

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

Intermediary session

Geneva, 5–7 December 2018

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Informal notes on the agenda

Note by the secretariat

This document presents an overview of agenda items (in chronological order) and the associated documentation (official, informal “INF” and other) for the intermediary sessions of 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 (Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol). Finally, the paper presents **actions that the delegates are invited to take** under the various agenda items.

The items to be considered by the Meetings of the Parties in **joint session** are indicated **in green**; those by the Meeting of the Parties to the **Convention** in **yellow**.

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

The sessions will be paperless. You will be invited to access the official, informal and background documentation for the meeting from the meeting webpage at: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=50226>.

Information on credentials can be found from the above page under the heading “preparatory and practical”.

<i>Indicative timing</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Documentation</i>	<i>Issues</i>
Tuesday, 5 February 10–10.15 a.m.	Item 1. Opening of the intermediary sessions		<p>The intermediary sessions of the Meetings of the Parties (IS-MOP) will be opened by the Chair of the Bureau, Mr. George Kremlis.</p> <p>The Director of the Environment Division of UNECE will welcome delegates.</p>
10.15–11 a.m.	Item 2. Organizational matters		
	(a) Election of the Chair of the MOPs at their intermediary sessions		The Meetings are invited to elect the Chair of the IS-MOP for the general segment. The Bureau recommends election of the Chair of the Bureau, Mr. Kremlis.
	(b) Adoption of the agenda	<p>Annotated provisional agenda for the intermediary sessions of the MOPs (ECE/MP.EIA/26–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/10)</p> <p>See the budget table annexed to decision VII/4-III/4 on Budget, financial arrangements and financial assistance (ECE/MP.EIA/26–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/10)</p>	<p>The MOPs are expected to adopt their agenda for their respective sessions.</p> <p>Under any other business, delegates will be invited to consider making additional pledges to support the budget of the Convention and the Protocol during the extended (3,5 year) intersessional period June 2017-December 2020, (in particular to cover the costs of the external expert to provide secretariat support for the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol)</p>

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	(c) Report on credentials		The secretariat will report on the credentials received. Delegations should provide the secretariat with their credentials before the start of the session . (<u>Only Parties with valid credentials can vote and participate in the adoption of decisions or declaration</u>).
	(d) Status of the Convention and its amendments and the Protocol	Status of ratification of the Convention, its amendments and the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/INF.2)	<p>Delegations are expected to inform the meeting of planned ratifications of the Convention or its amendments, or of the Protocol. This should include information from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delegations of the 6 States that were Parties to the Convention at the time of adoption of the first amendment (27 February 2001) (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom) regarding progress with the ratification of the first amendment. - Parties that have not yet ratified the second amendment: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom regarding progress with the ratification of the second amendment. - Signatories of the Protocol (Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Republic of Moldova and the UK) and other delegations on their preparations to ratify

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			<p>the Protocol.</p> <p>- 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 Agreement.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 5 February</p>	<p>Item 3. Outstanding issues concerning the Convention</p>		
<p>11 a.m.–1 p.m. and 3–6 p.m.</p>	<p>3 (a) Draft decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention</p> <p>(i) Draft decisions on the review of compliance with the Convention</p>	<p>Draft decision IS/1 on general issues of compliance with the Convention (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/1)</p> <p>Draft decision IS/1a on compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/2)</p> <p>Draft decision IS/1b on</p>	<p>The Chair and the vice-Chair of the Implementation Committee are expected to introduce draft decisions IS/1 and IS/1a–h on the review of compliance with the Convention.</p> <p>Delegations are expected to discuss and agree on the draft decisions to be forwarded to the high-level segment for adoption.</p>

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<p>Tuesday, 5 February</p> <p>11 a.m.–1 p.m. and 3–6 p.m.</p>		<p>compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of a nuclear power plant in Metsamor (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/3)</p> <p>Draft decision IS/1c on compliance by Azerbaijan with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/4)</p> <p>Draft decision IS/1d on compliance by Belarus with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Belarusian nuclear power plant in Ostrovets (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/5)</p> <p>Draft decision IS/1e on compliance by Serbia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of a third block of the Kostolac lignite power plant (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/6)</p> <p>Draft decision IS/1f on compliance by Ukraine with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Danube-Black Sea Deep Water Navigation Canal in the Ukrainian sector of the Danube Delta (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/7)</p>	

