 and MOP/MOP2. • In considering the draft decision on the adoption of the workplan for 2014-2017 (VI/3-II/3), the Working Group should reflect on its

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<p>Thursday, 14 November 2013</p> <p>and</p> <p>Friday, 15 November</p>		<p>9. Preparations for MOP6 and MOP/MOP2 (<i>continued</i>)</p>	<p>Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft programme for the Meetings of the Parties (ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2013/INF.10) 	<p>discussions under the previous agenda items, including on Budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance. It may also wish to consider the general compliance issues from the Third Review of Implementation of the Convention and the key findings from the draft reviews of the Convention and the Protocol.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delegations will be invited to make further proposals on possible elements for the draft workplan and on reconciling the workplan with the proposed draft budget for 2014-16. • According to the draft financial strategy, activities with no funding should not be included into the workplan (but included on a waiting list). All sub-activities should have a lead-country or organization that will be responsible for organizing funding, through a donor if necessary, and with the support of the secretariat if appropriate. All sub-activities should also have an indicative time schedule and a budget amount. • The Working Group is expected to review and agree on the programme for MOP6 and MOP/MOP2. Delegations are expected to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make specific proposals to attract high-level representation and to enrich the agenda; - Identify one or more keynote speaker; - Make specific proposals, as lead countries, for possible social events; • Delegations might indicate their expected financial contributions to the trust fund, to be pledged at the • Delegations are also expected to

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Friday, 15 November		9. Preparations for MOP6 and MOP/MOP2 <i>(continued)</i>		<p>- Come forward with nominations for officers for the next intersessional period, that is Bureau members, Chair and two Vice-Chairs of the Working Group and for members of the Implementation Committee, recalling that Committee members need not be in Government service;</p> <p>- Make proposals for the timing and location for the seventh session of MOP and third session of MOP/MOP.</p>
	11.30-11.45	10. Staffing of the secretariat	(none)	
	11.45-noon	11. Other business		
	noon-13.00	12. Presentation of the main decisions taken and closing of the meeting	(none)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Working Group is expected to agree on the main decisions taken at the meeting.