



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
24 May 2017

Original: English

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## Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on  
Access to Information, Public Participation  
in Decision-making and Access to Justice  
in Environmental Matters

### Sixth session

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant  
Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention  
on Access to Information, Public Participation in  
Decision-making and Access to Justice in  
Environmental Matters

### Third session

#### Joint High-level Segment

Budva, Montenegro, 14 September 2017

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

#### Opening of the Joint High-level Segment

## Annotated provisional agenda for the Joint High-level Segment

To be held at the Splendid Conference and SPA Resort, Budva,  
Montenegro, starting at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 14 September 2017

### I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the Joint High-level Segment.
2. Report on credentials with regard to the Protocol's Parties.
3. Thematic session on the role of the Convention and its Protocol in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals.
4. Budva Declaration on Environmental Democracy for Our Sustainable Future.
5. Review and adoption of decisions of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention.

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6. Closure of the Joint High-level Segment.

## **II. Introduction**

1. The sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) will be held from 11 to 13 September 2017, back to back with the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers, which will take place on 15 September 2017. A Joint High-level Segment will take place on 14 September. The events will be held in Budva, Montenegro, at the invitation of the Government of Montenegro.
2. The Joint High-level Segment will target high-level officials, including ministers, vice-ministers, State secretaries, other heads of delegations and special guests, and its thematic session will be dedicated to the themes to be addressed in the draft Budva Declaration on Environmental Democracy for Our Sustainable Future (see ECE/MP.PP/2017/17–ECE/MP.PRTR/2017/3).
3. The Joint High-level Segment will be chaired by a high-level official of the host country. Some sessions might be co-chaired by the Chairs of the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention and to the Protocol. The thematic session of the Joint High-level Segment will be held in the format of two panel discussions. Other sessions will be held in plenary.

## **III. Annotations to the provisional agenda**

### **1. Opening of the Joint High-level Segment**

*Timing: Thursday, 14 September, 10-10.30 a.m.*

4. The Joint High-level Segment will begin with a welcome address by high-level officials from the host country and from the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.
5. The Parties meeting at the Joint High-level Segment are expected to adopt the provisional agenda for the meeting, as set out in the present document.

#### **Documentation**

Annotated provisional agenda for the Joint High-level Segment (ECE/MP.PP/2017/15–ECE/MP.PRTR/2017/1)

### **2. Report on credentials with regard to the Protocol's Parties**

*Timing: Thursday, 14 September, 10.30-10.35 a.m.*

6. The Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol will be invited to approve the report on the credentials, to be presented by the officers in accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure (see ECE/MP.PRTR/2010/2/Add.1, decision I/1).

### **3. Thematic session on the role of the Convention and its Protocol in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals**

*Timing: Thursday, 14 September, 10.35 a.m.-3.30 p.m.*

7. The thematic session will have the format of two panel discussions involving ministers, senior representatives of international and non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders with strong expertise related to the theme of the session, followed by a general debate. The discussions will be facilitated by a moderator. The substantive focus of the thematic session will be based on the themes of the draft Budva Declaration. The session is expected to present concrete examples of new or ongoing actions or initiatives that illustrate how the Aarhus Convention and/or the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers are being or can be used to support achievement of one or more of the Sustainable Development Goals. A provisional programme for the thematic session will provide further details on the themes and speakers.

#### **Documentation**

Draft Budva Declaration on Environmental Democracy for Our Sustainable Future (ECE/MP.PP/2017/17–ECE/MP.PRTR/2017/3)

Role of the Convention and its Protocol in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE/MP.PP/2017/18–ECE/MP.PRTR/2017/4)

Provisional programme for the Joint High-level Segment (AC/MOP-6/Inf.1–PRTR/MOPP-3/Inf.1)

### **4. Budva Declaration on Environmental Democracy for Our Sustainable Future**

*Timing: Thursday, 14 September 3.30-4.45 p.m.*

8. Ministers and heads of delegation of Parties, signatories, other States and international, regional and non-governmental organizations, together with other representatives of civil society, will be invited to consider and adopt a declaration.

#### **Documentation**

Draft Budva Declaration on Environmental Democracy for Our Sustainable Future (ECE/MP.PP/2017/17–ECE/MP.PRTR/2017/3)

### **5. Review and adoption of decisions of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention**

*Timing: Thursday, 14 September, 4.45-5.20 p.m.*

9. The Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention will be invited to review the draft decisions agreed at its sixth session and to officially adopt them.

### **6. Closure of the Joint High-level Segment**

*Timing: Thursday, 14 September, 5.20-5.30 p.m.*

10. The Chair of the Joint High-level Segment will close the meeting.

## IV. Organization of work

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<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Item no.</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<b>Thursday, 14 September</b>		
10–10.30 a.m.	1	Opening of the Joint High-level Segment
10.30–10.35 a.m.	2	Report on credentials with regard to the Protocol's Parties
10.35–11.35 a.m.	3	Thematic session on the role of the Convention and its Protocol in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals – <i>Panel 1</i>
11.35–11.50 a.m.		<i>Coffee break</i>
11.50 a.m.–1 p.m.	3	Thematic session (continued) – <i>Panel 2</i>
1–3 p.m.		<i>Lunch</i>
3–3.30 p.m.	3	Thematic session (continued) – <i>Open discussion and conclusions</i>
3.30–4.45 p.m.	4	Budva Declaration on Environmental Democracy for Our Sustainable Future
4.45–5.20 p.m.	5	Review and adoption of decisions of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
5.20–5.30 p.m.	6	Closure of the Joint High-level Segment

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