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		<p>Draft decision IS/1g on compliance by Ukraine with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the extension of the lifetime of the Rivne nuclear power plant (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/8)</p> <p>Draft decision IS/1h on compliance by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Hinkley Point C nuclear power plant (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/9)</p> <p>Findings and recommendations of the Implementation Committee on compliance by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Hinkley Point C nuclear power plant (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/14)</p>	
<p>Wednesday, 6 February 10–11.30</p>	<p>(ii) Draft decision on the application of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants</p>	<p>Progress report on the development of guidance on the application of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/10)</p> <p>Draft decision IS/2 on the application of the Convention to</p>	<p>The delegations of Germany and the United Kingdom will be invited to present a progress report prepared by an ad hoc working group.</p> <p>Delegates will be invited to consider the progress report and to comment on and finalize, as needed, draft decision IS/2</p>

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<p>Wednesday, 6 February 11.30–12.30</p>	<p>(iii) Draft decision on the revised Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries</p>	<p>the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/11)</p> <p>Revised Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian countries (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/12)</p> <p>Draft decision IS/3 on the revised Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/13)</p>	<p>Delegates will be invited to comment on and finalize, as needed, draft decision IS/3 and the related revised Guidelines for Central Asian countries.</p>
<p>Wednesday, 6 February 12.30–1 p.m.</p>	<p>3. Outstanding issues concerning the Convention and the Protocol</p> <p>3 (b) Nomination of the Chair of the Bureau</p>	<p>Informal notes on the meeting of the Bureau (22–23 October 2018)</p>	<p>The MOPs will be expected to consider the endorsement of nominations by Parties for the chairmanship of the Bureau until 2020 and agree on whom to recommend to the high-level segment for formal election.</p> <p>The Bureau has recommended further extending the chairmanship of George Kremlis, in absence of newly nominated candidates.</p>

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	3 (c) Tentative calendar of meetings for 2019 and 2020	Provisional schedule of meetings (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/INF.3)	The MOPs will be invited to agree on a revised tentative calendar of meetings for 2019 and 2020. Delegations may wish to put forward proposals for hosting meetings.
Wednesday, 6 February 1.30–2.30 p.m.	Side event by ClientEarth on transboundary impact assessment of coal and lignite-related activities	“Save the date” information Provisional programme/background document (forthcoming)	
Wednesday, 6 February 3–5 p.m.	Item 4. Review of the workplan 4 (a) Subregional cooperation and capacity-building	Informal assessment of the completion of the workplan (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/INF.4) Summary report on technical assistance and capacity-building activities (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/INF.5)	The following delegations will be invited to report on activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finland and Sweden on progress in the organization of a subregional cooperation workshop for the Baltic Sea area (in 2019). • South-Eastern European countries on actions taken to increase the membership of the Bucharest Agreement and on possible arrangements for the first meeting of the Parties; • Uzbekistan, CAREC and the

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	4 (b) Exchange of good practices		<p>secretariat, on the subregional seminar to promote the application of the Guidelines on transboundary EIA for Central Asian countries (Taskhent, 4 June 2018)</p> <p>The European Commission and the secretariat will be invited to report on plans to organize:</p> <p>(a) A seminar/workshop on health in SEA (proposed to be held during the Working Group’s meeting in November 2019);</p> <p>(b) A seminar on synergies between transboundary EIA and SEA and UNCLOS</p>
	4 (c) Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol and the Convention		<p>Delegations and the secretariat will be invited to report on workshops and other events and activities carried out or planned for promoting ratification and application of the Protocol and the Convention since the Working Group’s seventh meeting in May 2018, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kazakhstan on the completion of a pilot project on strategic environmental assessment in energy sector; • A representative of IAIA and the secretariat on the preparation of “FasTips”; • The secretariat on plans to develop guidance on health in SEA jointly with WHO, with funding from EIB; • The secretariat on its completion of the “Final publication on lessons learned from the EaPGREEN funded assistance”

