

16 December 2020

Economic Commission for Europe

Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers

Working Group of the Parties

Eighth meeting

Hybrid format, Geneva, 16 and 18 December 2020

Draft decision on development of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers
approved as amended at the meeting*The Meeting of the Parties,*

Recalling decisions and major outcomes adopted by the Working Group at its seventh meeting¹, in particular as regards Item 6,

Aware that some Parties are interested in information on possible approaches for Parties to develop PRTRs, going beyond the current requirements of the Protocol,

Recalling that pursuant to Article 6(2) of the Protocol, having assessed the experience gained from the development of national pollutant release and transfer registers and the implementation of this Protocol, and taking into account relevant international processes, the Meeting of the Parties shall review the reporting requirements under this Protocol and shall consider specified issues in its further development,

Also recalling that pursuant to Article 20 of the Protocol, Parties may propose amendments to the Protocol and that such proposals are to be considered by the Meeting of the Parties,

- i) Welcomes the Report on the development of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers² prepared by the Bureau;
- ii) Adopts the Report on the outcomes of the survey on the experiences in implementing the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers³ as a reference document for Parties, with a view to informing Parties' consideration of possible options to improve the Protocol meeting its objectives;
- iii) Invites Parties to submit appropriate amendments to the Protocol pursuant to its Article 20⁴, in time for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties at its next regular or extraordinary session⁵.
- iv) Tasks the Working Group of the Parties, assisted by the Bureau, to facilitate an exchange of information between Parties, taking into account inputs from interested stakeholders, on possible amendments, and to prepare draft decisions containing amendments to the Protocol proposed by Parties for consideration by the Meeting of the Parties at its next regular or extraordinary session.

¹ PRTR/WG.1/2019/Inf.7

² ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2019/6 and Add.1

³ ECE/MP.PRTR/WG.1/2020/4

⁴ Pursuant to Rule 31.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the MoP (ECE/MP.PRTR/2010/2/Add.1), 'Proposals for amending the Protocol, including its annexes, shall be submitted to the secretariat at least eight months before the session at which they are proposed for adoption so that the secretariat can communicate them to the Parties in the official languages of the Meeting of the Parties at least six months before the session, in accordance with article 20 of the Protocol.'

⁵ Decision I/1 establishing the rules of procedures provides, under rule 4(4), that 'Extraordinary sessions of the Meeting of the Parties shall be convened at such times as may be deemed necessary by the Meeting of the Parties, or at the written request of a Party pursuant to article 17, paragraph 1, of the Protocol'