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<p>Wednesday, 6 February 5–6 p.m.</p>	<p>Item 5. Review of compliance, review of implementation and work done by the Implementation Committee</p>	<p>Reports on the Implementation Committee’s sessions are available at: http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/conventions/environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The secretariat on the final preparations and the inception phase of the EU funded “EU4Environment” project (2019-2022) supporting Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine; • The secretariat on the planned assistance to Central Asian countries for the promotion of the Protocol on SEA, to be funded by Germany and implemented in cooperation with OSCE • Representatives of Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Republic of Moldova 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, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan will be invited to report on received legislative assistance for developing new national legislation on EIA and 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 Chair of the Implementation Committee will provide an update on the Committee’s activities; and the plans for its

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		<p>al-assessment/meetings-and-events.html#/0/0/0/28089/19940</p> <p>See: http://www.unece.org/env/eia/implementation/review_implementation.html</p> <p>Note on the possible elaboration of a strategy and an action plan for the future application of the Convention and the Protocol (ECE/MP.EIA/2019/INF.6)</p>	<p>next, 44th session (12–15 March 2019).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The secretariat will report on the receipt of completed questionnaires from Parties on their implementation of the Convention and the Protocol in 2016–2018 (due on 31 March 2019); • Austria and the Netherlands will be invited to report on the outcomes of an informal meeting on the possible elaboration of a strategy and an action plan for the future application of the Convention and the Protocol (London, 1 October 2018).
<p>Thursday, 7 February 10–10.15 a.m.</p>	<p>Item 6. Opening ceremony for the high-level segment</p> <p>(a) Election of the of officers for the high-level segment</p> <p>(b) Introductory speeches</p>		<p>The Bureau recommends the election of H.E., Mr. Hans Brattskar, the Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN and other international organizations as the Chair of the IS-MOPs for the high-level segment.</p> <p>The elected Chair of the high-level segment and the Executive Secretary of UNECE, Ms. Olga Algayerova, will be invited to make opening statements.</p>

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Thursday, 7 February 10.15–10.45 a.m.	Item 7. Statements by Ministers and high-level representatives		Delegations are requested to register statements in advance of the session, by informing the secretariat. Delegations are reminded of the time limit of 3 minutes for statements.
10.45–11.15	Item 8. Adoption of decisions by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention		<p>Following earlier agreement, the MOP will be invited to adopt the following decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision IS/1 on general issues of compliance with the Convention • Decision IS/1a on compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation • Decision IS/1b on compliance by Armenia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of a nuclear power plant in Metsamor • Decision IS/1c on compliance by Azerbaijan with its obligations under the Convention in respect of its national legislation • Decision IS/1d on compliance by Belarus with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Belarusian nuclear power plant in Ostrovets • Decision IS/1e on compliance by Serbia with its obligations under the Convention in respect of a third block of the Kostolac lignite power plant • Decision IS/1f on compliance by Ukraine with its obligations under the Convention

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			<p>in respect of the Danube-Black Sea Deep Water Navigation Canal in the Ukrainian sector of the Danube Delta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision IS/1g on compliance by Ukraine with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the extension of the lifetime of the Rivne nuclear power plant • Decision IS/1h on compliance by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with its obligations under the Convention in respect of the Hinkley Point C nuclear power plant • Decision IS/2 on the application of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants • Decision IS/3 on the revised Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for Central Asian Countries
11.15–11.30	Item 9. Election of the Chair of the Bureau		The MOPs will be expected to elect the Chair of the Bureau, following earlier agreement (under item 3 (b)).
11.30–11.45	Item 10. Date and venue of next meetings		The MOPs will be expected to decide on the date and venue of the eighth session of the MOP to be held in conjunction with the fourth session of the MOP/MOP.
11.45 a.m.– 12.15 p.m.	Item 11. Other business		Delegations wishing to propose points under this item are requested to inform the secretariat

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12.15–1 p.m.	<p>Item 12. Adoption of the report and closing of the session</p> <p>(a) Adoption of the outline report of the session</p> <p>(b) Closing of the session</p>		<p>as soon as possible.</p> <p>The MOPs will be invited to agree on the main decisions taken and authorize the secretariat to complete the report after the session under the guidance of the Bureau.</p>